The French Defense (C15 -19)
The Winawer Variation
300 Annotated Games

Chess Notes 2025

Welcome to this new book & game collection!

This book is dedicated to all chess players looking for a sharp game and unbalanced positions allowing for chances for both sides. I have played many of these line in ICCF postal games, in OTB speed games.

I would also like to dedicate this book to the following people:
Wolfgang Uhlmann - I was inspired by many of his games as far as I could understand them.

Also to my friend Jay Whitehead. The last time I saw him was in the Narita Airport in Japan. It was a layover to come back to Thailand. Jay was on his way to see his girlfriend.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Greetings, there are a lot of opinions on what it takes to study chess, and at what point on the rating system you should be doing what. There seems to be a lot of focus on studying various chess courses. The fact is, in 2025, most chess knowledge can be found in GM games where there is a lot of prep done, or with engines, finding moves and ideas that perhaps humans would not find in the process of playing serious chess. I think we can all agree on one thing. You can learn a lot about chess by looking at redundant material. (Like similar games)

This is a game collection about one part of an opening line. I am seeing it used in speed games at the GM level. Most of the recent theory for this line seems to be from the past few years. Is it sound? Well, I am not really qualified to answer that question. However, what I can say is that it will create the kind of unbalanced positions you need to win speed chess games. More often than not, it is stronger players employing this line against opponents 300 ELO points weaker.

If you are a club player, don’t worry. If you go through enough of these games, you will find out the middle game ideas, and even how some of the games transpose into endings. Of course in a speed chess game, you are hoping to win in the middle game. Looking at some courses and opening books, they will leave you off at move 12 - 15 and tell you the position is about equal or maybe unclear. What are you going to do then? Before this was a line mostly played in postal chess. But to benefit from the exciting possibilities of this line, you are going to have to know much more than the first 15 moves. In my opinion, if club

players see similar patterns enough, they will begin to commit those patterns into memory, sometimes without even realizing it. So I urge you to go through some of the more technical games over and over. You will eventually see the improvement in your play. This includes trying to figure out why some of the games will reach the endings and how to navigate through them.

One thing for sure, the French is back, strong engines are providing new ways of dealing with the old French, and active players will be looking for a way to combat this often closed opening in their own active style. Even if you don’t end up settling on this line as your main weapon against the French, you can learn a lot of attacks against the French pawn structures by studying these games. There are those players that will try to transpose into the French to avoid having to play against the London. I would bet a bar of chocolate that this line will annoy them.

KittyKat 2025

ECO Codes

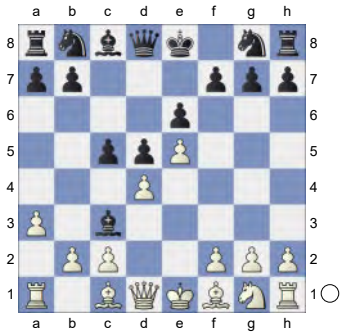
The ECO Codes is a classification system for the chess openings moves. Below is a list of chess openings organized by the Encyclopaedia of Chess Openings (ECO) code. The openings are divided in five volumes labeled from "A" through "E".

C15 French, Winawer (Nimzovich) variation	1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4
C16 French, Winawer, advance variation	1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5
C17 French, Winawer, advance variation	1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 c5
C18 French, Winawer, advance variation	1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 c5 5. a3 Bxc3+ 6. bxc3
C19 French, Winawer, advance, 6...Ne7	1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 c5 5. a3 Bxc3+ 6. bxc3 Ne7

1 **C19**
□ **Ethereal** **3708**
■ **AllieStein v0.7_dev-net_14.3** **3761**
TCEC 18 Premier 2020 (36.3) 11.06.2020
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Nf3 c4 0.54/23 Against Bd3

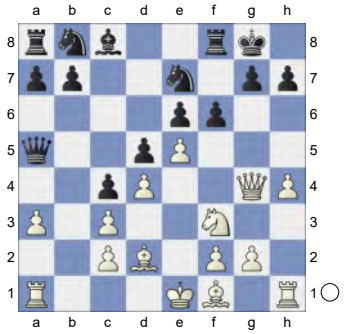
[8...f5= 0.16/20 9.Qh4 Nbc6]

9.h4± Qa5 10.Bd2 f6N

[10...Nbc6 11.h5 f6 12.h6 g6 13.exf6 Rxf6 14.Qh4 Rf7 15.Be2 Bd7 16.Ng5 Rff8 17.Qh2 Rae8 18.Bg4 Nf5 19.Nf3 Qa4 20.Ra2 Bc8 21.0-0 Qa5 22.Re1 Re7 23.Raa1 Qa4 24.Bg5 Ref7 25.Re2 Ehlvest,J-Bareev,E Minsk 1987 French Nc3 [Myers] 1-0 (41)]

[10...f5 11.Qg5 Nbc6 12.h5 *(12.Be2 Qa4 13.Bd1* C 18/27 *)* 12...Qa4 13.Kd1 b5 14.Rh3 a5 15.Rg3 Rf7 16.Qh4 f4 Oll,L (2465)-Dokhoian,Y (2525) USSR 44/(355) 1987 17.Rg4 Nf5 18.Qh3 b4 19.Rxf4 b3 C 18/27]

(Diagram)



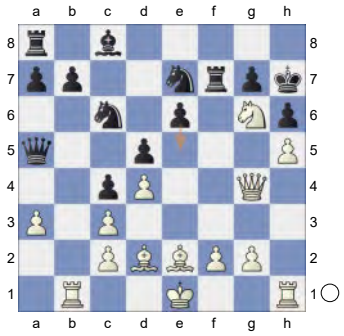
White is slightly better. **11.h5 h6 12.Rb1 Kh7 13.Be2 fxe5 14.Nxe5 Nbc6** 0.76/22

[14...Qxa3= 0.25/21 15.Qg3 Qa2]

15.Ng6 0.12/21 &Bianco is much more active.

[White should play 15.Nxc6± 0.76/22 Nxc6 16.Rh3]

15...Rf7=



16.Qh3 Qa4 0.68/19

[16...Qxa3= -0.06/20 17.Qg3 Qa2]

17.Bd1 -0.01/20

[17.g4!± 0.68/19]

17...Qxa3 18.g4 Qa2 19.Rc1 Qa3 0.31/18

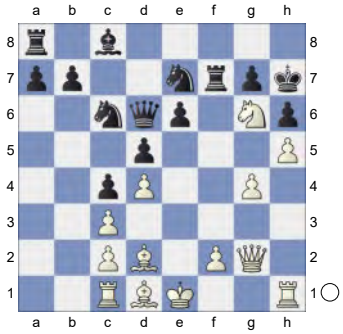
[19...a5= -0.01/20]

20.Qg2± White has compensation.

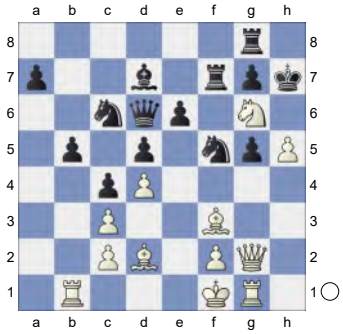
20...Qd6

[20...Nxg6? 21.hxg6+ Kg8 22.gxf7++-]

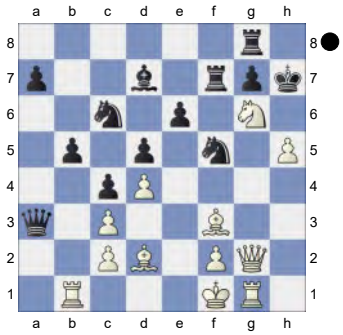
(Diagram)



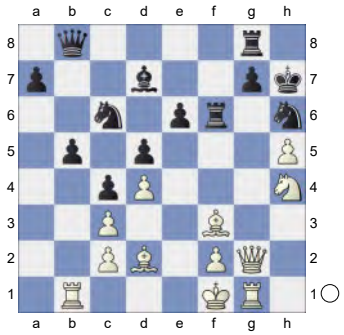
21.Kf1 Bd7!
[21...Nxg6? 22.hxg6+ Kh8 23.gxf7+-]
22.g5 Nf5! 23.Bf3 0.33/19
[23.Bf4?! Qa3=]
[⌓23.Rg1 0.65/20]
23...Rg8
[23...Kg8 24.gxh6 Nxh6 25.Rb1±]
24.Rb1 0.23/19
[24.Re1± 0.72/19]
24...b5= 25.Rg1 -0.01/20
[25.Ra1⩲ 0.41/18 is superior. Qb8 26.Bf4]
25...hxg5



26.Qxg5
[26.Bxg5 Qa3 27.Bd2

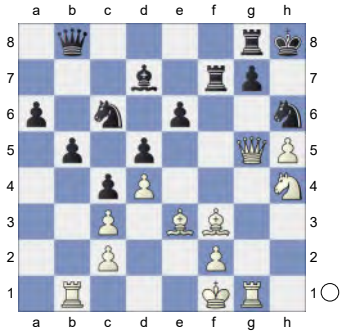


Nfxd4!∓]
26...Qb8
[26...Nfxd4? 27.cxd4 Nxd4 28.Bg4+-]
[26...Nh6!? 27.Qg2 *(27.Ne5? Nxe5 28.dxe5 Qf8∓)* 27...Qa3⩲]
27.Qg2
[27.Ne5 Nxe5 28.dxe5 Kh8∓]
27...Nh6 28.Nh4
[28.Ne5 Nxe5 29.dxe5 Kh8∓]
28...Rf6 Inhibits Qg6+. **29.Bg5 Rf7 30.Bd2** This bishop pair is nice. **30...Rf6**



Prevents Qg6+. **31.Bg5⇄** White puts up resistance **31...Rf7 32.Be3 Kh8 33.Ng6+**
[33.Bxh6!? gxh6 34.Rxb5=]
33...Kh7 34.Nh4
[But not 34.Ne5 Nxe5 35.dxe5 Kh8∓]
34...Kh8 35.Qg5 -0.01/21
[35.Bxh6⩲ 0.46/22 should be considered. gxh6 36.Rxb5]
35...a6 0.36/20
[35...a5= -0.01/21 is more appropriate.]

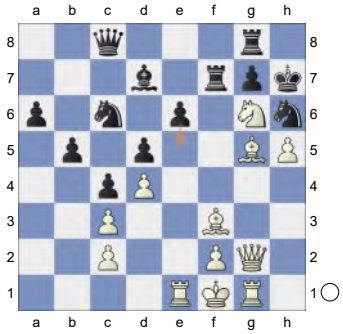
(Diagram)



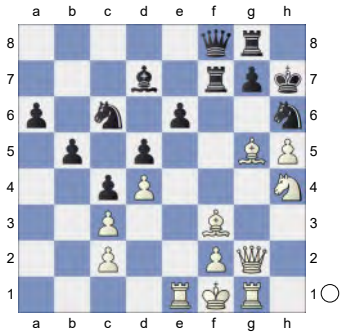
36.Re1± **Qd8!** **37.Ng6+** **Kh7** **38.Qg3** **Nf5** **39.Qg2** **Nh6** 0.01/22

[39...Nxe3+∓ -0.59/21 40.fxe3 *(40.Rxe3 a5∓)* 40...Qa5]

40.Bg5= **Qc8**

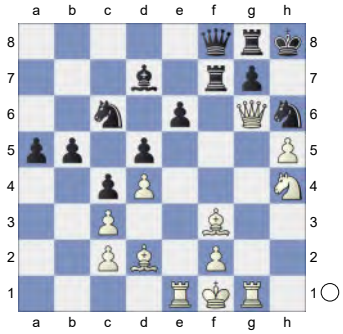


Hoping for ...e5! **41.Nh4** And now Bxh6 would win. **41...Qf8**

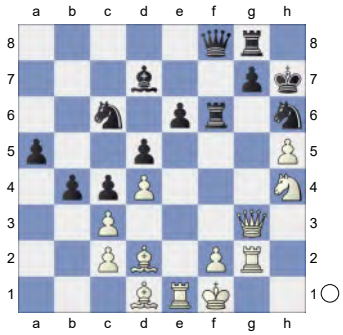


42.Ng6! **Qc8** **43.Nh4** **Qf8** **44.Bd2** **a5** **45.Qg6+** **Kh8**

(Diagram)



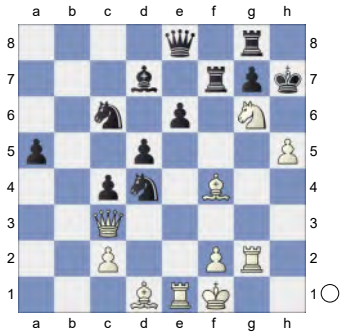
46.Qg3 **Kh7** **47.Qg6+** **Kh8** Strongly threatening ...Nf5. **48.Qg3** **Kh7** **49.Rg2** **b4** **50.Bd1** **Rf6**



51.Ng6 **Qe8** **52.Bg5** -0.43/20

[52.Nh4= -0.01/20]

52...Rf7!∓ **53.Bf4** **Nf5** **54.Qh3** **bxc3** **55.Qxc3** **Nfxd4**



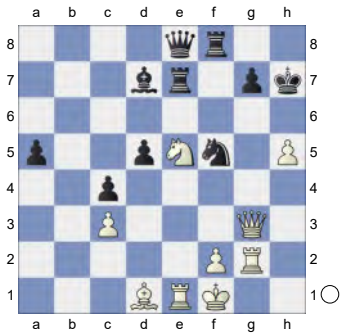
56.Qa3 **e5** -0.01/20

[56...Nb4∓ -0.57/17 57.Qc3 Nf5]

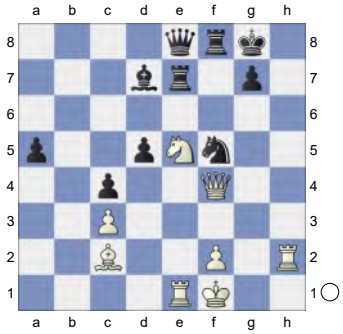
57.Bxe5= **Nxe5** **58.Nxe5** **Re7** **59.Qg3** Threatens to win with c3. **59...Rf8** -0.21/21

[59...Nc6!∓ -0.52/24 was preferrable. 60.Qg6+ Kh8 61.Qxe8 Bxe8 62.Nxc6 Rxe1+ 63.Kxe1 Bxc6]

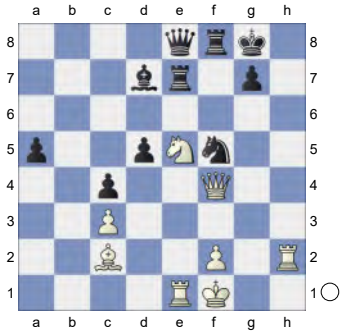
60.c3 **Nf5**



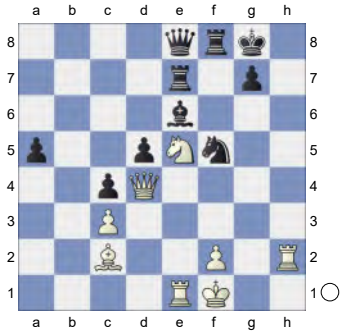
61.Bc2 Kg8 62.Qf4! h6 is the strong threat. The position is equal. **62...Nd6**
[62...Qxh5!? 63.Rh2 Qe8=]
63.Qh6! Nf5 64.Qf4! Black must now prevent h6. **64...Qxh5 65.Rh2** Against Qh1+. Chess con chili. **65...Qe8**



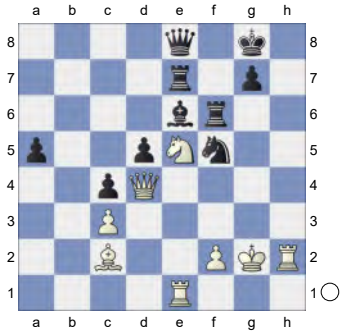
66.Qd4! Bc6
[66...Nxd4 67.Bh7+ Kh8 68.Ng6+ Qxg6 69.Bxg6+ Kg8 70.Rxe7±]
67.Qf4 Bd7
[67...g6? 68.Rg2 Ng7 69.Qh2+-]



68.Qd4! Be6
[Don't play 68...Nxd4 69.Bh7+ Kh8 70.Ng6+ Qxg6 71.Bxg6+ Kg8 72.Rxe7±]
[68...Bc6 69.Qf4]



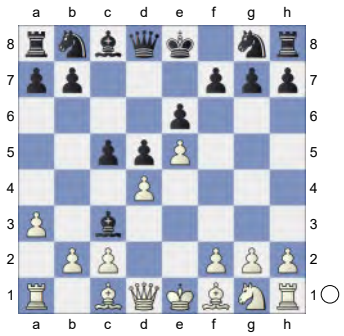
69.Kg2! aiming for Reh1! **69...Rf6!**
[69...Nxd4? 70.Bh7+ Kh8 71.Ng6+ Qxg6+ 72.Bxg6+ Kg8 73.Reh1 Rxf2+ 74.Kxf2 Rf7+ 75.Bxf7+ Kxf7 76.cxd4+-]



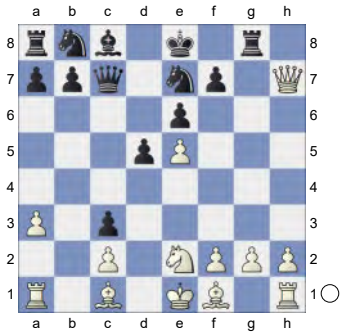
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

2 **C19**
□ **Stockfish dev-20250118-8e3e22**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-c93c6a8-BT4-6**
TCEC 27 Theory Bonus (13.2) 22.01.25
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
One of my recommendations is cast into doubt in this game. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 dxc3



11.f4 Bd7 12.Qd3 Prevents Bb5.

12...Na6 0.52/19

[12...Nf5= 0.18/16]

[12...Nbc6 13.Qxc3 0-0-0 14.Rb1 Kb8 15.Qd3 d4 16.Bd2 Bc8 17.g3 b6 18.Bg2 Bb7 19.0-0 Qc8 20.a4 Nd5 21.a5 Nxa5 22.Bxa5 bxa5 23.Rb5 Nb6 24.Bxb7 Qxb7 25.Rxa5 Rh8 26.Nxd4 Rd7 27.Rfa1 So,W (2665)-Sadorra,J (2450) Tagaytay City PHI 2010 [John Watson] 1-0 (35)]

13.Nd4N 0.10/19

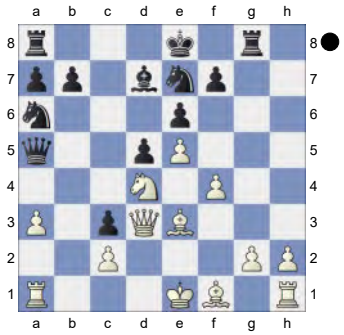
[Much worse is 13.Nxc3 Nc5 14.Qd2 0-0-0∓]

[13.h4± 0.52/19 deserves consideration.]

[13.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 14.Nxc3 Rc8 15.Bd2 Nf5 *(15...Nc5 16.Nb5 Ne4 17.Nd4 Nf5 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.Rc1 d4 20.h4 Rg3 21.h5 Kf8 22.Rh2 Kg7 23.Bd3 Nc5 24.Rb1 Nxd3+ 25.cxd3 Bc6 26.Ke2 Kh6 27.Rb4 Rd8 28.Be1 Rxg2+ 29.Rxg2 Bxg2* ½-½ (29) Milliet,S (2387)-Pert,N (2554) Hastings ENG 2014 [John Watson] *)* 16.Kf2 Nc5 17.Bd3 Bc6 18.Rhg1 d4 19.Ne2 Nxd3+ 20.cxd3 Rxg2+ 21.Rxg2 Bxg2 22.Kxg2 Rc2 23.Rd1 Ra2 24.Kf3 Rxa3 25.Ke4 Ra4 26.Ng3 Ne7 27.h4 a5 Alexopoulos,G-Pandavos,P Athens 1978 EXT 2004 [Pandavos/Alexopoulos] 1-0 (38)]

[13.Rb1 Nc5 14.Qxc3 Rc8 15.Nd4 Nf5 16.g3 Qd8 17.Nxf5 exf5 18.Qd4 Rg6 19.Be2 Qa5+ 20.Bd2 Qxa3 21.Ra1 Ne6 22.Qxa7 Qb2 23.Qa3 Qb6 24.c3 d4 25.c4 Nc5 26.0-0 d3 27.Rfb1 Nb3+ Stockfish-N,N chess.com INT 2020 [John Watson] ½-½ (96)]

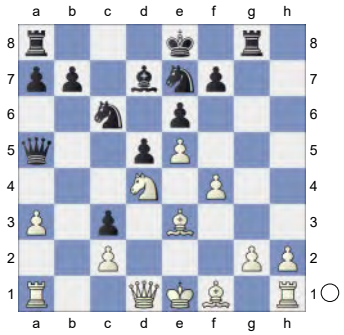
13...Qa5!= The position is equal. **14.Be3**



Nb4! 0.42/20 **15.Qd1**

[15.Qe2!? Qa4 16.Nb3±]

15...Nbc6



16.Nb3 Qc7 17.Bf2 Na5 18.Nd4 Nc4 19.g3 Nf5 0.85/19

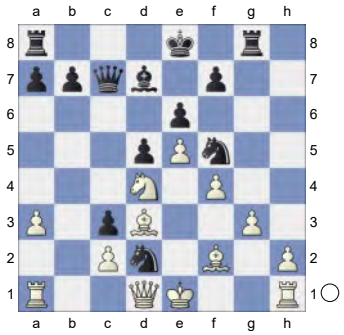
[19...Nd2= -0.01/19]

20.Bd3 0.07/18

[20.Nxf5± 0.85/19 Black must now prevent Bxc4. exf5 21.Qxd5]

20...Nd2 0.53/18

[20...Nxd4= 0.07/18 21.Bxd4 Nd2]



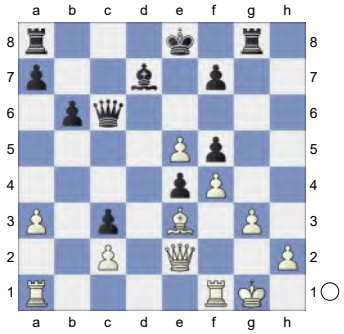
21.Nxf5± exf5 22.Be3 Ne4 23.Bxe4 dxe4 24.Qe2 -0.01/20

[24.Qd4± 0.50/18]

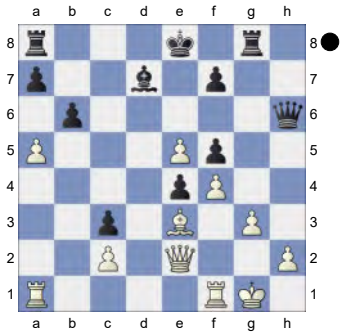
24...Qc6 0.57/18

[24...0-0-0= -0.01/20]

25.0-0 b6

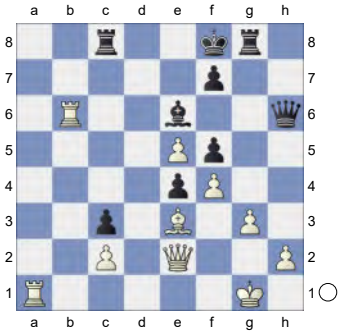


26.a4 Qh6 27.a5



aiming for axb6. **27...Rc8 28.axb6 axb6 29.Rfb1 Be6 30.Rxb6**

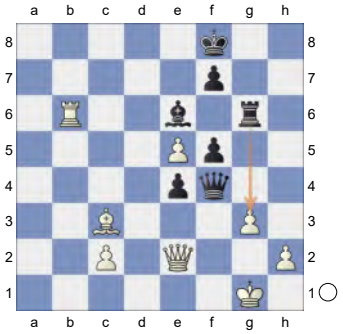
Strongly threatening Bc5! **30...Kf8**



31.Ra7 0.69/23

[White should try 31.Kg2± 1.03/21]

31...Qh3 32.Bd4 Rg6 33.Ra3 Qh4 34.Rxc3 Rxc3 35.Bxc3 Qxf4



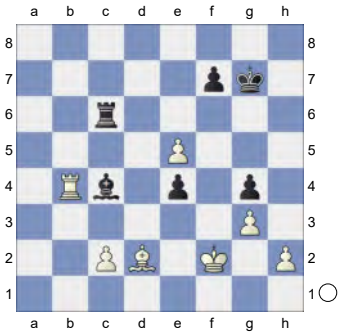
36.Bd2 Qg4 0.95/25

[36...Qxe5± 0.57/22 should be considered. 37.Rb5 Qd4+ 38.Be3 Qc3]

37.Rb8+ 0.55/24

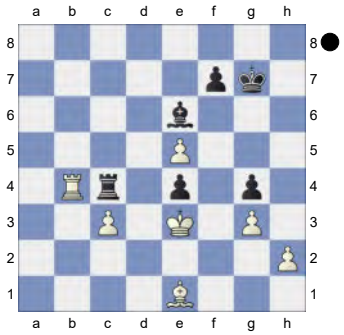
[37.Qxg4± 0.95/25 White threatens Rb8+ and mate. fxg4 38.Kf2]

37...Kg7 38.Kf2↑ Black is under pressure. **38...Bc4 39.Qxg4** Chess con chili. **39...fxg4 40.Rb4 Rc6**



41.Ke3 Be6 42.c3 Rc4 2.01/28

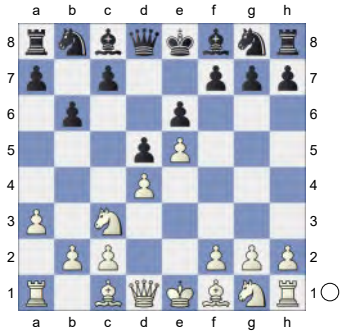
[42...Rc8± 0.63/24]
43.Be1 0.88/24
[43.Rxc4+- 2.01/28 is more deadly. Bxc4 44.Kd4 *(44.Kxe4 Kf8±)*]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.23 (precise)
½-½

3 **C16**
□ **Stockfish Dev Cf1064** **3683**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-f7fb268-BT4-6**
TCEC 27 Superfinal 2024 (88.1) 31.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

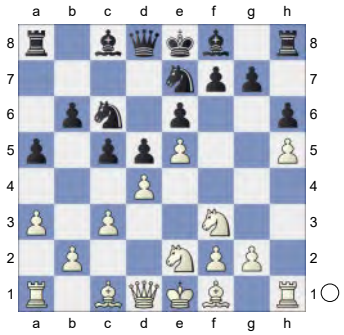
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
Closed centres occur when the pawn structure in the middle of the board is fixed. Often the pawn chains of the two sides interlock. Files for rooks and diagonals for bishops are often blocked and the maxim that knights are better than bishops in such positions normally rings true. Positions with closed centres tend to lead to slower, more strategic play where flank attacks need to be prepared and developed. Here I will examine a game played by two of the modern greats in which Black gradually outplays White using instructive strategic play. ~ G. Kasparov - V. Ivanchuk ~ Horgen 1995 Dolmatov,S: 'Inf 39/366' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8**



6.Nf3 Ne7 7.h4 h6 8.h5 c5
[8...a5 9.Bb5+ c6 10.Ba4 Nd7 11.Ne2 b5 12.Bb3 c5 13.c3 Nc6 14.0-0 Qc7 15.Re1 c4 16.Bc2 Nb6 17.Bf4 Be7 18.Bg3 Rb8 19.Nh2 Qd8 20.Ng4 b4 21.axb4 axb4 22.cxb4 Nxb4 23.Bb1 10.Kb1 b5 11. c5 (2795)-Kavakul,M (2740) Bad Kissingen 1995 The Four Knights: MBM [Paul Kleindl] 0-1 (32) Bd7 24.b3 Ra8 25.Rxa8 Qxa8 26.bxc4 Nxc4 27.Nc1 Ba4 28.Qe2 Qa7 29.Ne3 Qxd4 30.Nxc4 dxc4 31.Qf1 0-0 1) Central Control-Closed Pawn Centres Chess Strategy Move by Move 2022 (31)]
9.Ne2 Nbc6N White is slightly better.
[9...Ba6 10.c3 Nbc6 *(10...Nec6 11.b4 Be7 12.Rh3 Qc7 13.Nf4 Bxf1 14.Kxf1 Nd7 15.Rg3 Bf8 16.Be3 0-0-0 17.Kg1 c4 18.a4 Kb7 19.Qc2 Re8 20.Re1 a6 21.b5 axb5 22.axb5 Na5 23.Nd2 Ra8 24.Ne2 Re8 25.f4* Dolmatov,S (2620)-Fishbein,A (2465) Beersheba 1991 CBM 025 [Boensch, Uwe] 1-0 (36) *f6 26.Bf2 Qd8 27.Nf3 Nb3 28.Nc1 Nxc1 29.Rxc1 Qa8 30.Rg6 Qa3 31.Rb1 Qe7 32.Ra1 Ra8 33.Rxa8 Kxa8 34.f5 Rg8 35.Qa4+ Kb8 36.exf6* 1-0 (36) Dolmatov,S-Gulko,B USSR 39/366

1985 CI1-130 [Dolmatov,Sergey]) 11.b4 Bc4 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.Nf4 Bxf1 14.Kxf1 Nc8 15.b5 Na5 16.Qa4 Qb6 17.g4 Nc4 Chapter-Tarrasch Defence B23) 10... Be7 [Avrukh]]

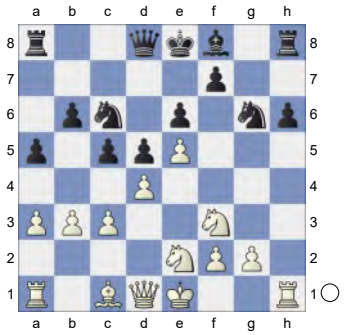
10.c3 a5



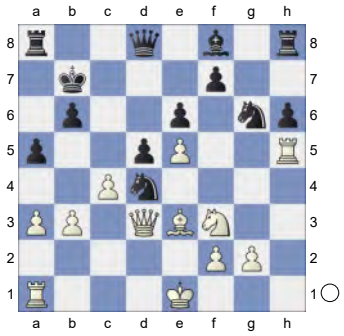
11.Nf4 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Rxa6 13.b3 Ra8 14.Ne2 g5 0.84/20

[14...Nc8± 0.51/18]

15.hxg6!± Nxg6



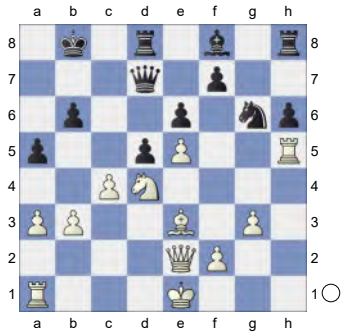
16.Rh5 Kd7 17.Be3 Kc8 18.Qd3 Kb7 19.c4 cxd4 20.Nexd4 Nxd4



21.Nxd4 Qd7 22.Nb5 And now cxd5 would win. **22...Rd8 23.Qe2**

[23.Qd4?! Bc5 24.Qd3 *(24.Nd6+ Qxd6 25.exd6 Bxd4∓)* 24...dxc4 25.Qxc4 Bxe3 26.fxe3 *(26.Nd6+? Kb8∓)* 26...Kb8=]

23...Qc6 24.Nd4 Qd7 25.g3 Kb8!



26.b4 Qa4 1.39/21

[26...axb4± 0.55/21 27.cxd5 Qxd5]

27.b5 Rd7 28.Nc6+ Kb7 29.Rd1!

[29.cxd5 Rxd5 30.Qf3 Rh7±]

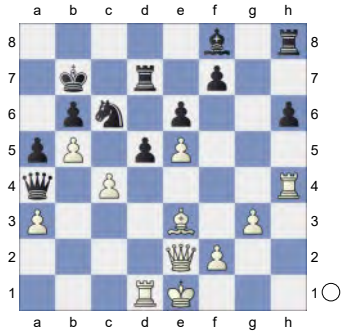
29...Ne7 1.12/22

[29...Bxa3± 0.70/19 30.cxd5 *(30.Bxh6 Ne7∓; 30.Rxh6 Rxh6 31.Bxh6 Ne7∓)* 30...exd5]

30.Rh4 Hoping for cxd5. 0x0. 0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces. The black rooks are badly placed.

[30.cxd5 Nxd5 31.Rh4 Qb3∓]

30...Nxc6



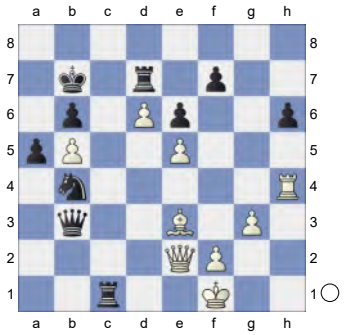
31.cxd5! Bb4+ 32.axb4 Nxb4 33.d6 0.87/23

[⌓33.dxe6 1.32/24 Rxd1+ 34.Qxd1 Qxd1+ 35.Kxd1 fxe6 36.Rxh6 Rxh6 37.Bxh6]

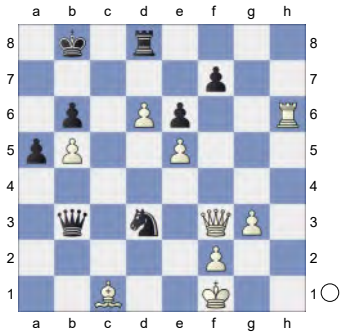
33...Rc8 1.23/24

[Better is 33...Qb3 0.87/23]

34.Kf1
[34.Bxh6?! Rc5±]
[34.Rxh6?! Nc2+ 35.Kf1 Nxe3+ 36.fxe3 Qe4=]
34...Qb3 35.Rc1
[35.Rxh6 a4±]
35...Rxc1+

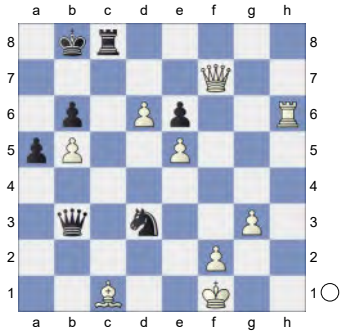


36.Bxc1 Nd3 1.62/27
[36...Qd5± 1.02/24]
37.Qf3+!+-
[37.Bxh6 Qb1+ 38.Kg2 Qxb5=]
37...Kb8 38.Rxh6 Rd8

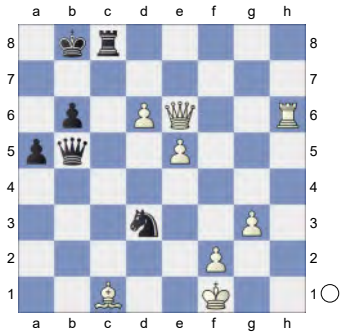


Against Rh8 **39.Qxf7!**→ White wants to mate with Qc7+. Black is in trouble.
39...Rc8
[39...Qd1+? 40.Kg2 Qf3+ 41.Qxf3+-]

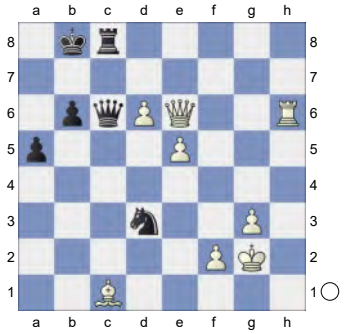
(Diagram)



Against Qc7+ **40.Qxe6! Qxb5**
[40...Rxc1+ 41.Kg2]

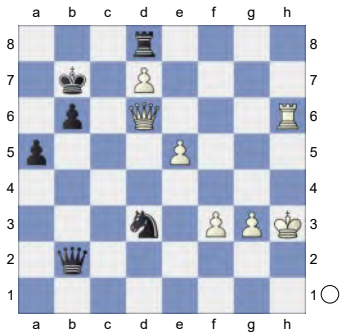


(-> ...Nf4+) **41.Kg2!** Threatens to win with d7! **41...Qc6+**

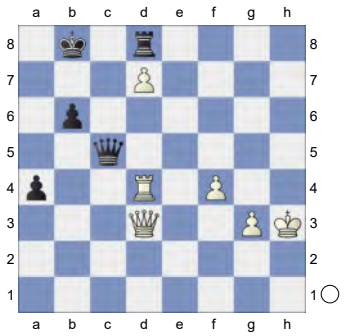


42.f3!
[42.Kh2? Nxf2 43.Kg1 Qf3-+]
42...Qxc1 43.d7! Discovered Attack
43...Qb2+ 44.Kh3 Really sharp!
44...Rd8
[44...Nf2+? 45.Kh4 Qd4+ 46.Kg5]
45.Qd6+ Kb7

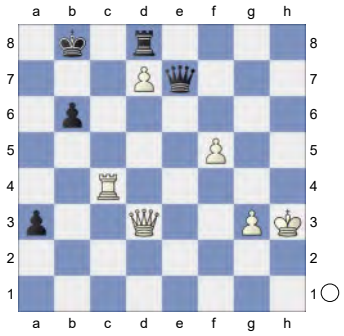
(Diagram)



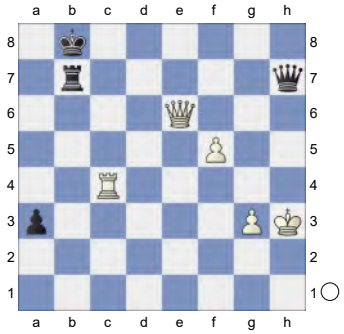
46.Qd5+
[46.Qxd3?! Qxe5 47.g4 *(47.f4 Qc5±)* 47...Qe7+-]
46...Ka7 White must now prevent ...Qc1.
47.Qxd3 Qxe5 Endgame KQR-KQR
48.f4 Qc5 49.Rd6 a4 50.Rd4 Kb8



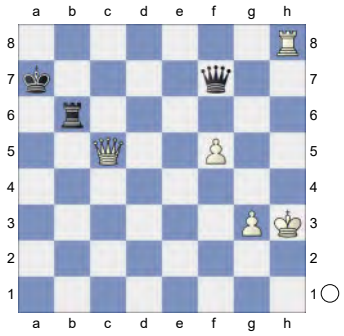
51.f5
[Don't take 51.Rxa4?! Rxd7 52.Qg6 *(52.Qxd7 Qh5+ 53.Kg2 Qe2+ 54.Kh1 Qe1+ 55.Kh2 Qe2+ 56.Kh3 Qh5+ 57.Kg2 Qe2+ 58.Kh1 Qe1+ 59.Kh2 Qe2+ 60.Kh3 Qh5+=)* 52...b5±]
51...a3 52.Rc4 Qe7



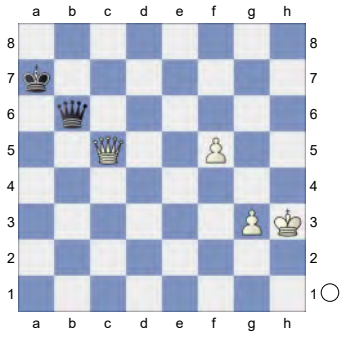
53.Qd4 1.24/23
[53.Ra4!+- 2.95/23 Qh7+ 54.Kg4 Rxd7 55.Qxa3 Qg8+ 56.Kf4]
53...Rxd7± 54.Qxb6+ Rb7 55.Qe6 0.99/23
[⌓55.Qg6 1.47/22 Qg8+ would kill now. Qd7 56.Qf6]
55...Qh7+ 10.15/24
[55...Qxe6± 0.99/23 56.fxe6 Ra7]



A mistake that costs the game. **56.Rh4+- Qf7 57.Rh8+** 10.16/25
[⌓57.Qd6+ 23.12/28 Qc7 58.Rh8+ Ka7 59.Qxa3+ Kb6 60.Rh6+ Kb5 61.Rh4]
57...Ka7 58.Qe3+ Rb6 59.Qxa3+ Ra6 60.Qc5+ Rb6



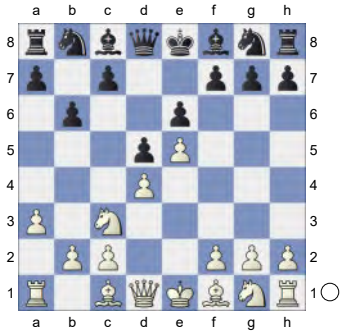
61.Rh6 Qb7 62.Rxb6 Qxb6



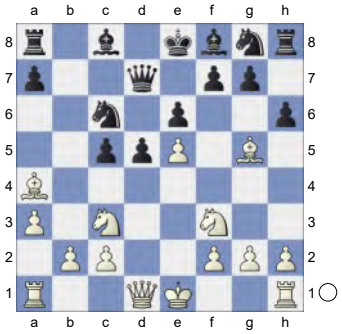
Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.25 (precise)
1-0

4 **C16**
□ **Stockfish Dev Cf1064** **3683**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-f7fb268-BT4-6**
TCEC 27 Superfinal 2024 (48.1) 24.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

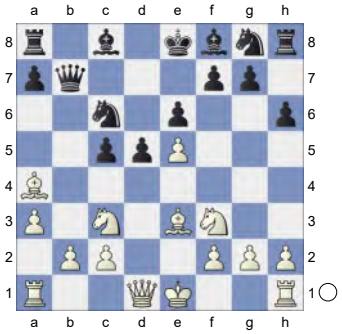
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8



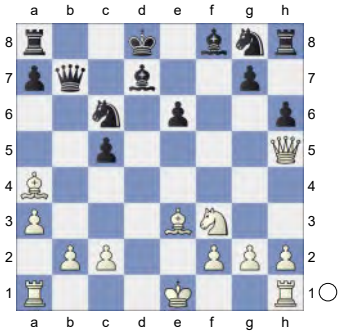
6.Nf3 c5 7.Bg5 Qd7 8.dxc5 bxc5 White is better. **9.Bb5** &Bianco is more active. **9...Nc6 10.Ba4N**
[10.0-0 a6 *(10...h6 11.Be3 d4 12.Bxd4 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Bb7 14.Qf3 Nge7 15.Rad1 Qc7 16.Ne4 0-0-0 17.Nd6+ Rxd6 18.exd6 Nxd4 19.d7+ Kb8 20.Rxd4 Bxf3 21.d8Q+ Qxd8 22.Rxd8+ Kc7 23.Rd7+ Kb6 24.gxf3 Kxb5 25.Rxa7* Chapter-Games Game - 1 *)* 11.Ba4 h6 12.Nxd5 hxg5 13.Nb6 Qb7 14.Nxa8 Be7 15.Nxg5 Bd7 16.Nxf7 Kxf7 17.Nb6 Qxb6 18.Qxd7 Nxe5 19.Qe8+ Kf6 20.Rae1 Nf3+ 21.gxf3 Qd6 22.h3 Rxh3 23.Rxe6+ Qxe6 24.Bd7 Chapter-Games Game 5]
10...h6



11.Be3 Qb7
[11...d4? 12.Bxd4! *(12.Bxc6? Qxc6 13.Bxd4 cxd4-+)* 12...cxd4 13.Nxd4+-]

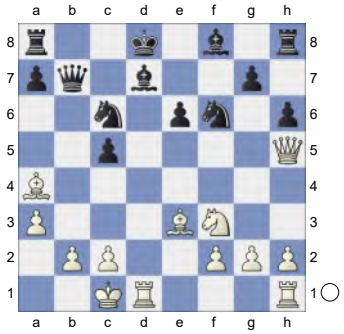


12.Nxd5! exd5 13.Qxd5 Bd7 14.e6 fxe6 15.Qh5+ Kd8
[15...g6? 16.Qxg6+ Kd8 17.0-0-0+-]

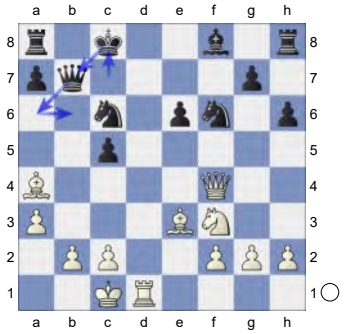


16.0-0-0!
[16.Bxc6?! Bxc6 17.Ne5 Kc8=]
16...Nf6

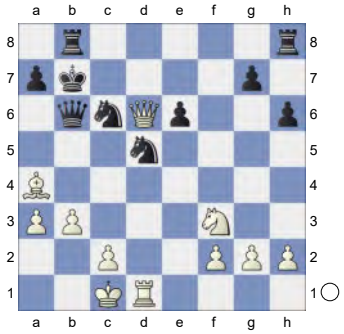
(Diagram)



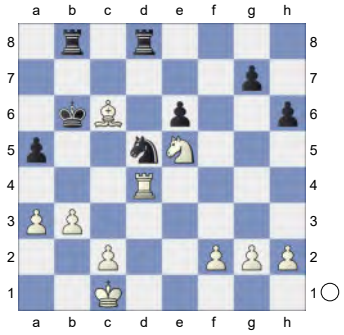
17.Rxd7+! Qxd7 18.Qh4 Qb7 1.20/21
[18...Kc7!± 0.63/21 19.Ne5 Nxe5 20.Bxd7 Nfxd7]
19.Rd1+!± Kc7 20.Qf4+! Kc8



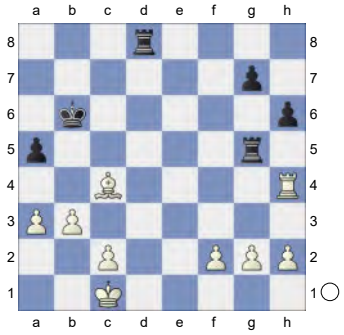
21.Qc4 Inhibits Qa6. Really sharp!
21...Nd5 22.Bxc5 Bxc5 23.Qxc5 Rb8 24.b3
[24.Qxc6+ Qxc6 25.Bxc6 Rf8±]
24...Qb6 25.Qd6
[25.Qxc6+?! Qxc6 26.Bxc6 Rd8=]
25...Kb7



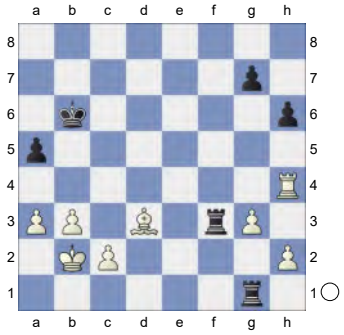
26.Qd7+ Deflection, Double Attack
26...Ka6
[26...Nc7? 27.Rd6 Rbc8 28.Bxc6+ Kb8 29.Kb2+- *(29.Qxg7 Ne8±)*]
27.Qxc6 Qxc6 28.Bxc6 Kb6 29.Ne5
[Don't do 29.Bxd5 exd5 30.Rxd5 Rbd8±]
29...Rhd8 30.Rd4 a5



31.Rh4! Rbc8 32.Bd7 Rc5 Hoping for ...Nf6. **33.Bxe6 Ne3 34.Nc4+**
[Reject 34.fxe3?! Rxe5 35.Bc4 Rxe3=]
34...Nxc4 35.Bxc4 Endgame KRR-KRB **35...Rg5**

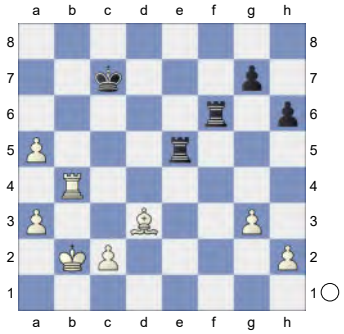


36.Bf1 0.93/22
[Better is 36.g3 1.44/22]
36...Rf8 37.f3 Re5 38.Kb2! Re1 39.Bd3 Rg1 40.g3 Rxf3

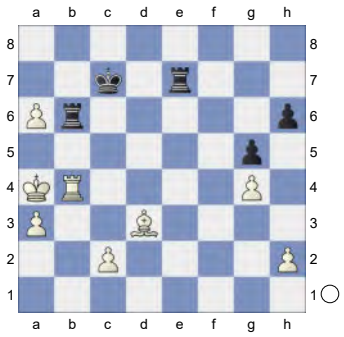


41.Rh5 a4 42.Rb5+
[Don't take 42.bxa4 Re3±]
42...Kc7 43.bxa4 Rf6 44.a5 Re1

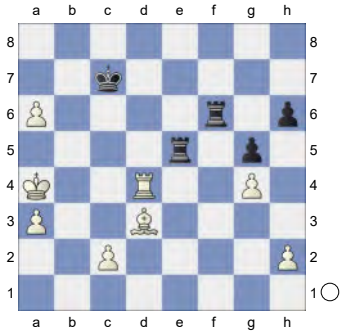
45.Rb4 Re5



46.a6 Ra4 is the strong threat. **46...Rb6 47.Ka2** 0.88/19
[White should try 47.c3! 1.46/23]
47...Rb8 48.Kb3 g5 49.Ka4 Rb6 50.g4 Re7 1.42/21
[⌓50...Re3 1.08/22]

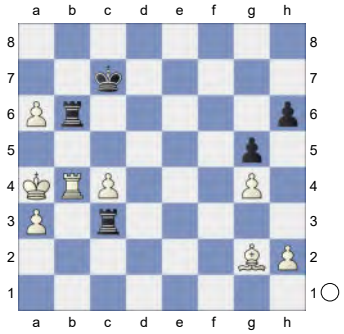


51.Ka5 Re5+ 52.Bb5 Rc6 Against Rc4 **53.Ka4 Rf6 54.Bd3 Rb6** Inhibits Rb7+. **55.Rd4 Rf6**

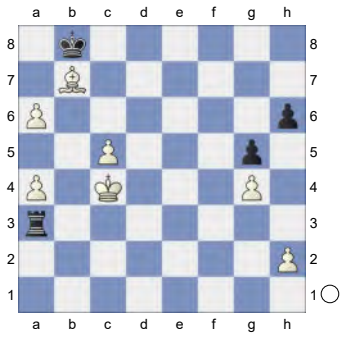


56.c3! Rf8? 2.48/21
[Black should play 56...Re7!⩲ 0.70/22]
57.Rb4!+- Rb8 Against Rb7+ **58.c4! Re3?** 3.56/27
[58...Rc5± 1.15/19 keeps fighting.]

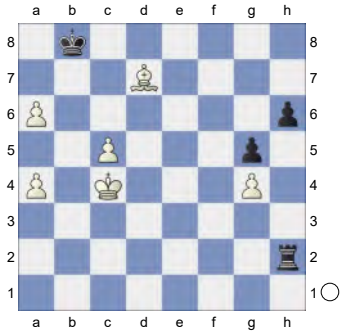
59.Bf1! Rc3 60.Bg2 Rb6



61.Bb7 Rxb4+ 62.Kxb4 KR-KB **62...Re3 63.c5 Rd3** Inhibits Bd5. **64.a4 Kb8 65.Kc4** 2.47/23 Prevents Rd4+.
[⌓65.Ka5 4.17/25 Rc3 66.Kb5]
65...Ra3? 4.67/23
[65...Rd7 2.47/23 66.Be4 Ka7]

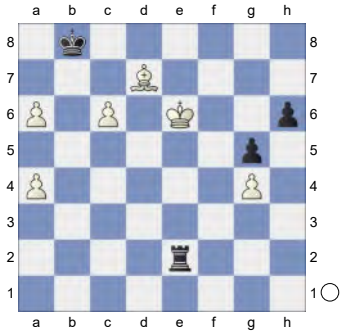


66.Bc6! Ra2 67.Bd7 Rxh2? 5.53/25
[67...Rc2+ 2.92/23 68.Kb5 Kc7]

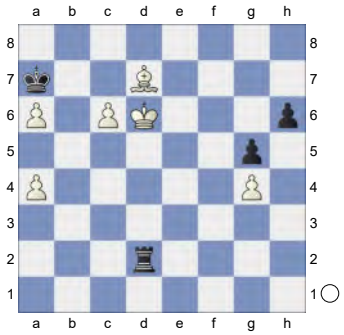


68.c6! Rc2+ 69.Kd5 Rd2+ 70.Ke6 And now a7+! would win. **70...Re2+**

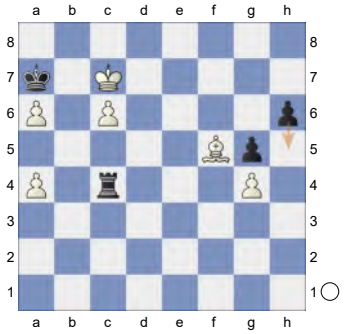
(Diagram)



71.Kf6 Strongly threatening a7+! **71...Rc2 72.Ke7 Ka7 73.Kd6 Rd2+**

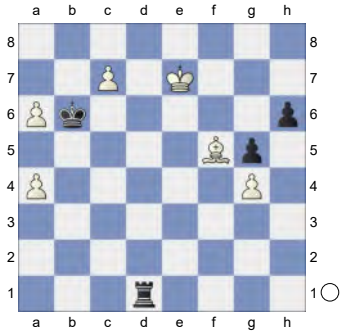


74.Kc7! aiming for Kd8. **74...Rc2 75.Bf5 Rc4**

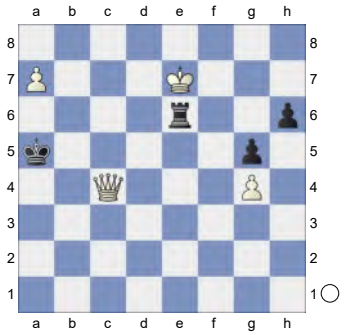


76.Kd6 Threatens to win with c7. **76...Rd4+ 77.Kc5 Rd1 78.c7** Intending Be6 and mate. **78...Rc1+ 79.Kd6 Rd1+ 80.Ke7 Kb6**

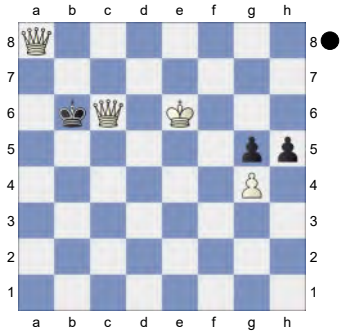
(Diagram)



81.c8Q White mates. **81...Re1+ 82.Be6 Re3 83.a5+ Kb5 84.Qc4+ Kxa5 85.a7 Rxe6+**



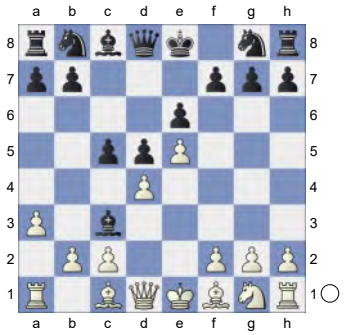
86.Kxe6 Kb6 87.a8Q h5 88.Qcc6#



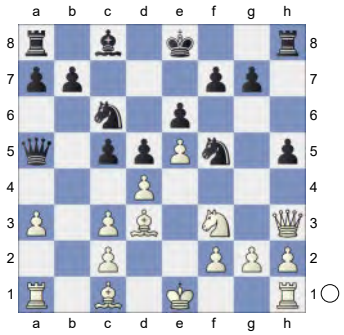
Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
1-0

5 **C19**
□ **Stockfish Dev Cf1064** **3683**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-f7fb268-BT4-6**
TCEC 27 Superfinal 2024 (12.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

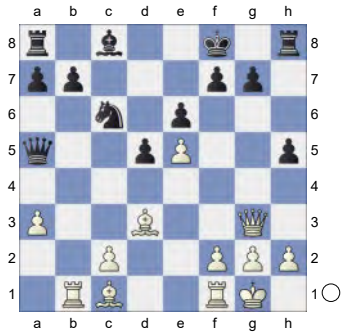
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



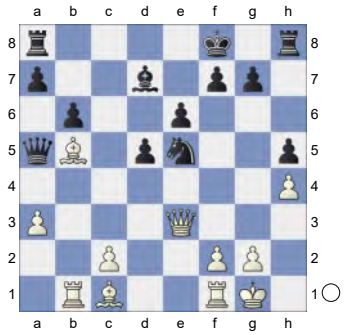
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Nf5 8.Bd3 h5 9.Qh3 Nc6 10.Nf3 Qa5 0.74/21
[10...cxd4± 0.42/21 11.Bxf5 exf5]



11.0-0N
[11.Bd2 c4 *(11...cxd4 12.cxd4 Qb6 13.c3 Bd7 14.Rb1 Qc7 15.g4 Nfe7 16.gxh5 0-0-0 17.Rg1 f6 18.Rxg7 fxe5 19.Rxe7 e4 20.Bb5 Nxe7 21.Ne5 Rhg8 22.Bxd7+ Rxd7 23.Rb5 Rd6 24.Bf4 Rg1+ 25.Kd2 Rb6 26.Nd3* Weiner,M-Marchisotti,E corr ICCF 1961 1-0 (47)*)* 12.Be2 *(12.Bxf5 exf5 13.Qg3 g6 14.0-0 Be6 15.h4 Kd7 16.Qf4 b5 17.Ng5 Rab8 18.Ra2 Qc7 19.Nh3 a5 20.Rb1 Rb6 21.Rab2 Rhb8 22.Ng5 Qd8 23.Nh7 Kc8 24.Nf6 R8b7 25.Kf1 Kb8 26.Qg3 Ka7* Yam,A-Aghadjanian,A Kapfenberg 1959 Inf 46 [Thipsay,Praveen Mahadeo; Thipsay,B] ½-½ (37) *)*
12...Bd7 13.g4 Nfe7 14.gxh5 0-0-0 15.Nh4 Rdg8 16.Rg1 g6 17.h6 g5 18.Rxg5 Rxg5 19.Bxg5 Nxd4 20.Bxe7 Nxc2+ 21.Kf1 Nxa1 22.Qg3 Qb6 23.Bf6 Qb1+ 24.Kg2 Rxh6 25.Qg8+ Kc7 Miles,E-Gilbert,R Barbera del Valles 1959 200 Traps In The Opening [John Watson] 1-0 (41)]
11...cxd4 12.cxd4 White is slightly better. **12...Nfxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Rb1 Nc6 15.Qg3** White has compensation. **15...Kf8**



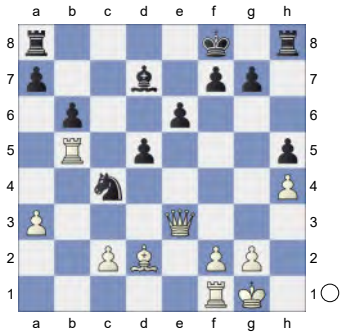
16.h4 b6 0.78/22
[16...a6= 0.30/20]
17.Bb5± &Bianco is more active.
17...Bd7 18.Qe3 Nxe5



19.Bd2! Qxb5

[19...Ng4? 20.Qd4 *(20.Bxa5 Nxe3 21.Bb4+ Kg8=)* 20...Bxb5 21.Bxa5 Bxf1 22.Bb4+ *(22.Kxf1 bxa5 23.f3 Nh6±)* 22...Kg8 23.Rxf1+-]

20.Rxb5 Nc4!



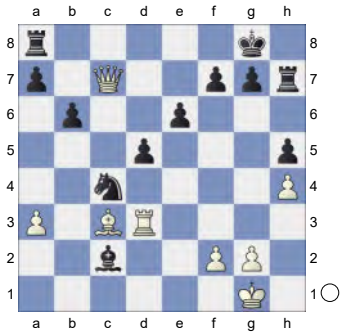
21.Qg3

[21.Bb4+?! Kg8 22.Qg3 Bxb5=]

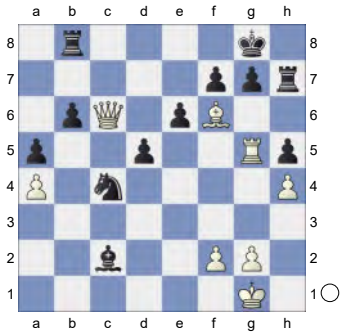
21...Bxb5 22.Bc3 Rh7 23.Qc7 Against Rc8 **23...Kg8 24.Rd1 Ba4**

[24...Nxa3? 25.Ra1+-]

25.Rd3 Bxc2

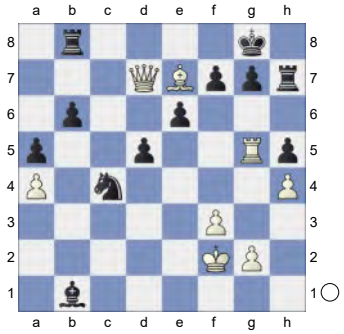


26.Rg3 a5 27.Qc6 Rf8 28.a4 Rd8 29.Bf6 Rf8 30.Rg5 Rb8

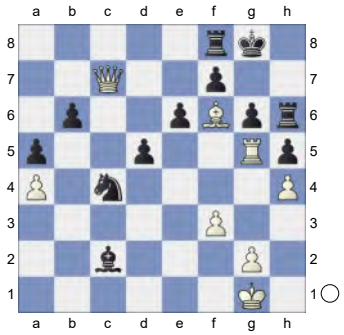


31.f3 Rf8 32.Kf2 Bb1 33.Be7 Rb8 34.Qc7 Re8 35.Qd7 Rb8

(Diagram)



36.Bd8 g6 37.Bf6 Rf8 38.Qc6 Bf5 39.Kg1 Rh6 40.Qc7 Bc2



41.Qc6 Bf5! 42.Qc7 0.01/24

[42.Bc3± 0.46/25]

42...Bc2= 43.Kf2 -1.06/25

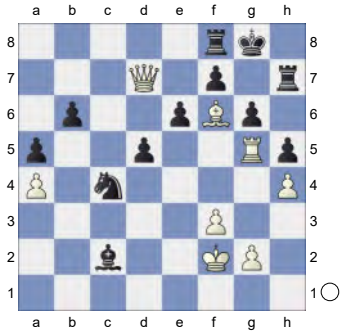
[43.Qd7= 0.29/28 remains equal.]

43...Rh7 -0.01/28

[43...Bxa4∓ -1.06/25 next ...Bb3 is good for Black. 44.Qb7 Bc2]

44.Qc6 Bf5! 45.Qd7 Bc2

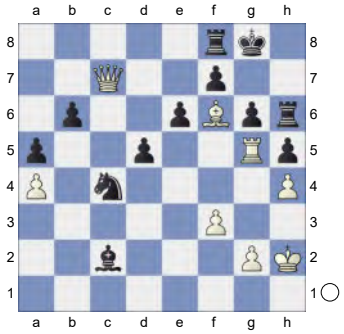
[45...Bb1!?]



46.Kg1 Bf5 47.Qc7 Hoping for Rxf5!

47...Bc2 48.Qc6 Bf5 49.Kh2 Rh6 50.Qc7 Threatening Qf4. **50...Bc2**

(Diagram)



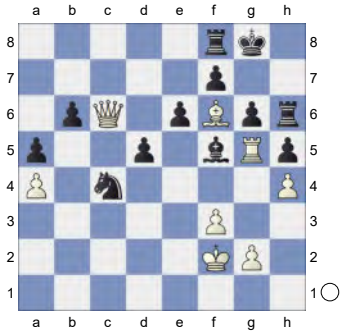
51.Qc6 Bf5 52.Kg1 Rh7! 53.Kf2 Rh6 0.74/26

[53...Bc2= 0.25/26]

54.Qc7 0.01/27

[54.Bc3± 0.74/26]

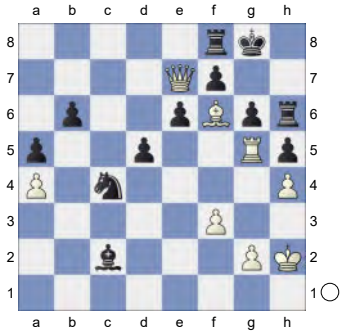
54...Bc2 55.Qc6 Bf5



56.Qc7 -0.01/20

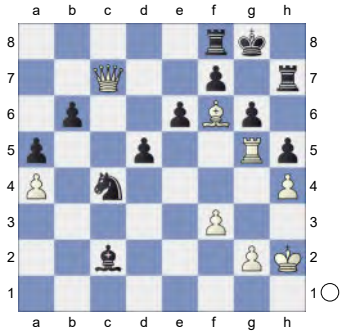
[56.Bc3!± 0.72/24]

56...Bc2 57.Qd7 Rh7 58.Kg1 Bf5 59.Kh2 Rh6 60.Qe7 Bc2

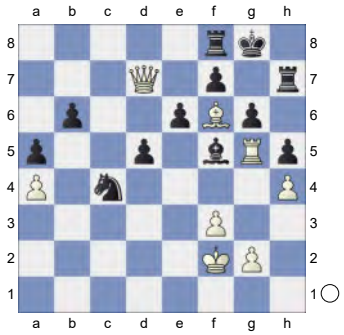


61.Qd7 Rh7 62.Qc6 Bf5! 63.Qc7 Bc2 64.Qc6 Bf5! 65.Qc7 Bc2

(Diagram)



66.Qd7 Bf5 67.Kg1 Bc2 68.Rg3 Bf5! Prevents Rh3. **69.Kf2 Rh6 70.Rg5 Rh7**



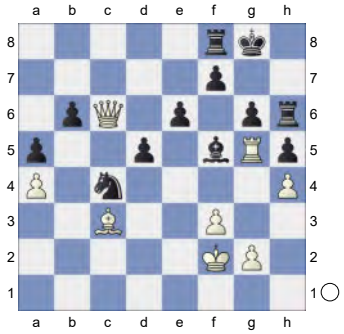
71.Ke2? -1.21/23

[71.Qb5± 0.32/23 stays ahead.]

71...Bc2? 0.32/25

[71...Bb1∓ -1.21/23]

72.Qc6 Bb1 73.Ba1 Bc2 74.Kf2 Bf5 75.Bc3 Rh6



76.Bd4 Rh7 77.Ba1 Rh6 78.Bd4 -0.01/23

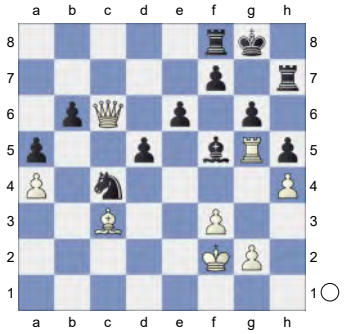
[78.Kg1± 0.32/26 was preferrable.]

78...Rh7! 79.Ba1 -0.01/20

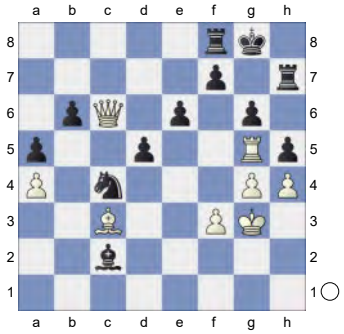
[79.Kg1± 0.41/24 is superior.]

79...Rh6! 80.Bc3 Rh7 0.60/25

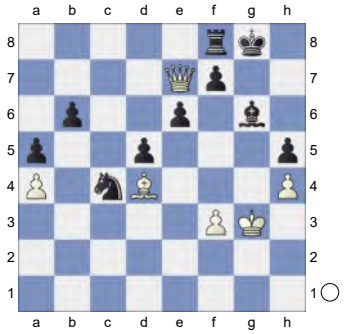
[80...Bc2!= 0.01/23]



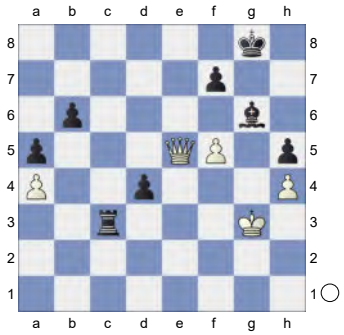
81.g4!⩲ Bc2 0.80/25
[81...Bd3⩲ 0.36/24]
82.Kg3± Bb1 0.01/23
[82...Rh6⩲ 0.46/23]
83.Bf6 Bc2 84.Bd4 Bd3
[Reject 84...hxg4 85.fxg4 Be4 86.h5=]
85.Bc3 0.01/21
[85.gxh5⩲ 0.45/26 Rxh5 86.Rxh5 gxh5 87.Bxb6]
85...Bc2 1.06/24
[85...Bb1= 0.01/21]



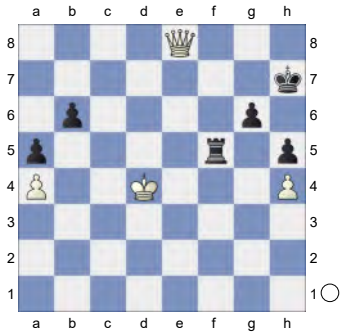
86.Qd7! Rh6 1.09/24
[⌓86...hxg4 0.75/24 87.fxg4 Ne3]
87.Bd4 0.01/22
[87.gxh5± 1.09/24 Rxh5 88.Rxh5 gxh5 89.Qe7]
87...Rh7? 1.87/28
[87...hxg4= 0.01/22 and Black is okay. 88.fxg4 Nd2]
88.gxh5+- Rxh5 89.Rxh5 Chess con chili. **89...gxh5 90.Qe7 Bg6**
(Diagram)



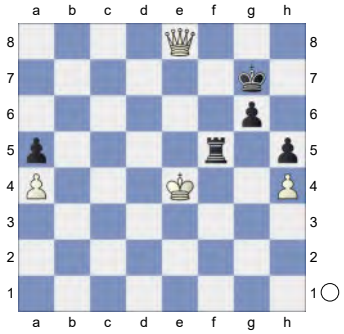
91.Qf6 e5 92.Bxe5 Nxe5 93.Qxe5± Endgame KQ-KRB **93...Rc8 94.f4!** Strongly threatening f5.
[Much less strong is 94.Qxd5?! Re8⩲]
94...d4 95.f5!
[Don't do 95.Qxd4?! Rc6⩲]
95...Rc3+? 5.69/23
[95...Bh7± 1.57/26 96.Qxd4 Bxf5]



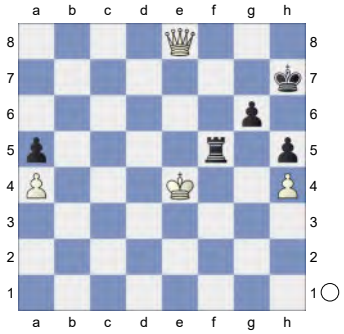
96.Kf4+- Rc5 97.Qe8+ Kg7 98.fxg6 fxg6 KQ-KR **99.Ke4 Rf5 100.Kxd4 Kh7**



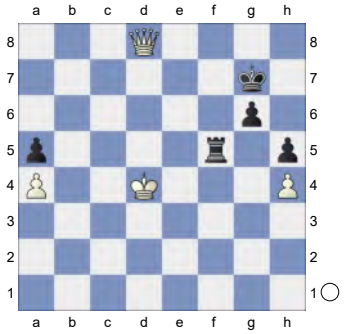
101.Ke4 Kg7 102.Qb8 Kh7 103.Qxb6 Kg7 104.Qd8 Kh7 105.Qe8 Kg7
(Diagram)



106.Qa8 Kh7 107.Qd8 Kg7 108.Qe8 Kh7 109.Kd4 Kg7 110.Ke4? -0.01/27
[110.Qc6+- 5.51/34]
110...Kh7=

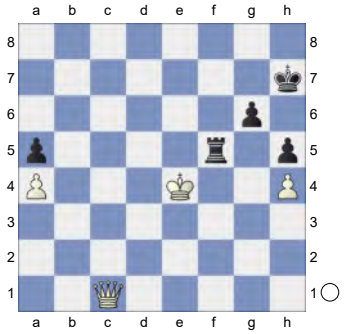


111.Qa8 Kg7 112.Qd8? 0.01/26
[112.Kd4+- 5.91/34]
112...Kh7! 113.Kd4 Kg7 114.Qa8 Kh7 115.Qd8? 0.01/28
[115.Qb7++- 5.59/35 Kh8 116.Qe4]
115...Kg7!

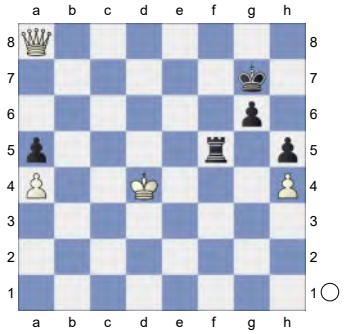


116.Qe8 Kh7 117.Qe3 Kg7 118.Qd2 Kh7 119.Qc1 Kg7 120.Ke4 Kh7

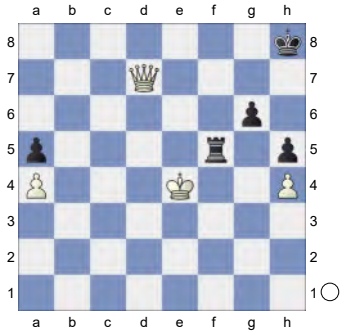
(Diagram)



121.Qc8 Kg7 122.Qa8? -0.01/27
[White should try 122.Qa6+- 5.56/35]
122...Kh7! 123.Kd4 Kg7 124.Qb8 Kh7 125.Qa8? -0.01/26
[Better is 125.Kd3+- 5.56/34]
125...Kg7!

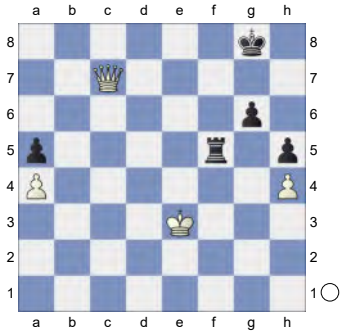


126.Qe8? 0.01/21
[126.Kc4+- 5.54/29]
126...Kh7! 127.Qe3? -0.01/25
[127.Qe7++- 5.47/34 Kh8 128.Ke4]
127...Kg7 128.Ke4 Kh7 129.Qd4 Kg8 130.Qd7 Kh8

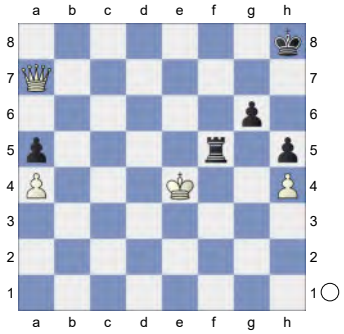


131.Qc7 Kg8 132.Kd4 Kh8 133.Ke3 Kg8 134.Qa7 Kh8 135.Qc7 Prevents Re5+. **135...Kg8**

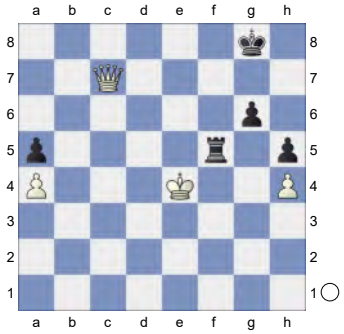
(Diagram)



136.Ke4 Black must now prevent Qg3.
136...Kh8! 137.Qd7? 3.85/24
[137.Qe7= 0.01/41 Kg8 138.Qc7]
137...Kg8+- 138.Qa7? 4.20/24
[138.Qe7= 0.01/47 Kh8 139.Kd4]
138...Kh8

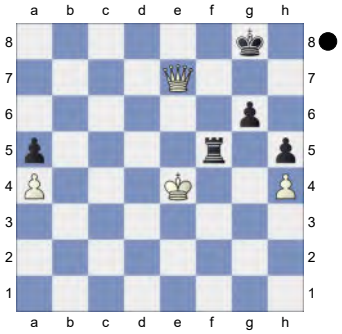


139.Qc7? -0.01/19
[139.Kd4!+- 4.29/34]
139...Kg8=



140.Qe7!

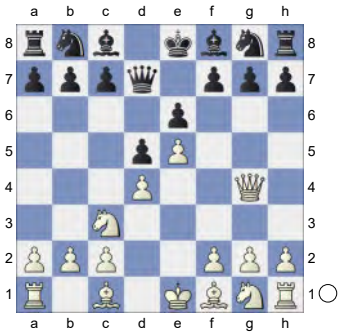
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

6 **C16**
□ **Stockfish dev-20241122-b7f173 3677**
■ **Caissa 3545**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (21.4) 03.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.Qg4 Bf8



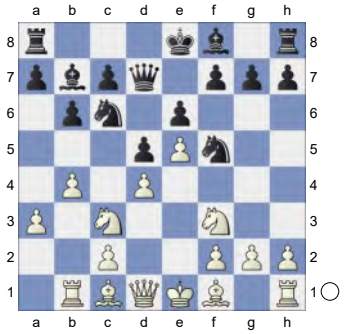
6.Rb1N
[6.Be3 b6 7.f4 Bb7 8.Bb5 Nc6 9.Nge2 Nge7 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Ba4 b5 12.Bb3 Na5 13.Qf3 h5 14.Qf2 ½-½ (14) Smith,J-Shariyazdanov,A Wattens 1977 ICCF Telechess [Venkatesh,M]]
[6.Bb5 Nc6 7.a3 a6 8.Bd3 h5 9.Qf4 g5 10.Qxg5 Nxd4 11.Be3

Nc6 12.0-0-0 Bh6 13.Qg3 h4 14.Qh3 Nxe5 15.Bxh6 Rxh6 16.Qe3 Nxd3+ 17.Rxd3 Qe7 18.Nf3 b6 19.Re1 Bb7 20.Nd4 Rg6 3.♗f4 d5 4. e3 c5_31823 (2426)-Hyderabad (2591) Dos Hermanas 2020 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 0-1 (75)]

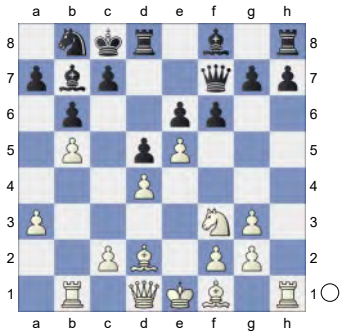
[6.Nf3 b6 7.Be2 Ba6 8.0-0 h5 9.Qh3 Ne7 10.Bg5 Ng6 11.a4 Bxe2 12.Nxe2 Nc6 13.c3 Be7 14.b4 a5 15.b5 Bxg5 16.Nxg5 Nce7 17.Rac1 Rd8 18.c4 dxc4 19.Rxc4 Nd5 20.Qg3 Nge7 8.Nc4 0-0 9.g3 (1867)-Henry,J (1840) Kstovo 2022 CYB 12 [Burmakin,Vladimir] 1-0 (39)]

[6.h4 h5 7.Qd1 b6 8.Bg5 a6 9.Nh3 c5 10.Ne2 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Ne7 12.Bd3 Nec6 13.Nf3 Qc7 14.0-0 Chess Informant Eco Survey 2006]

6...Nc6 7.a3 Nge7 8.b4 &Bianco is more active. White is better. **8...Nf5 9.Qd1 b6 10.Nf3 Bb7**



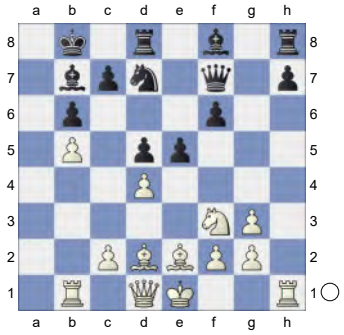
11.Ne2 0-0-0 12.Bd2 f6 13.b5 Nb8 14.Ng3 Nxg3 15.hxg3 Qf7



16.exf6 gxf6 17.a4 Nd7 18.a5 Kb8 19.Be2 e5 1.36/19

[⌓19...h5 0.82/20]

20.axb6!± axb6



21.Ra1 0.85/19

[⌓21.Rb2 1.30/20]

21...h5 1.38/18

[Black should play 21...Bd6 0.85/19]

22.Ra2! h4 23.Qa1! Hoping for Ra7.

[23.Rxh4 Rxh4 24.gxh4 Qh7±]

23...Bd6 1.32/20

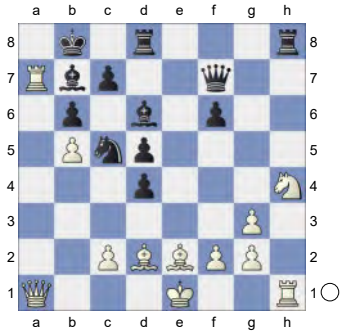
[⌓23...Qe6 0.82/17]

24.Nxh4

[24.Rxh4?! Rxh4 25.gxh4 Qg6=]

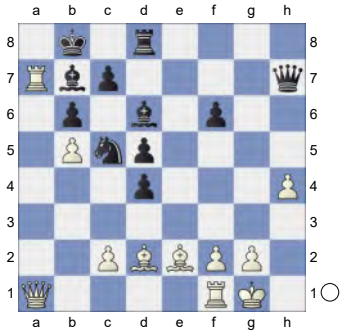
24...exd4 25.Ra7 Nc5 1.66/18

[25...Be5± 1.08/18 is a better defense.]

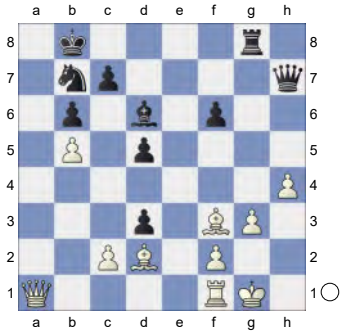


26.0-0+- Rxh4 27.gxh4 And now Qa2 would win. **27...Qh7**

(Diagram)

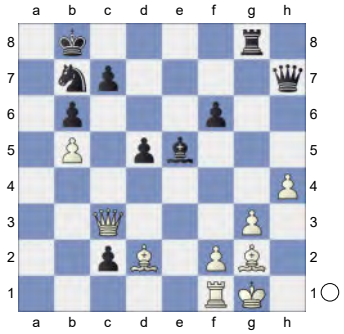


28.Rxb7+! Nxb7 29.g3
[29.Qxd4?! Be5 30.Qb4 Qxc2±]
29...Rg8 White must now prevent ... Qxh4. **30.Bf3** Strongly threatening Bg2.
[30.Qxd4 Rxg3+! 31.fxg3 Bc5 32.Qxc5 Nxc5∓]
30...d3

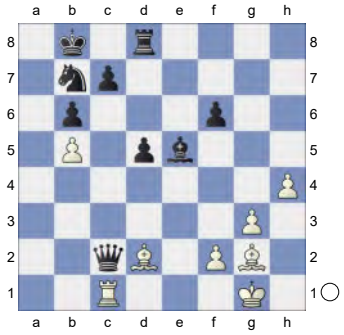


31.Bg2! aiming for Qa2. A strong pair of Bishops.
[31.Qxf6 Rf8 32.Qe6 Rxf3=]
[31.Bxd5 Qxh4 32.Bg2 *(32.Bxg8 Bxg3 33.fxg3 Qxg3+ 34.Kh1 Qh3+ 35.Kg1 Qg3+ 36.Kh1 Qh3+ 37.Kg1 Qg3+=; 32.Qa6 Rxg3+ 33.fxg3 Qxg3+ 34.Bg2 Bc5+)* 32...Rxg3 33.fxg3 Bc5+ 34.Rf2 Qxg3 35.Qxf6 dxc2±]
31...dxc2 32.Qc3 Against Qd3
[32.Bxd5 Qxh4 33.Bxg8 Bxg3 34.fxg3 Qxg3+ 35.Kh1 Qh3+ 36.Kg1 Qg3+ 37.Kh1 Qh3+ 38.Kg1 Qg3+=]
32...Be5

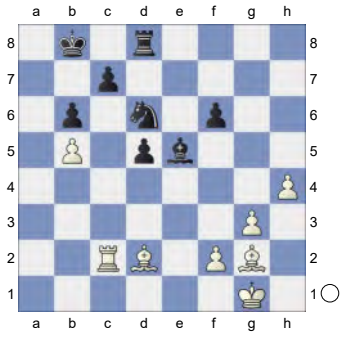
(Diagram)



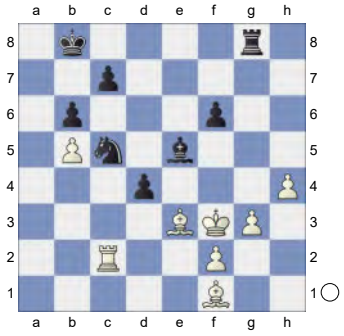
33.Qb3
[Wrong is 33.Qc6? Qd3 34.Bh6 *(34.Bxd5? Rxg3+ 35.Bg2 Rxg2+ 36.Kxg2 Qxd2-+; 34.Qxd5? Qxd5 35.Bxd5 Rd8-+)* 34...Rd8-+]
33...Rd8 ...Nc5 is the strong threat.
34.Rc1 Qg6 35.Qxc2 Qxc2



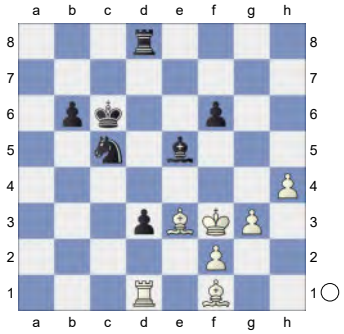
36.Rxc2 Nd6



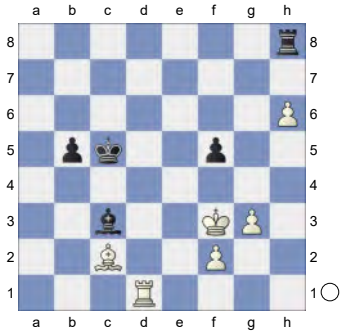
37.Bf1
[Don't play 37.Bxd5?! Nxb5 38.Bg2 c5±]
37...Ne4 38.Kg2 Rg8 2.11/21
[38...Kb7 1.68/19 was necessary. 39.Bc1 Rh8]
39.Kf3 Nc5 40.Be3 d4
(Diagram)



41.Bd2 d3 42.Rc1 c6
[42...Nb3? 43.Rd1]
43.bxc6 Kc7 44.Be3 Rd8 45.Rd1 Kxc6

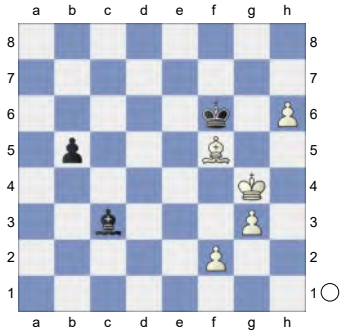


46.Bxc5 Kxc5 47.Bxd3 Endgame KRB-KRB
[Much less strong is 47.Rxd3?! Bd4 48.Rb3 Kd6±]
47...Bc3 48.h5 f5 49.h6 b5 50.Bc2 Rh8

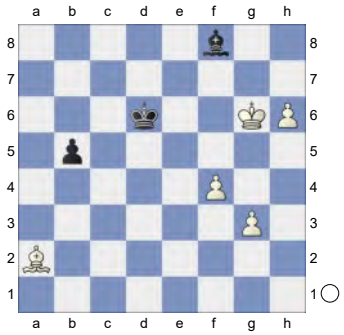


51.Rh1 Rf8 52.Rh5 Kd6 53.Rxf5 Rxf5+ 54.Bxf5 KB-KB **54...Ke5 55.Kg4 Kf6**

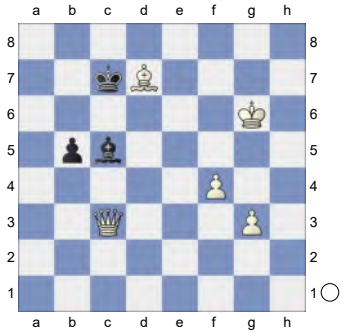
(Diagram)



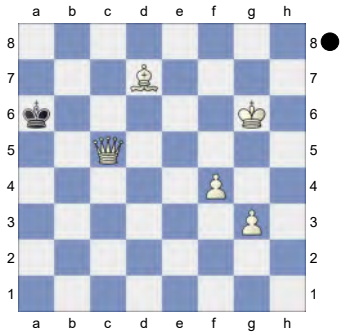
56.f4 Bb4 57.Bb1 Kf7 58.Kf5 Bf8 59.Ba2+ Ke7 60.Kg6 Threatening mate with h7. **60...Kd6**



61.h7 White mates. **61...Kc5 62.h8Q Bd6 63.Qc3+ Kb6 64.Be6 Bc5 65.Bd7 Kc7**



66.Bxb5 Kb6 67.Bd7 Ka6 68.Qxc5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.17 (very precise)
1-0

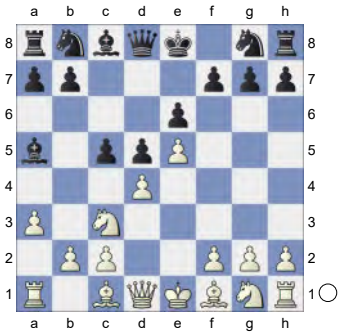
7 **C17**
□ **Stockfish Dev** **3673**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-e429eeb-BT3-2**
TCEC 25 Superfinal 2023 (96.1) 29.10.23
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356' Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**

[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4* Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62)*; 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½ (45) *)* 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]

[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray G] 1-0]

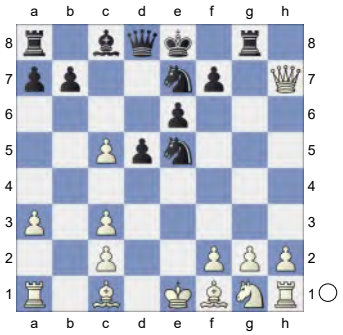
5.a3 Ba5



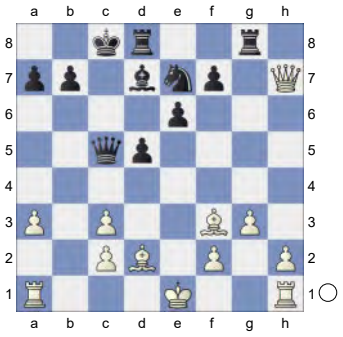
6.Qg4 Ne7 7.dxc5 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Nd7 0.98/19

[8...Ng6± 0.48/21]

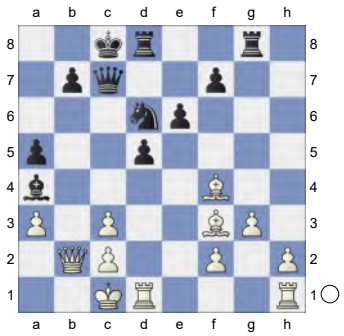
9.Qxg7± &Bianco is more active. **9...Rg8 10.Qxh7 Nxe5**



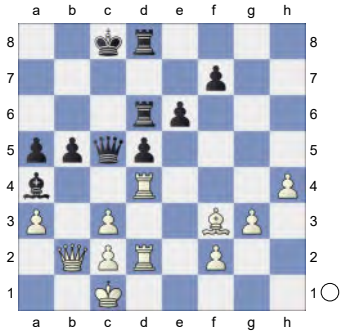
11.Be2 White is better. **11...Qa5 12.Bd2 Qxc5 13.Nf3 Nxf3+ 14.Bxf3** And now Bh5 would win. **14...Bd7 15.g3 0-0-0**



16.Qh4 Nf5 17.Qb4 Qc7 18.0-0-0 Strongly threatening Bf4. **18...a5 19.Qb2 Nd6 20.Bf4 Ba4**

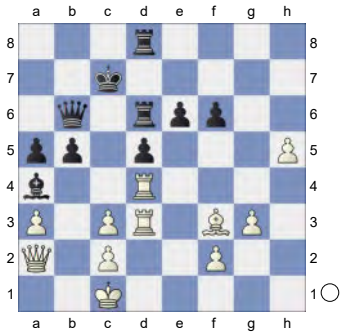


21.Rd4 b5 22.Rhd1 Qc6 23.Bxd6 Rxd6 24.h4 Qc5 25.R1d2 Rgd8



26.Re2 Rc6 27.Re3 Kc7 28.h5 f6 29.Red3 Rcd6 White must now prevent ...e5. **30.Qa2 Qb6**

[30...e5 31.Rxd5 Rxd5 32.Rxd5 Qxc3 33.Rxd8 Kxd8 34.Bg4 Qe1+ 35.Kb2 Qxf2 36.Qg8+ Ke7 37.Qh7+ Ke8 38.Qd7+ Kf8 39.Qd8+ Kg7 40.Qe7+ Kh8 41.Qf8+ Kh7 42.Qf7+ Kh8 43.Qe8+ Kg7 44.Qg6+ Kf8 45.Be6 Qxc2+ 46.Qxc2+-]



31.Kb2 Qc5

[31...e5? 32.Rxd5 Rxd5 33.Rxd5 Qxf2 34.Bd1+-]

32.Kc1 R6d7

[32...e5 33.Rxd5 Rxd5 34.Rxd5 Qxc3 35.Rxd8 Kxd8 36.Bg4 Qe1+ 37.Kb2 Qxf2 38.Qg8+ Ke7 39.Qh7+ Ke8 40.Qd7+ Kf8 41.Qd8+ Kg7 42.Qe7+ Kh8 43.Qf8+ Kh7 44.Qf7+ Kh8 45.Qe8+ Kg7 46.Qg6+ Kf8 47.Be6 Qxc2+ 48.Qxc2+-]

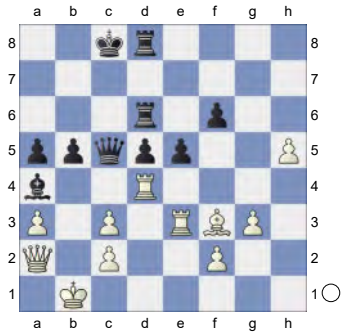
33.Kb2 Rd6

[33...e5? 34.Rxd5 Rxd5 35.Rxd5 Qxf2 36.Bd1+-]

34.Kb1 Kc8

[34...e5? 35.Rxd5 Rxd5 36.Rxd5 Bxc2+ 37.Qxc2+-]

35.Re3 e5



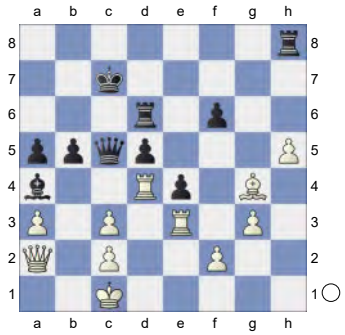
36.Rd1 e4 37.Bg4+ Kc7 38.Rd4 Rh8 39.Kb2 1.21/18

[Better is 39.Bd1 0.84/22]

39...Ra8

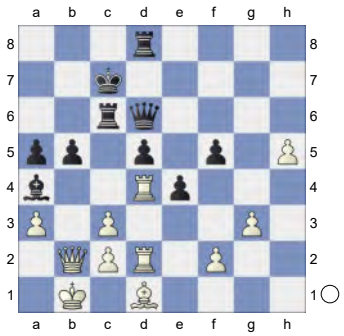
[39...f5? 40.Bxf5 Rxh5 41.Bxe4!+-]

40.Kc1 Rh8

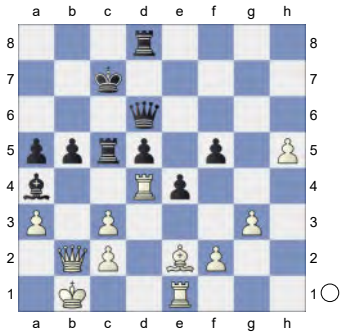


41.Qb2 0.79/21

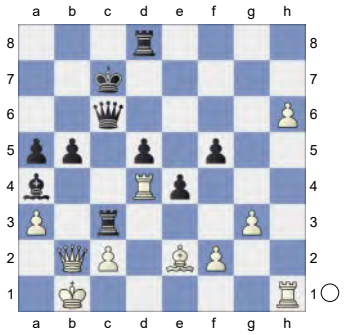
[⌓41.Kb2! 1.44/20]
41...f5 42.Bd1 Rc6 43.Kb1 Rb8 44.Re2 Qd6 45.Red2 Rd8



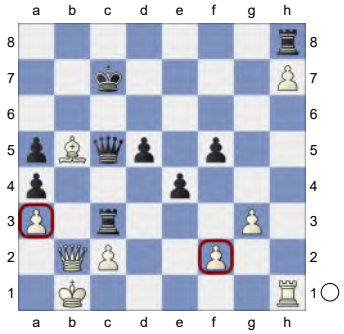
46.Be2 aiming for c4!
[46.Rxd5 Qxd5 47.Rxd5 Rxd5±]
46...Qh6 47.Bd1
[47.Bxb5? Bxb5 48.Qxb5 Rb6-+]
[47.Rxd5 Qxd2 48.Rxd2 Rxd2=]
47...Rc5 48.Re2 Rc4 49.Re1 Qd6 50.Be2 Rc5



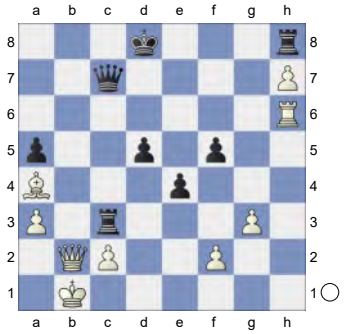
51.Rh1 0.12/18
[51.Bd1!± 0.77/19]
51...Qc6= 52.h6 Threatens to win with h7. **52...Rxc3**



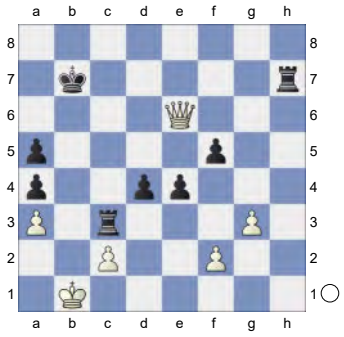
The position is equal. **53.Rxa4 bxa4 54.h7 Rh8** Hoping for ...d4. **55.Bb5! Qc5**



56.Rh6↑ White has some pressure.
56...d4!
[56...Kd8? 57.Bxa4 Qc7

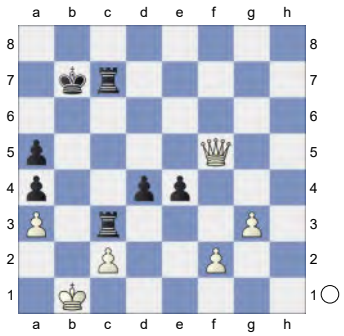


58.Rc6!+-]
57.Rc6+ Qxc6 58.Bxc6 Dancing on a razor blade. **58...Kxc6 59.Qa2 Rxh7 60.Qe6+ Kb7**



61.Qxf5 Rhc7!
[61...Rh1+? 62.Kb2 Rh6 63.Qd7+ *(63.Qxe4+ Rhc6=)* 63...Rc7 64.Qxd4+-]

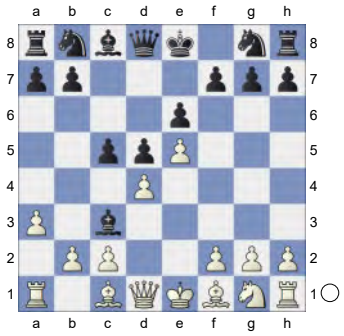
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

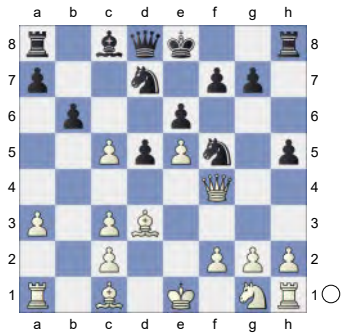
8 **C19**
□ **Stockfish Dev** **3673**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-e429eeb-BT3-2**
TCEC 25 Superfinal 2023 (18.1) 12.10.23
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
The Ukranian GM Yuri Drozdovskij is a French specialist and I've noticed that he have scored well with slightly offbeat variations. Here, we analyze a recent game with 7…Nf5!? in the Winawer, a line which I've always been curious about. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



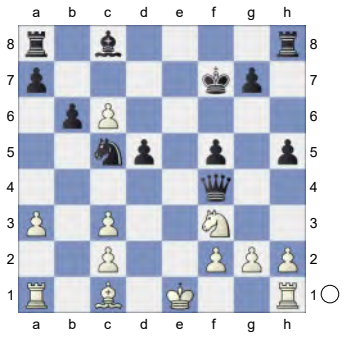
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Nf5 8.Bd3 h5 9.Qf4 b6N
[9...Qc7 10.Ne2 Ne7 11.dxc5 Nd7 12.Qg3 Nxc5 13.0-0 Bd7 14.Bg5 h4 15.Qe3 h3 16.g4 Ne4 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Bxe7 Kxe7 19.Qxe4 Qc6 20.Qb4+ Ke8 Kuipers,S (2365)-Timman,J (2575) Dieren 2011 CI1-130 [RR]]
[9...Qh4 10.Qxh4 *(10.Ne2 Qxf4 11.Nxf4 Ne7 12.Be2 h4 13.Nh5 Kf8 14.Bg5 Nbc6 15.0-0-0 Bd7 16.g4 cxd4 17.cxd4 Rc8 18.Bxh4 Na5* Chapter-Games Game - 1*)* 10...Nxh4 11.Bg5 Nf5 12.dxc5 Nd7 13.Bxf5 exf5 14.0-0-0 Nxc5 15.Rxd5 Ne6 16.Nh3 b6 17.Rhd1 Bb7 18.Rd7 Bxg2 19.Re7+ Kf8 20.Rxe6 fxe6 21.Nf4 Bd5 22.Nxd5 exd5 23.Rxd5 Kf7 24.Rd7+ Radulski,J (2539)-Drozdovskij,Y (2620) Tromso NOR 2009 [Wei Ming] ½-½ (33)]
[9...cxd4 10.cxd4 Qh4 11.Qxh4 Nxh4 12.g3 Nf5 13.Ne2 Nc6 14.c3 Na5 15.Rb1 Bd7 16.Nf4 Ne7 17.Be2 g6 18.h4 Rc8 19.Bd2 Rc7 20.g4 hxg4 21.Bxg4 Nc4 22.Bc1 Ba4 23.h5 Bc2 24.Ra1 B223 Dxe6-11. ♘f3 ♕c7 12. ♗f4 ♗d7 Leukerbad 1953 200 Traps In The Opening [John Watson] 1-0 (47)]

10.dxc5 Nd7

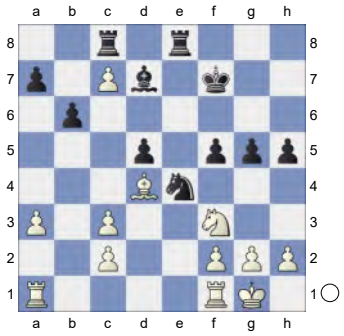


11.c6 Nc5 White is slightly better.
12.Nf3 -0.10/22
[12.Bxf5± 0.46/20 exf5 13.Nf3]
12...Qc7 0.72/22
[12...Nxd3+= -0.10/22 13.cxd3 Ba6]

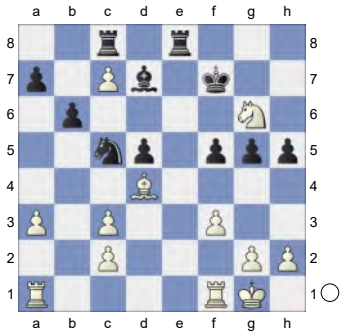
13.Bxf5± exf5 14.e6
[14.Nd4 Ne6 15.Qg3 h4=]
14...Qxf4 15.exf7+ Kxf7



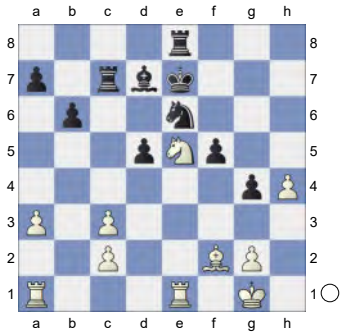
16.Bxf4 0-0-0 is the strong threat.
16...Re8+ 17.Be5 Bd7! 18.c7
[But not 18.cxd7?! Nxd7 19.0-0-0 *(19.Ng5+ Kg6=)* 19...Nxe5±]
18...Ne4 19.0-0! g5 Hoping for ...g4.
20.Bd4 Rac8



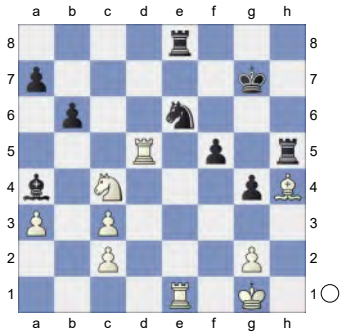
21.Ne5+ Ke7 22.Ng6+ 0.01/22
[22.Rfe1± 0.68/20]
22...Kf7= 23.Ne5+ Ke7! 24.f3 Nc5 25.Ng6+ -0.01/18
[25.Rad1± 0.63/20]
25...Kf7!



26.Ne5+ Ke7! 27.Rfe1 And now Rad1 would win. &Bianco is more active.
[27.Rad1!?]
27...Ne6 28.Bf2↑ White has good play.
28...Rxc7 29.h4 g4 30.fxg4 hxg4

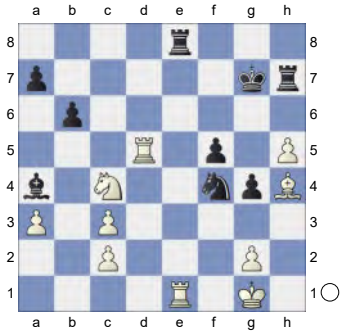


31.Rad1 Ba4 32.h5 Kf6! 33.Rxd5 Rh7 1.16/21
[33...Kg5± 0.58/20]
34.Bh4+± Kg7 35.Nc4
[Inferior is 35.Rd6 Rxh5 36.Bf2 Reh8!∓]
[35.Ng6 with more complications. Rxh5 36.Ne7 Nc5 37.Nxf5+ Kh7 38.Rxe8 Bxe8 39.Bg3]
35...Nf4
[35...Rxh5?

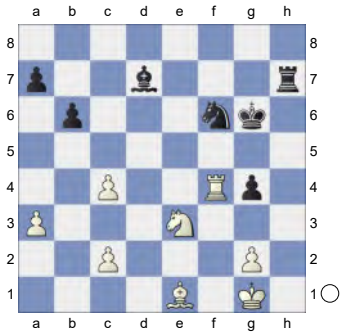


36.Nd6! Rxh4 37.Nxe8+ Bxe8 38.Rxe6+-]

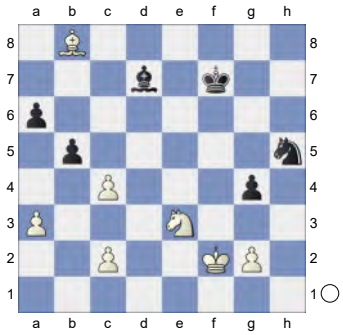
(Diagram)



36.Rxf5 Rxe1+ 37.Bxe1 Nxh5 38.Ne3 Nf6 39.Rf4 Bd7 40.c4 Kg6

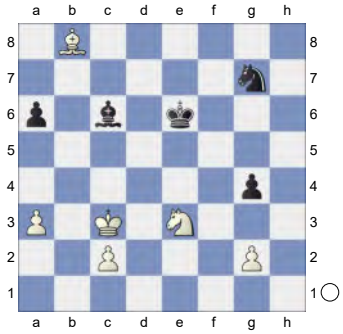


41.Bb4 Prevents Re7. **41...Rf7** 1.35/21
[⌓41...Be6 0.92/21]
42.Bd6 Nh5 43.Rxf7 Kxf7 Endgame KBN-KBN **44.Bb8 a6 45.Kf2 b5**

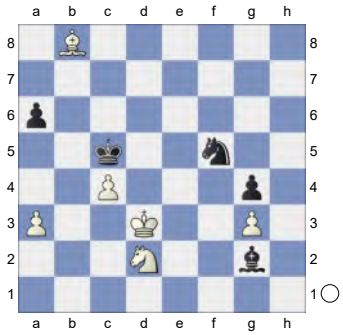


46.Ke2 bxc4 47.Nxc4 Bb5 48.Kd3 Ng7 49.Kc3 Black must now prevent Nd6+. **49...Ke6 50.Ne3 Bc6**

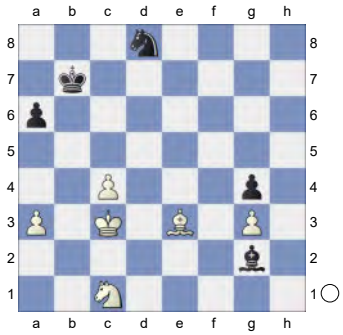
(Diagram)



51.g3 Bf3 52.Kd3 Nf5 53.Nc4 Kd5 54.Nd2 Bg2 55.c4+ Kc5

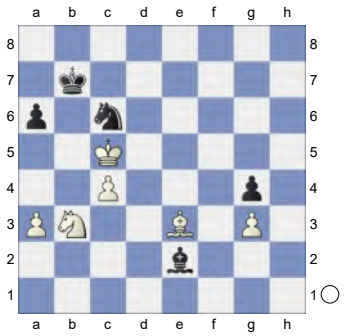


56.Kc3 Ng7 57.Nb3+ Kc6 1.37/25
[⌓57...Kb6 1.00/27]
58.Bf4 0.94/23
[Better is 58.Nd4+ 1.37/25 Kd7 59.Be5]
58...Ne6 59.Be3 Kb7 60.Nc1 Nd8

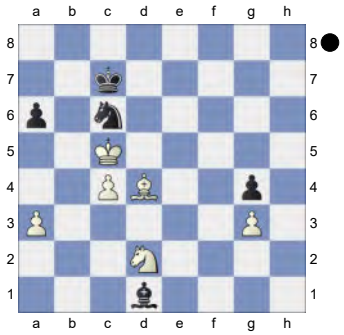


61.Kd4 Nc6+ 62.Kc5 Bf1 63.Nb3 Against Na5 **63...Be2 64.Kd5 Ne7+ 65.Kc5** 0.01/24
[65.Ke4± 0.94/21]
65...Nc6!=

(Diagram)



66.Bf2 White is better. **66...Kc7 67.Bd4** Prevents Ne5. **67...Bd1 68.Nd2**



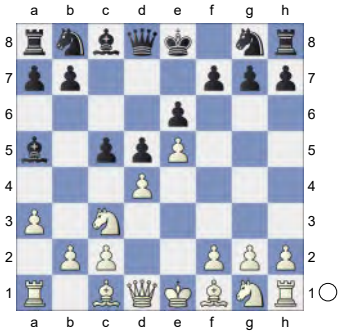
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

9 **C17**
□ **Stockfish Dev F7** **3662**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-5350a2e-BT4-6**
TCEC 26 Balanced Lines (13.2) 01.08.24
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356' Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**

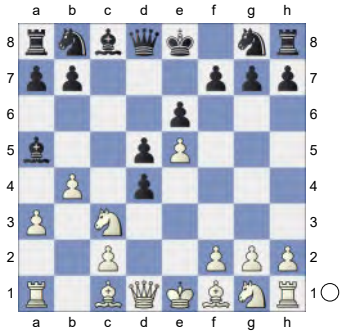
[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4* Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62)*; 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½ (45) *)* 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]
[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray G] 1-0]

5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4

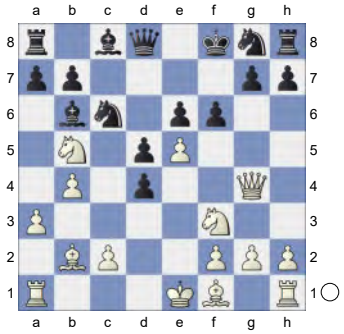
(Diagram)



7.Qg4! &Bianco is more active. **7...Kf8 8.Nb5**

[Of course not 8.bxa5 dxc3 9.Qb4+ Ne7=]

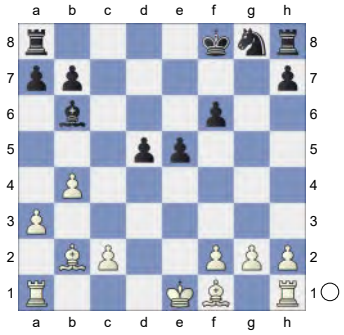
8...Bb6 9.Nf3 Nc6 White is slightly better. **10.Bb2 f6**



11.Nbxd4 Nxe5 12.Nxe5

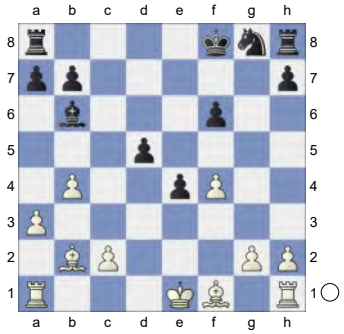
[Reject 12.Nxe6+ Bxe6 13.Qxe6 Nxf3+ 14.gxf3 Qe8 15.Qxe8+ Rxe8+ 16.Be2 Kf7=]

12...fxe5 13.Nxe6+ Bxe6 14.Qxe6 Qf6 15.Qxf6+ gxf6



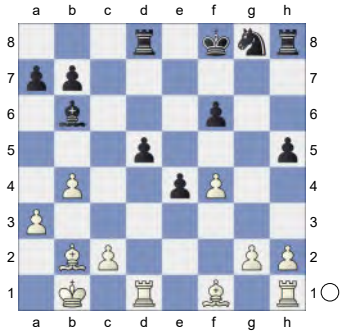
16.f4 e4

(Diagram)

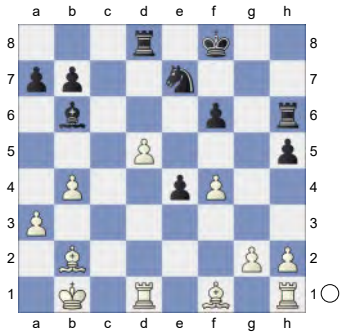


17.0-0-0! Rd8 18.Kb1 Strongly threatening c4. **18...h5** 0.83/21

[18...Kf7± 0.37/18 is superior.]



19.c4!± Rh6 20.cxd5 Hoping for d6. **20...Ne7**

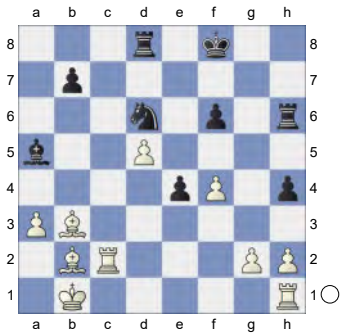


21.Bc4 Nf5 22.Bb3 Nd6! 23.Rc1 0.28/22

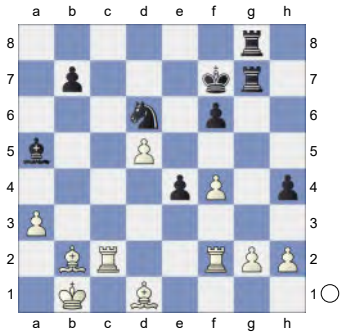
[23.f5± 0.63/21 should be considered.]

23...a5 24.bxa5 Bxa5 25.Rc2 h4

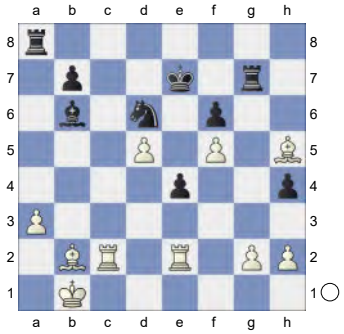
(Diagram)



26.Re2 Kf7 27.Rc1 Rg6 28.Bd1 Rdg8 29.Rcc2 Rg4 30.Rf2 R4g7

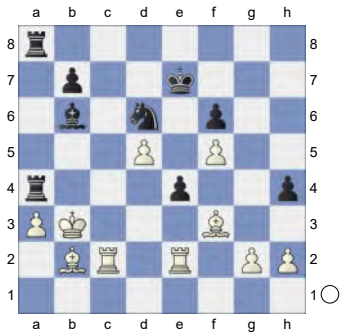


31.Rfe2 0.08/17
[31.a4!⩲ 0.43/22]
31...Rg4= 32.Rf2 R4g7 33.Bh5+ 0.05/18
[33.a4!⩲ 0.41/19]
33...Ke7 The position is equal. **34.f5 Bb6 35.Rfe2 Ra8**

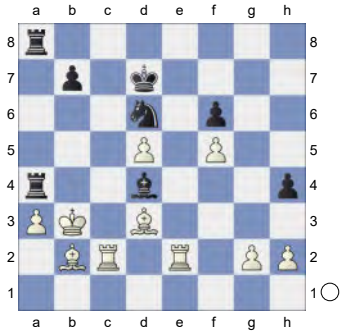


36.Ka2 Rgg8 37.Bf3 This bishop pair is nice. **37...Ra4 38.Kb3 Rga8**

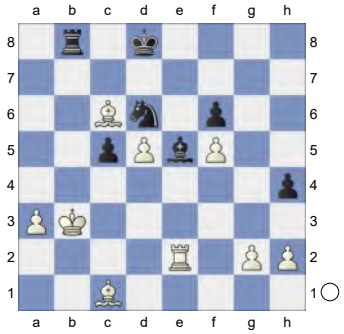
(Diagram)



39.Bxe4! Kd7!
[39...Nxe4? 40.Rc4 Rxc4 41.Kxc4+-]
[39...Rxe4? 40.Rxe4+ Nxe4 41.Re2⩲]
40.Bd3 g4! is the strong threat.
[Not 40.Bxf6 Nxe4 41.Bb2 Kd6∓]
40...Bd4

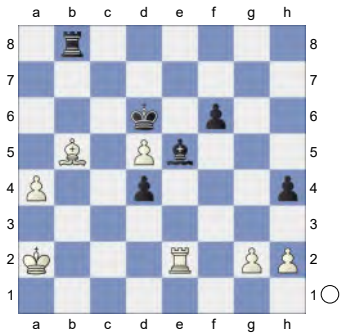


41.Bc1 Be5 42.Rc5 b6 43.Bb5+ Kd8! Threatens to win with ...R4a5. **44.Bxa4 bxc5 45.Bc6 Rb8+**

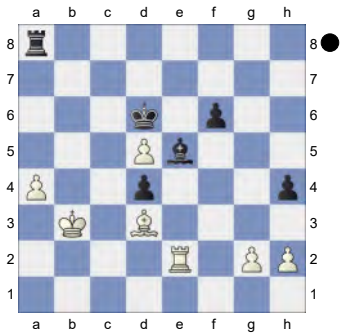


46.Ka2 Nxf5 47.Bb2 Nd4 48.Bxd4 cxd4 49.a4 Kc7 50.Bb5 Kd6

(Diagram)



51.Bd3 Ra8 52.Kb3

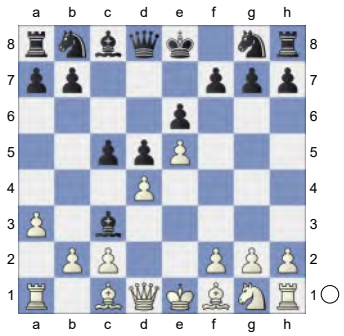


Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
½-½

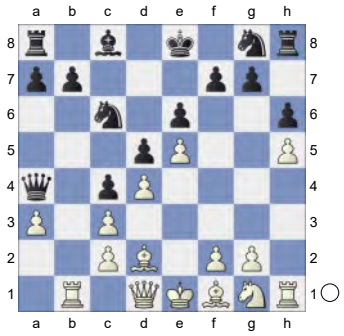
10 **C18**
☐ **LCZero 0.31-dag-c93c6a8-BT4-6**
■ **Berserk 20250113** **0**
TCEC 27 Theory Bonus B (14.2) 27.1.25
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.h4
[8.dxc5 Nd7=]
8...Nc6 9.h5 h6
[Much worse is 9...cxd4 10.Qg4 Kf8 11.Ne2=]
10.Rb1 White is slightly better.
[10.Nf3 Nge7 11.Rh4 c4 12.Rf4 *(12.Rg4 Nf5 13.Rf4 Bd7 14.g4 Nfe7 15.Bh3 g5 16.hxg6 Nxg6 17.Rf6 Rh7 18.Ng1 0-0-0 19.Qc1 Rdh8 20.Rb1 h5 21.g5 Rg8 22.Ne2 Kc7 23.Ng3 Nh4 24.Rf4 Ng6 25.Rf6 Nh4 26.Rf4 Ng6* Badenhorst,C (1970)-Pomes Marcet,J (2213) Sant Boi de Llobregat 2024 ½-½ *)* 12...Bd7 13.Be3 Rf8 14.Kd2 0-0-0 15.Nh4 Nf5 16.Nxf5 exf5 17.g4 fxg4 18.Rxg4 Rg8 19.Rg1 Bf5 20.Ra2 Qa5 21.Qf3 Be6 22.Bh3 Rdf8 23.Raa1 Qc7 24.Rg3 Ne7 Molaei,M (2653)-Lamb,F (2565) Linz 2005 IZT [Schneider,Attila; Farago, Ivan] ½-½ (63)]
10...c4

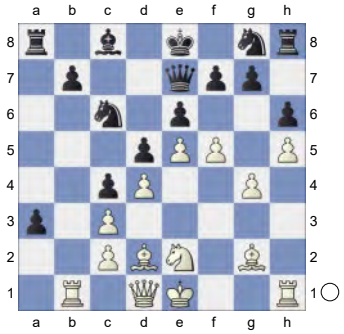


11.Ne2N

[11.Rh3 Nge7 12.g4 b6 13.Rf3 Bd7 14.Rf4 Rf8 15.Bh3 0-0-0 16.Rc1 Ng8 17.Nf3 f6 18.Nh4 fxe5 19.Rxf8 Rxf8 20.Ng6 Rf7 21.dxe5 Qxa3 22.Ra1 Qb2 23.Rb1 Qa3 24.f4 Nge7 25.Nh4 d4 Kotronias,V (2468)-Chatzieleftheriou,A (2131) Nikaia 2022 0-1 (37)]

[11.Qc1 b6 12.Nf3 Bd7 13.Nh4 0-0-0 14.g4 Nge7 15.Bh3 Rdf8 16.0-0 Kb7 17.f4 f6 18.exf6 Rxf6 19.Qb2 g6 20.hxg6 Nxg6 21.Nxg6 Rxg6 22.Kh2 Ne7 23.Rbe1 h5 24.g5 Nf5 25.Re5 Rf8 Petrov,M (2499)-Maksimovic,B (2127) Dimitrovgrad 2023 1-0 (50) 26.Qc1 Qc6 27.Bxf5 Rxf5 28.Qd1 Be8 29.Rfe1 Rxe5 30.Rxe5 Qa4 31.Kg3 Ka6 32.Kh4 Bf7 33.f5 exf5 34.Re7 Be8 35.Qe2 Bd7 36.Kxh5 Rg8 37.g6 Be8 38.Qe6 Bxg6+ 39.Kh6 Re8 40.Kxg6 Rxe7 1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 b5_10789 (2499)-Tsarsitalidis,K (2127) Dortmund 2023 TD 92\01 [John Watson] 1-0 (50)]

11...Qxa3 12.g4 Qe7 13.Bg2 White has compensation. **13...a5 14.f4 a4 15.f5 a3**

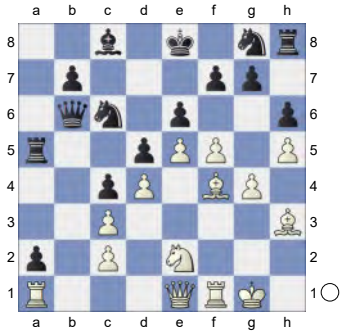


16.0-0 a2 17.Ra1 Ra5 18.Qe1! Against Qh4 **18...Qc7 19.Bf4** 0.36/21

[19.Qg3± 0.90/19]

19...Qd8± 20.Bh3 Qb6

(Diagram)



21.Bg3 exf5 22.gxf5 Qb2 23.e6 -0.10/17

[White should play 23.Nf4± 0.49/20]

23...Nf6!= White should prevent ...0-0.

[Don't play 23...Qxc2 24.Bc7 Rb5 25.Nf4±]

24.Nf4

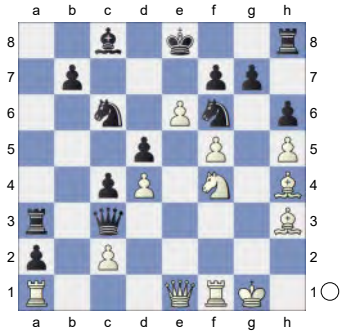
[24.Bh4!? Ne4 25.Nf4=]

24...Ra3 0.83/19

[24...0-0!= -0.20/17 remains equal. 25.Bh4 Ne4]

25.Bh4!± Qxc3 1.64/19

[25...Rg8± 0.85/19]



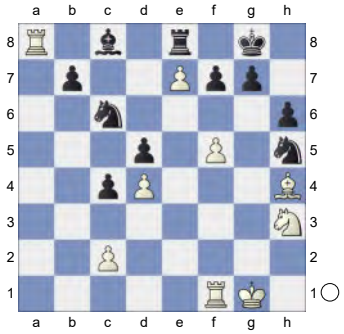
26.Qxc3+- Dancing on a razor blade.

26...Rxc3 27.Rxa2 Rxh3

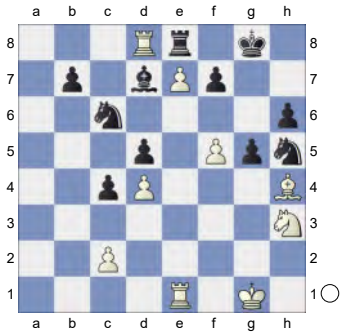
[27...Nxd4? 28.Ra8 0-0 29.e7+-]

28.Nxh3 Nxh5 29.Ra8 0-0 30.e7 Re8

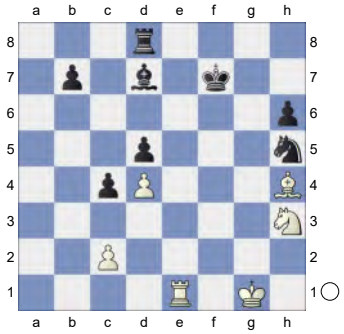
(Diagram)



aiming for …f6. **31.Re1!** And now Rxc8! would win. **31...Bd7 32.Rd8** &Bianco is much more active. **32...g5**

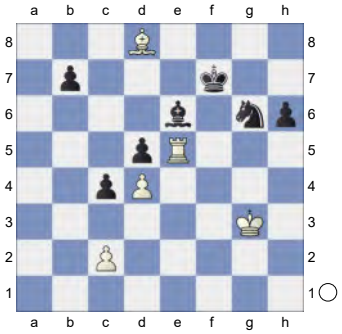


33.fxg6! Nxd8 34.exd8R Rxd8 35.gxf7+ Kxf7

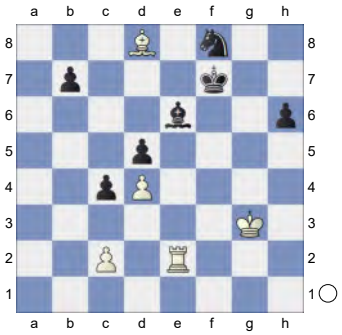


36.Bxd8 Bxh3 Endgame KRB-KBN **37.Re5! Nf4 38.Kh2** Hoping for Kg3. **38...Be6 39.Kg3 Ng6**

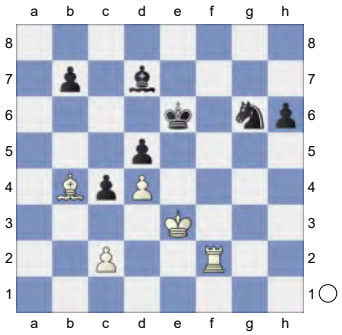
(Diagram)



40.Re2 Nf8 1.81/25
[40...Bf5± 1.11/22 41.c3 b5]

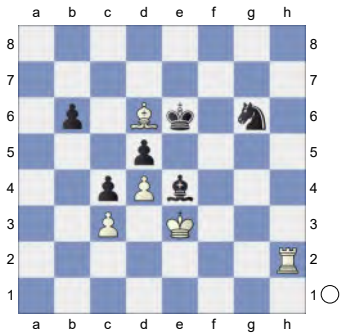


41.Rf2+ Ke8 42.Ba5 Bd7 43.Kf4 Ke5 is the strong threat. **43...Ng6+ 44.Ke3 Ke7 45.Bb4+ Ke6**

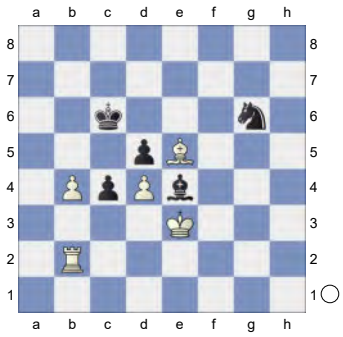


46.Rh2 Kf6 47.Rxh6 Bf5 48.Rh2 Be4 49.c3 b6 50.Bd6 Ke6

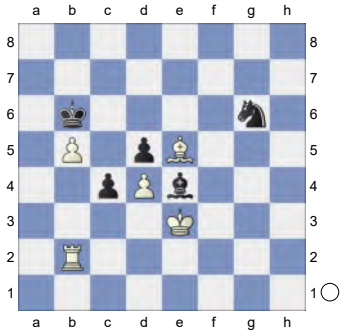
(Diagram)



51.Bc7 b5 52.Rb2 b4 2.65/23
Black cannot hold the game after this.
[52...Kf5± 1.24/24 keeps fighting.
53.Rxb5 Nh4]
53.cxb4 Kd7? 4.15/23
[53...c3 2.50/23 54.Rb3 Ne7]
54.Be5 Black must now prevent b5.
54...Kc6

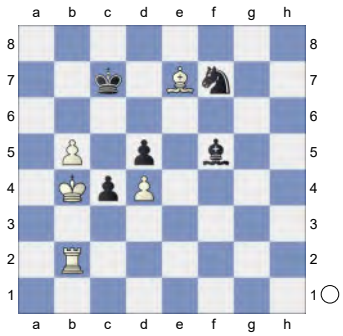


55.b5+! Kb6

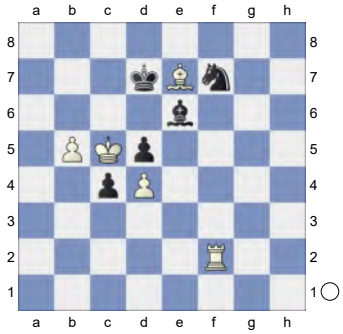


56.Bd6 Threatens to win with Bc5+.
56...Kb7 57.Kd2 Nh8 58.Kc3 Nf7
59.Be7 Bf5 60.Kb4 Kc7

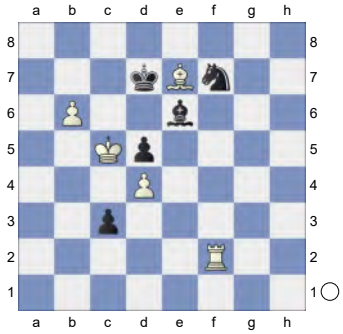
(Diagram)



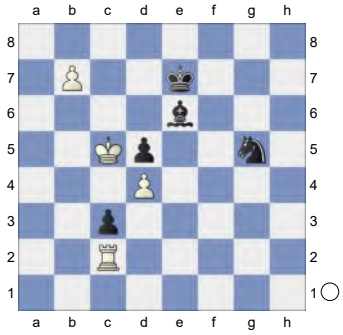
61.Rf2 Be6 62.Kc5 Kd7



63.b6! Strongly threatening b7. **63...c3**
[63...Kxe7 64.Rxf7+]

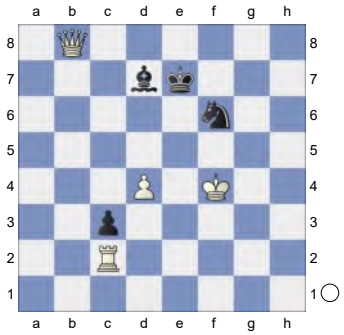


64.Rc2! Kxe7 65.b7 Ng5

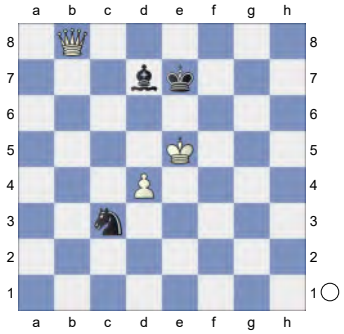


66.b8Q Intending Qe5 and mate.
66...Ne4+ 67.Kc6 Bd7+ 68.Kxd5

16.40/17
[⌓68.Kc7 #18/17 Ba4 69.Qd8+ Ke6 70.Rg2 Kf5 71.Qxd5+ Kf4 72.Re2 Bc2 73.Qe5+ Kf3 74.Rxc2]
68...Nf6+ 69.Ke5 White mates.
69...Ng4+ 70.Kf4 Nf6



71.Rxc3 Nd5+ 72.Ke5 Nxc3

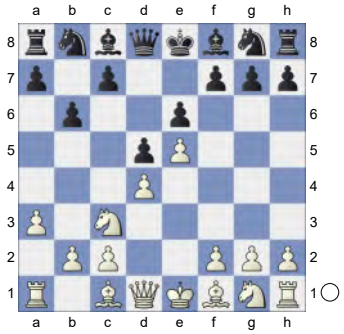


Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.23 (precise)
1-0

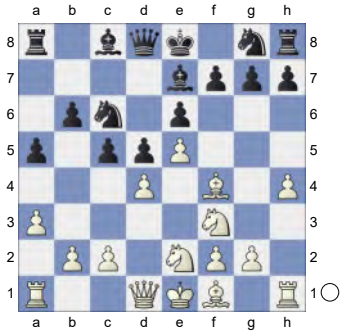
11 **C16**
☐ **LCZero 0.31-dag-f7fb268-BT4-6 3652**
■ **Stockfish Dev Cf1064 3683**
TCEC 27 Superfinal 2024 (47.1) 24.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
Kurajica,B: 'Inf 22/241' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8**

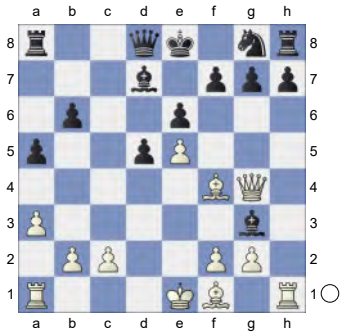
(Diagram)



6.Nf3 c5
[6...Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 bxc5 20.Nf4 Qxf6 21.Qxd5 Chandler,M (2585)-Plaskett,J (2460) Great Britain 1989 CI1-130 [Plaskett,Jim]]
[6...a5 7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Bxe2 10.Qxe2 b5 11.Bb3 a4 12.Ba2 Nd7 13.c3 Nb6 14.Bb1 Nc4 15.Ng5 g6 Chess Informant Eco Survey 2006]
7.Bg5 Be7 8.h4 a6 Against Nb5. White is slightly better. **9.Ne2N**
[9.Qd2 Bb7 10.Ne2 Nc6 11.Bf4 Qc7 12.g3 h6 13.Bg2 a5 14.0-0 Ba6 15.Rfe1 h5 16.Nc3 Rd8 17.dxc5 Bxc5 18.Ne2 Nge7 19.c3 Ng6 20.b4 Be7 21.Ned4 Nxd4 22.Nxd4 Nxf4 23.Qxf4 Bd3 Lassen,H-Djuric,S USSR 36/(326) 1976 Telechess CBM 89 [Keller] ½-½ (67) 24.Qe3 Bg6 25.Bf1 0-0 26.Nb5 Qc6 27.Nd4 Qc7 28.Bb5 Rc8 29.Rac1 Qb7 30.Qe2 Rc7 31.Ba6 Qa8 32.Red1 Ra7 33.Bd3 Bxd3 34.Rxd3 axb4 35.axb4 Rc8 36.Rc2 Ra3 37.Re3 Raxc3 38.Ra2 Qb7 Kurajica,B-Kortschnoj,V Amsterdam 1976 CI1-130 [Kurajica,Bojan] ½-½ (67)]
9...Nc6 10.Bf4 a5



11.Ng3 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 cxd4 13.Qxd4 Bd7 14.Qd1 Bxh4 15.Qg4 Bxg3



16.Qxg3 Kf8 17.0-0-0 White has compensation. **17...Ne7 18.Kb1** 0.35/18 &Bianco is more active.

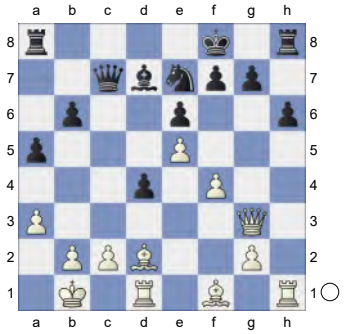
[⌓18.Bd3 0.66/16]

18...Qc7± 19.Bd2 h6 20.f4 0.10/18

[20.Bd3± 0.44/20]

20...d4

[20...Rc8!? 21.Rc1 Nf5=]

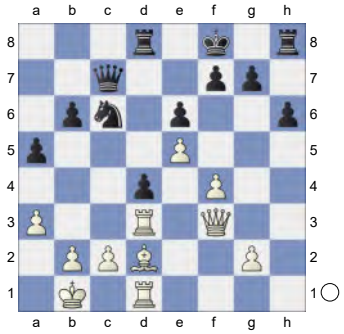


21.Qf2 Bc6 22.Rh3 Be4 23.Bd3 Bxd3 24.Rxd3 Nc6 25.Qf3 0.20/19

[25.c3± 0.56/18 is superior.]

25...Rd8!=

(Diagram)



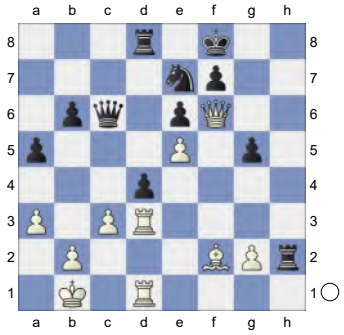
26.c3 Ne7 0.69/19

[26...Rd5= 0.22/19 might be stronger.]

27.Be1±

[27.Rxd4 Rxd4 28.cxd4 g6∓]

27...g5 Inhibits Bh4. **28.fxg5 hxg5 29.Bf2! Qc6 30.Qf6 Rh2**



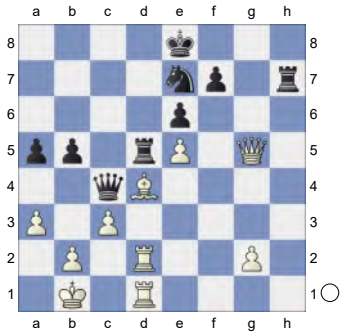
31.Rf3 Rh7 1.12/20

[Black should try 31...Qe4+ 0.80/22 32.Kc1 Qg6]

32.Bxd4 b5 33.Rfd3!

[33.Qxg5 b4±]

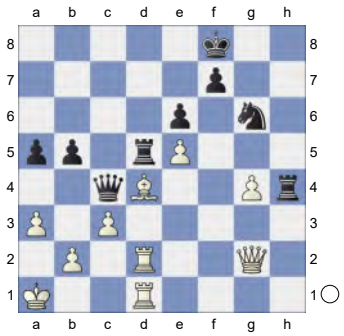
33...Rd5 Against Bc5 **34.Qxg5 Qc4 35.R3d2 Ke8**



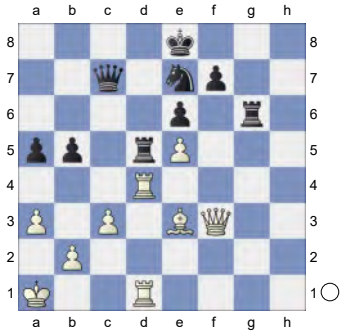
36.Qg3 Ng6 1.36/20

[⌓36...Kf8 0.99/20 37.Qf3 Nc6]

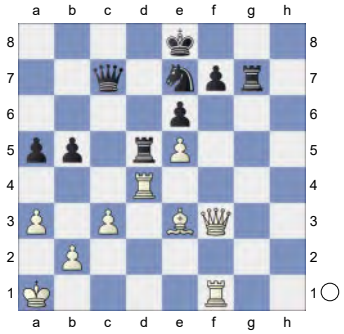
37.Qf2 Threatens to win with Bb6.
37...Rh5 38.g4 Against Rf5 **38...Rh3 39.Ka1 Kf8 40.Qg2 Rh4**



41.Be3 Rxg4 42.Qf2 Ne7 43.Qf6 Rg6 44.Qf3 aiming for Rf1. **44...Ke8 45.Rd4!→** White attacks with force.
45...Qc7

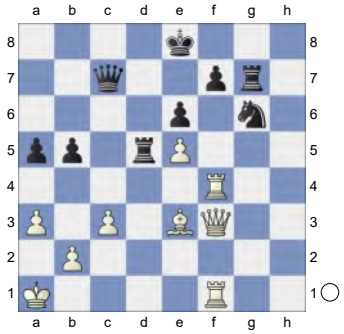


46.Rf1
[Don't take 46.Rxd5 Nxd5 47.Rf1 Rg7±]
46...Rg7

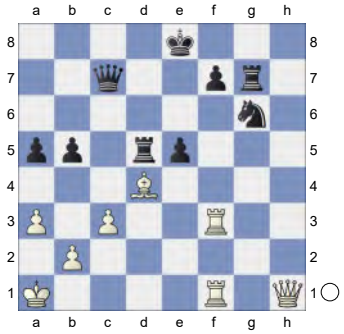


47.Rf4! Ng6

(Diagram)

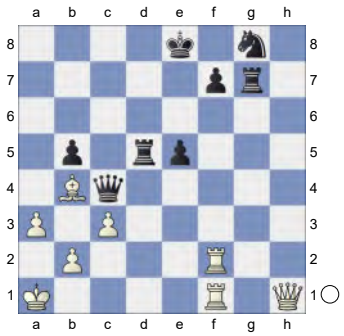


48.Qh1! Rxe5 1.96/22
[48...Qxe5? 49.Bd4 Qh5 50.Qxh5 Rxh5 51.Bxg7+-]
[48...Nf8± 1.28/19]
49.R4f3+- Strongly threatening Bf4.
49...Rd5 50.Bd4 e5

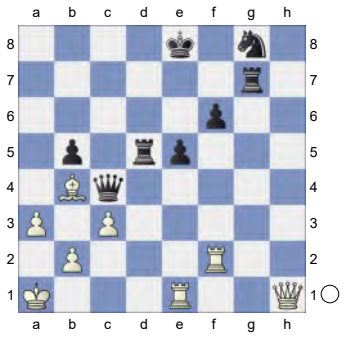


51.Rf6 Ne7 2.38/22
[51...Qc4± 1.48/23]
52.Bb6 Qc4 53.Bxa5 Hoping for Bb4.
53...Qe2? 3.08/20 This move loses the game for Black.
[53...Qg4± 1.30/19 was necessary. 54.Ra6 Qg2 55.Qh8+ *(55.Ra8+ Kd7+-)* 55...Ng8]
54.R6f2 Qc4 4.42/25
[⌓54...Qg4 3.08/24 55.Bb4 Rd3]
55.Bb4 Ng8

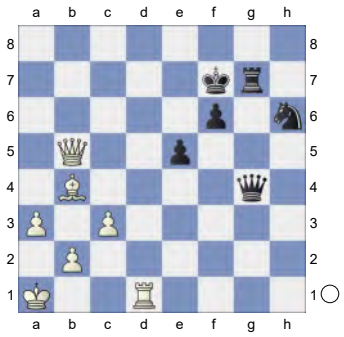
(Diagram)



56.Re1 2.57/23
[Not 56.Qh8 Qg4 57.Qh1 Qd7+-]
[⌓56.Rf5 4.42/24]
56...f6? 4.14/24
[56...Rg5 2.57/23 was worth a try. 57.Rf4 Qxf4]

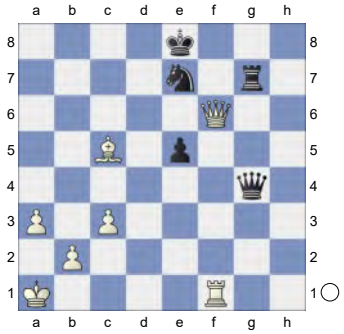


57.Rf4!! Qxf4 58.Qxd5 Qe6+ would kill now. Really sharp! **58...Qg4** Prevents Qe6+. **59.Rd1**
[Resist 59.Qxb5+ Qd7 60.Qe2 Qg4]
59...Nh6 60.Qxb5+ Kf7

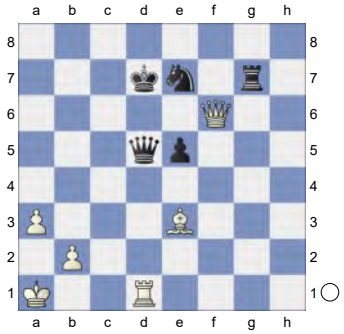


61.Qd5+ Ke8? 5.49/24
[61...Qe6 2.73/21 keeps fighting. 62.Qh1 Ng4 63.Qh5+ Rg6]
62.Bc5 Nf5 63.Rf1 Ne7 64.Qd6 Nf5

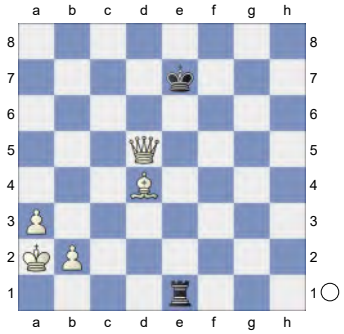
65.Qxf6 Ne7



66.c4 Qxc4 67.Qf8+ Kd7 68.Rd1+ Kc6 69.Be3 Threatening mate with Qf6+. **69...Qd5 70.Qf6+ Kd7**

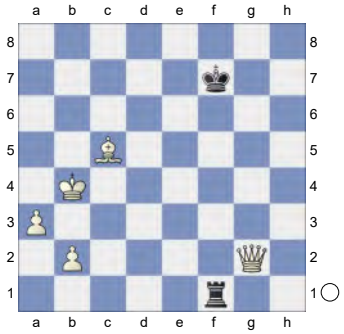


71.Rxd5+ Nxd5 72.Qxe5 17.50/21
[⌓72.Qxg7+ #13/21 Kd6 73.Qf8+ Ne7 74.Bg5 Ke6 75.Qxe7+ Kf5 76.Qf6+ Ke4 77.b3]
72...Rf7 73.Qxd5+ Ke7 74.Bd4 Rf1+ 75.Ka2 Re1

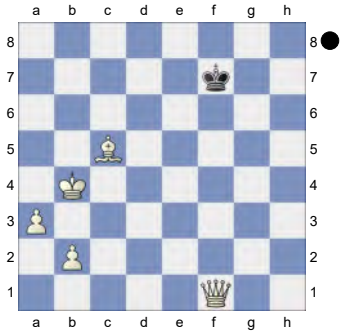


76.Kb3 Ra1 77.Kb4 Rf1 78.Qb7+ Kf8 79.Bc5+ Kg8 80.Qg2+ Kf7

(Diagram)



81.Qxf1+

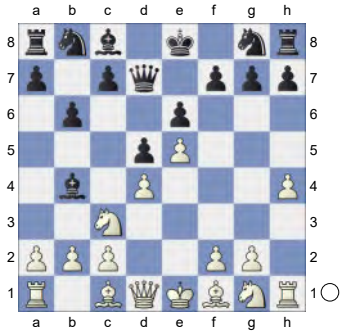


Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
1-0

12 **C16**
□ **LCZero 0.31-dag-4167c1e-BT4-6**
■ **Berserk** **3589**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (45.4) 11.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

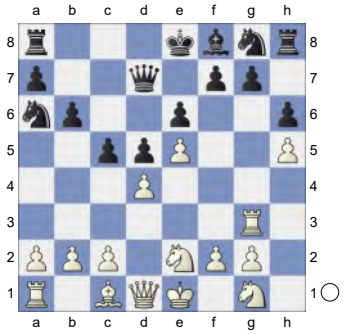
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.h4 b6

(Diagram)

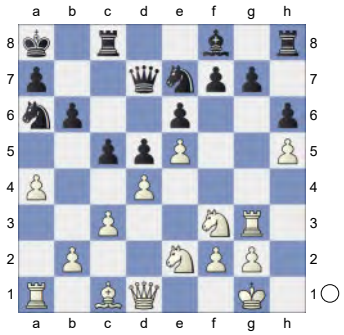


6.h5 Ba6
[6...h6 7.Qg4 Bf8 8.Be3 Ne7 9.Nf3 Ba6 10.0-0-0 Bxf1 11.Rhxf1 Nbc6 12.Nh4 0-0-0 13.Qh3 Na5 14.g4 Nec6 15.Kb1 Bb4 16.Bc1 Nc4 17.f4 Bxc3 18.Qxc3 Qe7 19.Ng2 Kb7 20.f5 a5 21.fxe6 Searle,C (2301)-Lommers,F (2607) Oesterreich 69/164 2021 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 0-1 (68)]
7.Rh3
[7.Bxa6 Nxa6 8.Qg4 Bf8 9.Nge2 c5 10.Be3 Nb4 11.Rc1 Rc8 12.a3 Nc6 13.h6 Nxh6 14.Bxh6 gxh6 15.Rh5 cxd4 16.Nxd4 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Rg8 18.Kf1 Rg6 19.Ne2 Rc4 20.Qd3 Qc7 21.g3 Bg7 Roneet,D (2608)-Lunacek,J (2676) Rotterdam 2020 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (56)]
7...h6 8.Bxa6 White is slightly better.
8...Nxa6 9.Rg3N
[9.Qg4 Bf8 10.Qe2 Nb4 11.a3 Nc6 12.Nf3 27. Winawer 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6-Winawer 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 #5]
9...Bf8 10.Nce2 c5

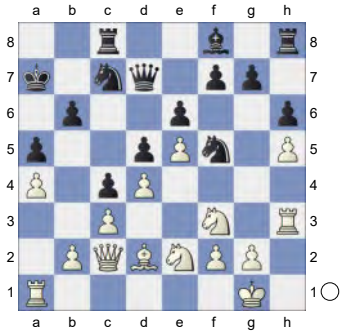
(Diagram)



11.c3 0-0-0 12.Kf1 Ne7 13.a4 Kb8 14.Nf3 Rc8 15.Kg1 Ka8

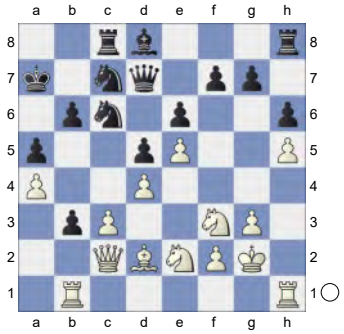


16.Bd2 c4 17.Qc2 Nc7 18.Nh2 Nf5 19.Rh3 a5 20.Nf3 Ka7

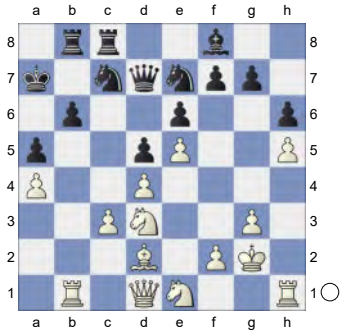


21.g3 0.43/18
[21.b4± 1.05/19]
21...Ne7 0.98/19
[21...g5± 0.43/18 22.hxg6 fxg6]
22.Rh1 Nc6 23.Kg2 Be7 24.b3 Bd8 25.Rab1 cxb3

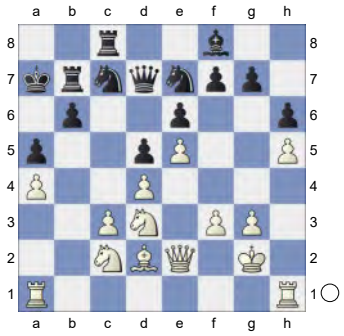
(Diagram)



26.Qxb3 Rb8 27.Nf4 Be7 28.Nd3 Rhc8 29.Qd1 Bf8 0.11/20
[29...Rb7± 0.64/19]
30.Nfe1 0.66/19
[30.Qc2= 0.11/20]
30...Ne7

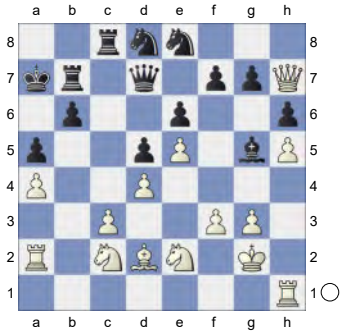


31.Qf3 0.43/22
[31.Qb3± 0.74/19]
31...Qe8 32.Ra1 Nf5 33.Nc2 Rb7 34.Qe2 Qd7 35.f3
[35.Rhb1 looks sharper. g5 36.g4 Nh4+ 37.Kh3]
35...Ne7

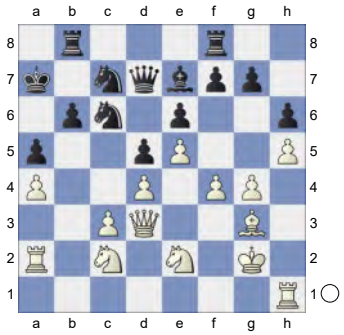


36.Nf4 Nc6 37.Qd3 Be7 38.Qh7
[38.Rhb1 with more complications. Bg5 39.Rb2 Ne8 40.Na3]

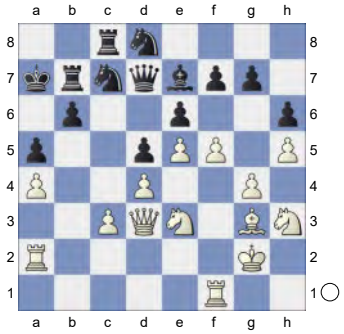
38...Ne8 39.Ne2 Nd8 40.Ra2 Bg5



41.f4 Be7 42.g4 Nc6 43.Be1 Rbb8 44.Bg3 Nc7 45.Qd3 Rf8

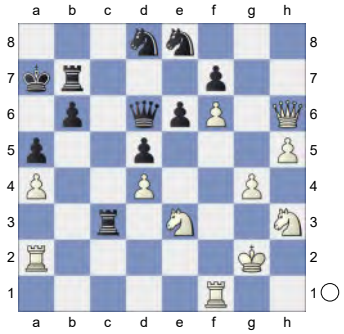


46.f5 Rb7 0.92/21
[46...f6± 0.46/20]
47.Rf1± Bg5 48.Ng1 Rc8 49.Nh3 Be7! 50.Ne3 Nd8 1.22/21
[Better is 50...f6± 0.61/20]

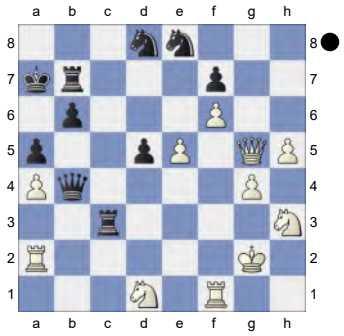


51.f6↑ White is on the roll. **51...gxf6 52.exf6 Bd6 53.Bxd6 Qxd6 54.Qh7 Ne8 55.Qxh6 Rxc3**

(Diagram)

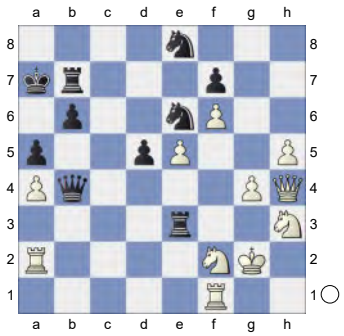


56.Qg5 aiming for h6. Active counter play!
[56.Rf3 Nc6 57.Qf4 Qxf4 58.Nxf4 Nxd4∓]
56...e5 1.85/21
[56...Nc6 57.h6 Rb8 58.h7]
[56...Qf8± 1.47/22 keeps fighting.]
57.Nd1 1.03/20
[57.dxe5 Qb4 58.Nd1

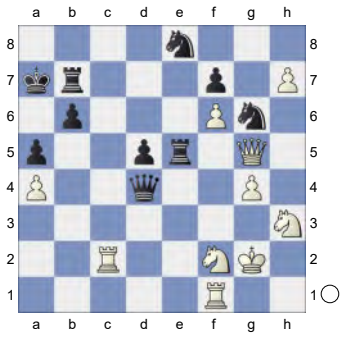


Rxh3! 59.Kxh3 Qb3+ 60.Qe3 *(60.Nc3 Rc7∓)* 60...Qxa2=]
[57.h6+- 1.85/21 Ne6 58.Qh5]
57...Rd3? 2.62/21 Loses the game.
[57...exd4± 1.03/20 58.Nxc3 dxc3]
58.dxe5+-
[58.Qxe5 Ne6±]
58...Qb4 59.Ndf2 Ne6 60.Qh4 Re3

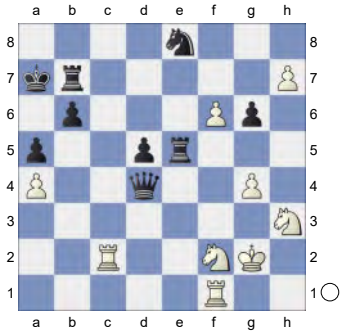
(Diagram)



61.h6 Hoping for h7. **61...Nf8 62.h7 Ng6 63.Qg5**
[63.h8Q Qc4]
63...Qd4 64.Rc2 Chess con chili.
64...Rxe5
[64...Qxe5? 65.Qxe5 Rxe5 66.Rc6+-]

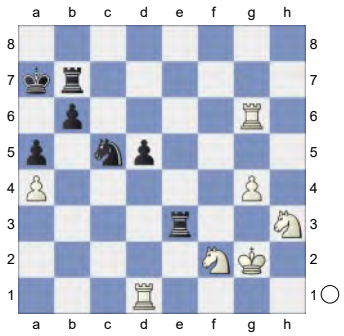


65.Qxg6! fxg6

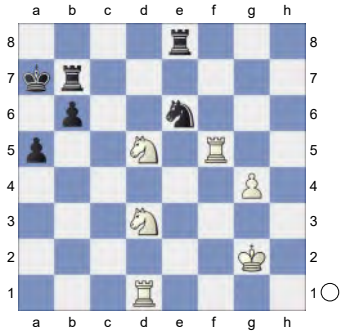


66.h8Q Re3 67.Rd1 Qxf6 2.85/24
[⌓67...Qxa4 1.93/22 68.Rdd2 Rf7]
68.Qxf6 Nxf6 69.Rc6 Nd7 70.Rxg6 Nc5

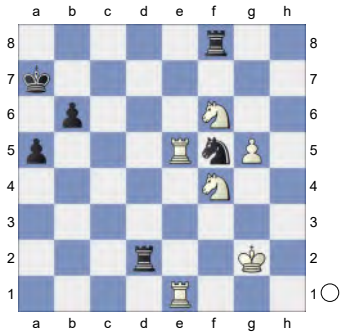
(Diagram)



71.Nf4
[Resist 71.Rxd5 Nxa4 72.Rd4 Nc5+-]
71...Nxa4 72.Nxd5 Re5 73.Rf6 Nc5 74.Rf5 Re8 75.Nd3 Ne6

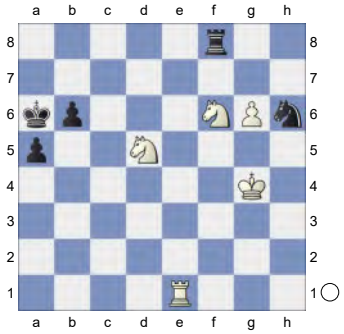


76.Re1 Ng7 77.Rfe5 Rd7 78.g5
[78.Rxe8 Nxe8 79.N5f4 *(79.Rxe8 Rxd5 80.Nf4 Rg5+-)* 79...Ng7+-]
78...Rf8 79.N3f4
[Don't play 79.Re7 Rf7 80.Rxf7 Rxf7+-]
79...Nf5 6.61/21
[⌓79...Rb7 4.50/21 80.Kh3 Rf5 81.Rxf5 Nxf5]
80.Nf6 Rd2+

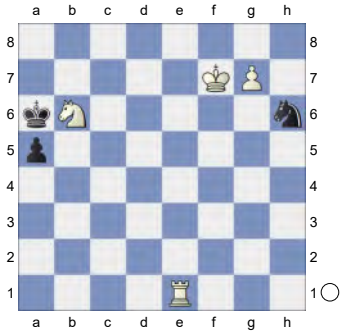


81.Kf3 Nd6 82.Rd5 Rxd5 83.N4xd5

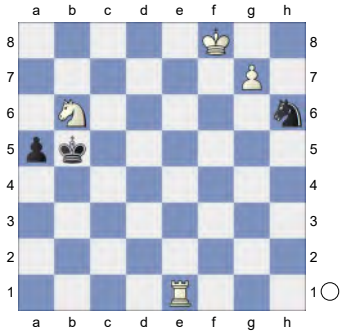
Ka6 84.g6 Nf5 85.Kg4 Nh6+



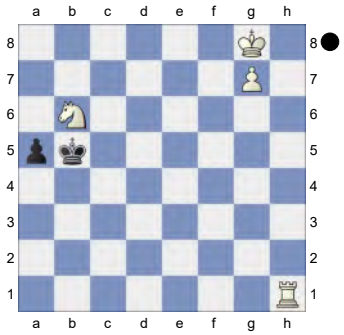
86.Kg5 Ng8 87.g7 Rf7 88.Kg6 Nxf6 89.Kxf7 White mates. **89...Ng4 90.Nxb6 Nh6+**



91.Kf8 Kb5



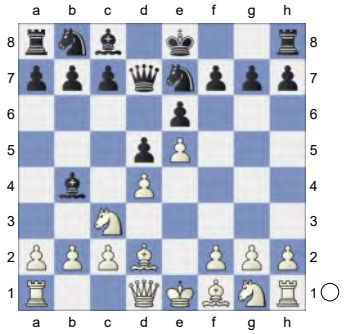
92.Rh1! Ng8 93.Kxg8



Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
1-0

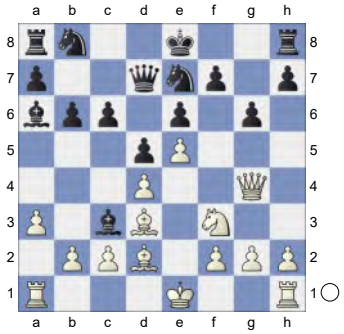
13 **C16**
☐ **LCZero 0.31-dag-4167c1e-BT4-6**
■ **Obsidian** **3555**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (21.2) 02.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.Bd2 Ne7

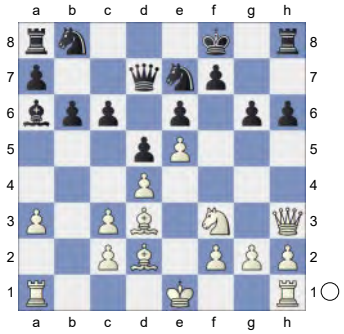


6.Qg4 g6N 0.79/17
[6...0-0± 0.46/17 deserves consideration.]
[6...Nf5 7.Bd3 h5 8.Qf4 Nc6 9.Bxf5 exf5 10.Nf3 Bxc3 11.Bxc3 Qe7 12.Qg3 Rh7 13.h4 Be6 14.Bd2 0-0-0 15.0-0 Qd7 16.b4 Ne7 17.a4 Qc6 18.b5 Qxc2 19.Rfc1 f4 20.Qg5 Nunn,J (2620)-Hort,V (2595) Amsterdam 1988 CI1-130 [RR]]
7.Bb5 c6 8.Bd3 White is slightly better.
8...b6 9.Nf3 Ba6 10.a3 Bxc3

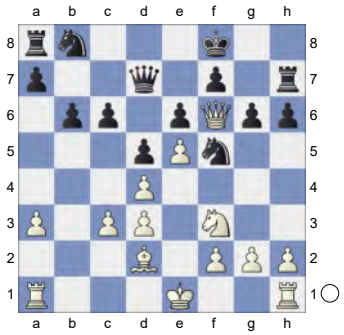
(Diagram)



11.bxc3 h6 12.Qh3 Kf8

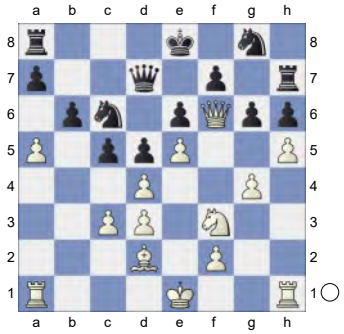


13.Qh4 0.46/19
[13.Bxh6+ Ke8=]
[13.Bg5!± 0.77/18]
13...Bxd3± 14.cxd3
[14.Bxh6+? Ke8 15.cxd3 Ng8-+]
14...Nf5 15.Qf6 Rh7

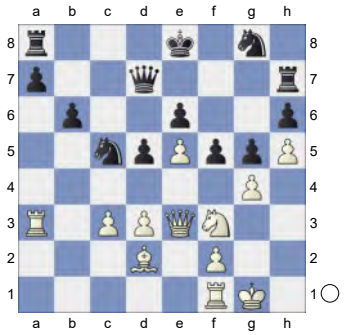


16.g4 Ne7 17.h4 Ke8 18.a4 c5 19.a5 Nbc6 0.99/20
[19...bxa5± 0.62/17 20.dxc5 *(20.Rxa5 g5∓)* 20...Qb5]
20.h5 0.42/21
[White should play 20.axb6± 0.99/20 Qb7 21.0-0 *(21.dxc5 d4±)*]
20...Ng8!

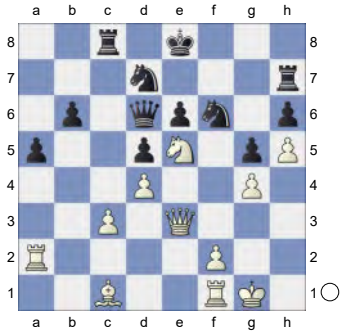
(Diagram)



21.Qf4 g5 22.Qe3 axb6 is the strong threat. **22...Nxa5 23.dxc5 Nb3 24.Ra3 Nxc5 25.0-0 f5**

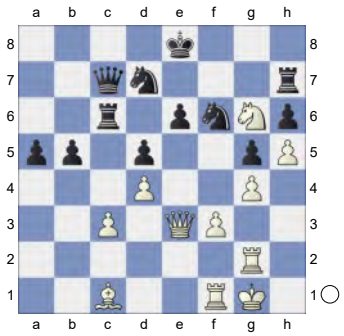


26.exf6 Black must now prevent Ne5.
[26.gxf5 exf5 27.Nd4 f4=]
26...Nxf6 27.Ne5 0.18/20
[27.Qd4± 0.64/19 Qe7 28.Re1]
27...Qd6!= 28.d4 White has compensation. **28...Ncd7 29.Bc1 a5! 30.Ra2 Rc8!**

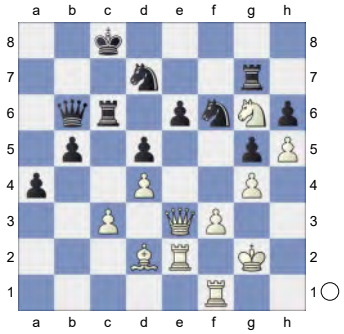


31.Rc2 Qb8 32.Ng6 Rc6 33.f3 b5 34.Re2 Qg3+! 35.Rg2 Qc7

(Diagram)

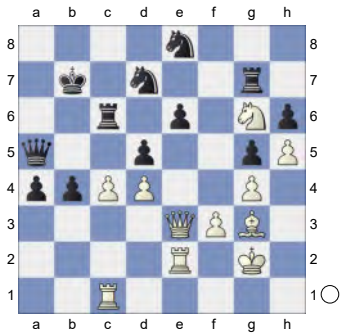


36.Qe1 Rg7
[36...Rxc3 37.Bd2 Rc6 38.Bxa5±]
37.Bd2 0.00/18
[37.Rb2± 0.40/19 was preferrable.]
37...Qb6 0.43/18
[37...a4= 0.00/18]
38.Qe3 0.01/18
[38.Re2± 0.43/18 is more appropriate.]
38...a4 39.Re2 Kd8 0.52/20
[Black should try 39...Qc7= -0.01/18]
40.Kg2 0.19/19
[40.Rb1± 0.52/20]
40...Kc8!

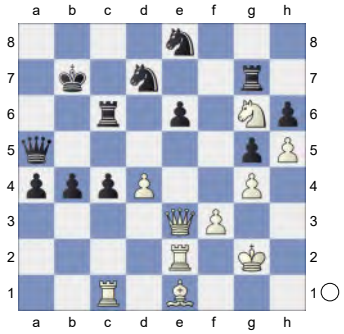


41.Be1 Ne8 42.Bg3 Qa5 43.Rc1 Kb7 44.c4! b4 0.87/20
[44...Rxc4? 45.Rxc4 dxc4 46.Qe4+ *(46.Qxe6 Nef6=)* 46...Ka7 47.Qxe6±]
[44...bxc4± 0.53/21 is superior. 45.Rb1+ Rb6 46.Rxb6+ Qxb6]

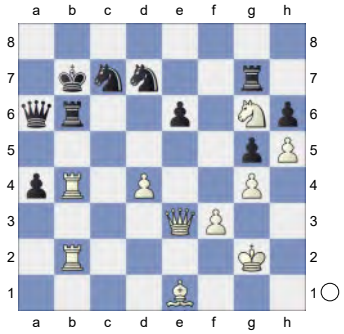
(Diagram)



45.Be1!± &Bianco is much more active.
[45.Ne5 Nxe5 46.Qxe5 Qc7±]
45...dxc4 1.72/21
[45...Nd6± 0.50/18 46.c5 Nc4 47.Rxc4 dxc4]

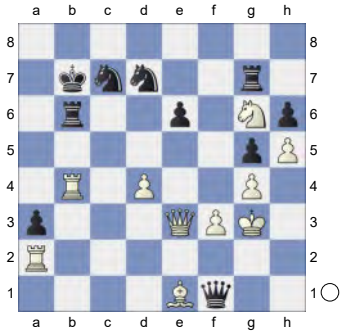


46.Rb2+- Rb6 1.47/20
[46...c3+- 1.85/19 47.Rxc3 *(47.Bxc3 Rb6±)* 47...Rb6]
47.Rxc4± Nc7 48.Rcxb4 Qa6

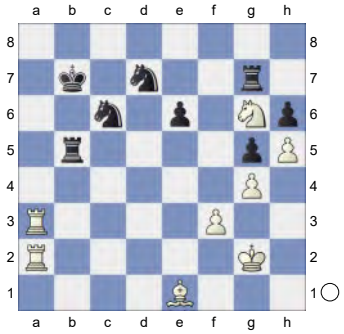


49.Kg3 0.99/22
[49.Qa3!+- 2.09/21 is more deadly.]
49...a3 50.Ra2 Qf1

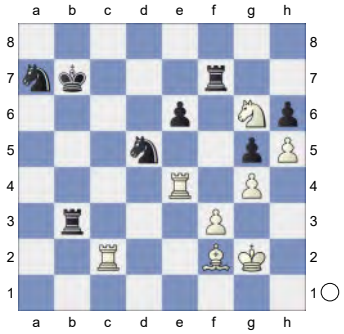
(Diagram)



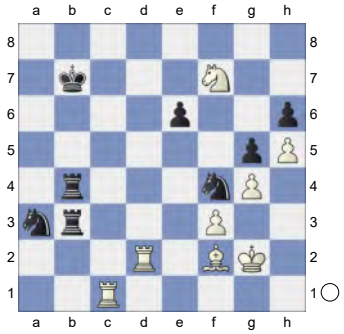
51.Qf2 Dancing on a razor blade.
51...Qxf2+ 52.Kxf2 Nb5 53.Rb3 Nxd4 1.60/21
[⌓53...Kc6 1.08/21]
54.Rbxa3 Nc6 55.Kg2 Rb5



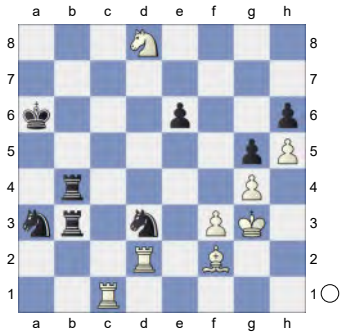
56.Rc3 Nb6 57.Rac2 Na7 2.31/22
[⌓57...Nd4 1.61/19]
58.Bf2+- Nd5 59.Rc4 Rf7 60.Re4 Rb3



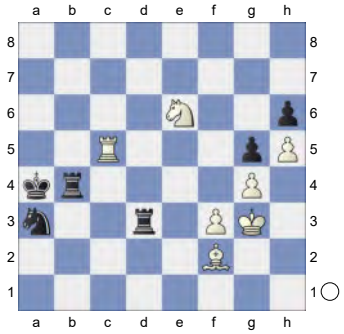
61.Ne5
[Don't take 61.Rxe6?! Rfxf3 62.Rc5 Rfd3]
61...Rf4 62.Ree2 Nb5 63.Red2 Strongly threatening Nd3. **63...Na3 64.Rc1 Rfb4 65.Nf7 Nf4+**
(Diagram)



66.Kg3 Intending Rd7+ and mate.
66...Nd3 67.Nd8+ Ka6

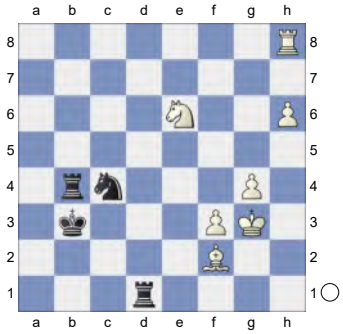


68.Rxd3! Rxd3 69.Nxe6 Hoping for Nc5+. **69...Kb5 70.Rc5+ Ka4**

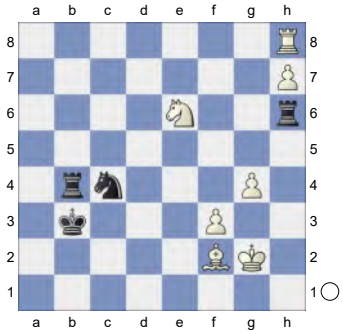


71.Rxg5! And now Nc5+ would win.
71...Rd1
[71...Rxf3+ 72.Kxf3]
72.Rg6 Nc4 73.Rxh6 Nd2 6.99/18
[⌓73...Rb2 4.87/17 74.g5 Rf1]
74.Rh8 Kb3 75.h6 Nc4

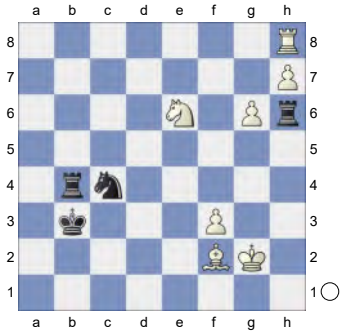
(Diagram)



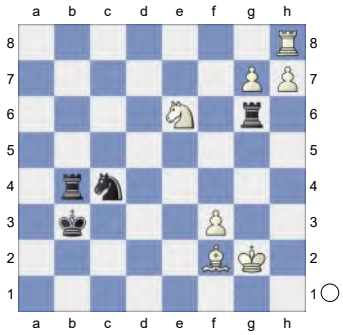
76.h7 Rh1 77.Kg2 Rh6



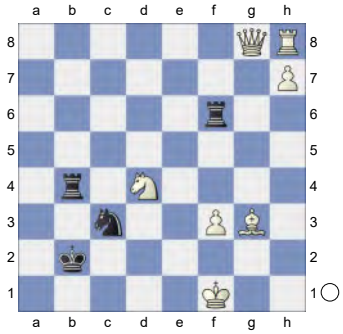
78.g5! Rh5
[78...Ne3+ 79.Kg1]
79.g6 Rh6



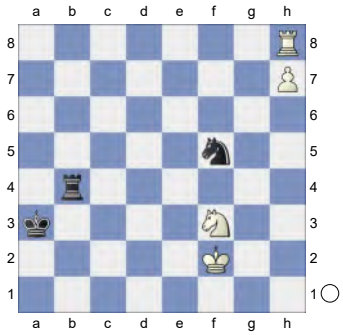
80.g7! Rg6+



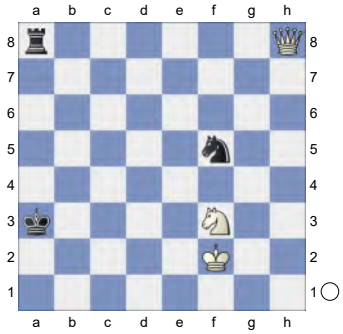
81.Bg3 Ne3+ 82.Kf2 Nd1+ 83.Kf1 Rf6 84.g8Q Nc3 85.Nd4+ Kb2



86.Qg5! Ne4 87.Qe3 Rxf3+ 88.Nxf3 Nxg3+ 89.Kf2 Nf5 90.Qa3+ 12.29/5 **Kxa3**



91.Ra8+ Ra4 92.h8Q Rxa8

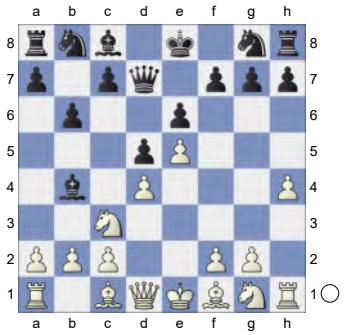


Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
1-0

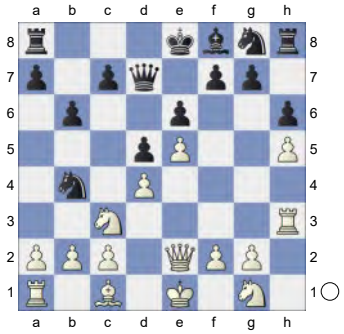
14 **C16**
□ **Berserk** **3589**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-4167c1e-BT4-6**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (52.4) 14.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.h4 b6

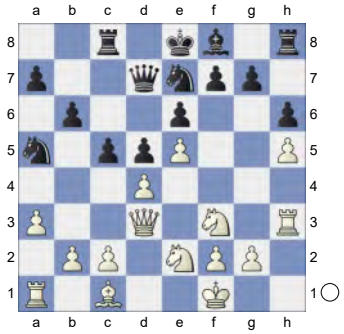


6.h5 Ba6 7.Rh3 h6 8.Bxa6 White is slightly better. **8...Nxa6 9.Qg4 Bf8 10.Qe2 Nb4**

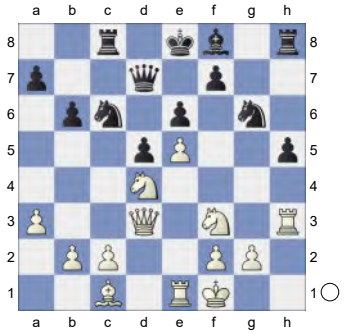


11.a3 Nc6 12.Qd3N
[12.Nf3]
12...Na5 13.Nce2 c5 14.Nf3 Ne7 15.Kf1 Rc8

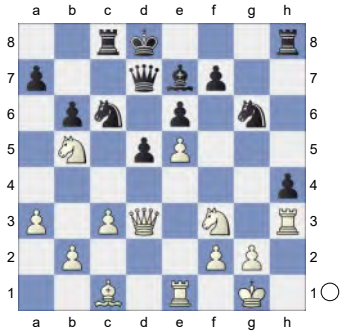
(Diagram)



16.Bf4 g5 0.79/21
[16...Nec6± 0.45/20 should be considered.]
17.hxg6± Nxg6 18.Re1 cxd4 19.Bc1
[19.Nfxd4 h5=]
19...Nc6 20.Nexd4 h5

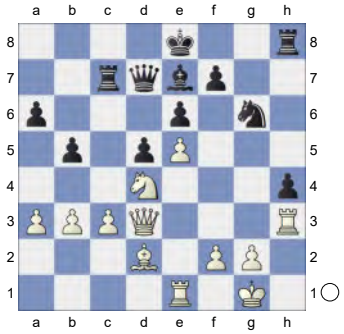


21.Nb5 h4 22.Kg1 Be7 23.c3 Kd8 0.78/22
[23...Rh5± 0.43/21]
24.Qe2 Ke8 25.Qd3 -0.01/19
[25.Qd1± 0.65/19]
25...Kd8!=



26.b3 a6
[26...Rh5 27.Nd6 Bxd6 28.exd6 Qxd6 29.Ng5±]
27.Nbd4 b5 28.Nxc6+ Rxc6 29.Nd4

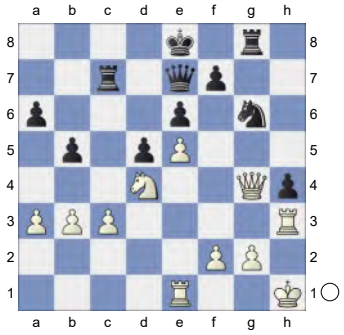
Rc7 30.Bd2 Ke8



31.Kh1 Bc5 32.Bg5 Be7 33.Qd2 0x0.0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces. **33...Bxg5 34.Qxg5 Qe7 35.Qg4** 0.74/19

[White should play 35.Qe3 1.12/21]

35...Rg8±



36.f4!↑ White has strong initiative.

36...Qxa3 0.66/20

[36...Qf8± 1.00/22]

37.f5

[37.Nxe6? fxe6 38.Qxe6+ Ne7-+]

37...Ne7 38.Qe2 0.75/22

[38.Qf3 Nxf5 39.Nxf5 exf5±]

[⚟38.Qh5 1.07/23 Qb2 39.Rg1 Nxf5 40.Nxf5 exf5 41.e6]

38...Qa5 1.38/24

[⚟38...Kd7 0.75/22]

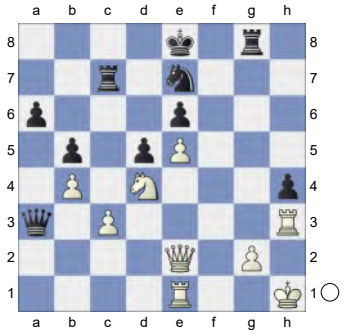
39.fxe6 fxe6 40.b4

[40.Nxe6?! Rxc3 41.Rxh4 Rc2 42.Qh5+ Kd7=]

[40.Rxh4 Qxc3 41.Rf1 *(41.Nxe6 Rc6=)* 41...Qg3∓]

40...Qa3

(Diagram)



41.Qd2

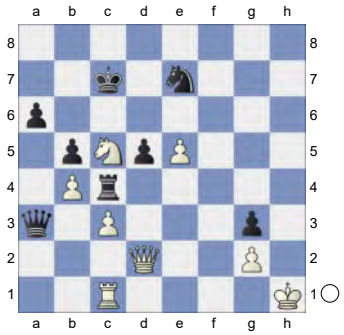
[41.Nxe6?! Rxc3 42.Rxh4 Rc1 43.Rxc1 *(43.Rh7 Rxe1+ 44.Qxe1 Qd3=)* 43...Qxc1+ 44.Kh2 Qc3=]

[41.Rxh4 Qxc3 42.Rf1 *(42.Nxe6 Rc6∓)* 42...Rc4∓]

41...Rc4 42.Nxe6 Strongly threatening Rf1. **42...Rg3 43.Rxg3 hxg3 44.Rc1**

[44.Qh6?! Qxc3 45.Ng7+ Kd8 46.Qd6+ Kc8 47.Qxa6+ Kb8 48.Qb6+ *(48.Qxb5+ Ka7=)* 48...Kc8 49.Qa6+ Kb8 50.Qxb5+ Ka7 51.Qa5+ Kb7 52.Qb5+ Ka7 53.Qa5+ Kb7 54.Qb5+ Ka7=]

44...Kd7 45.Nc5+ Kc7



46.e6!

[46.Qh6 Rh4+!! 47.Kg1 Rxh6 48.Nd3 Qa2 49.Rf1 Qe2 50.Nf2 Qe3 51.c4 dxc4 52.e6 Qb6 53.Re1 Qxf2#]

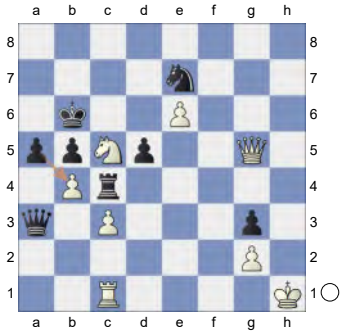
[46.Qg5 Nf5±]

46...a5 2.03/21

[46...Kc8± 1.38/21]

47.Qg5!+- Dancing on a razor blade.

47...Kb6

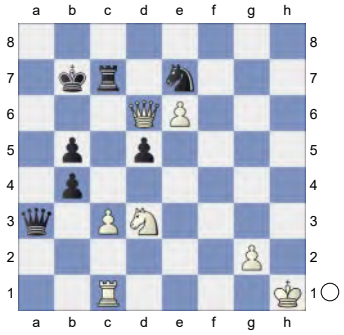


48.Nd3 Rc7

[48...Rxc3 49.Qe3+ Ka6 50.Rxc3 Qa1+ 51.Nc1 axb4 52.Rc7 Qh8+ 53.Kg1 Qh2+ 54.Kf1 Qh1+ 55.Qg1 Qxg1+ 56.Kxg1+-]

49.Qxg3 Black must now prevent Qd6+.

49...axb4 50.Qd6+ Kb7



51.g3

[51.Qxb4 Qxb4 52.cxb4 Rc4=]

51...d4 52.Rf1 aiming for Nc5+.

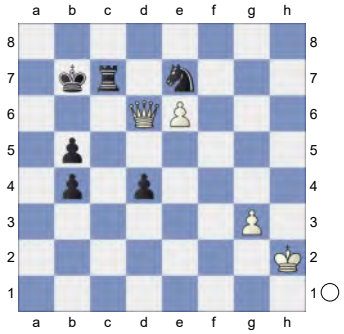
[52.Qxd4?! b3±]

52...Qxc3 53.Rc1

[Not 53.Nxb4 Nc6 54.Nd5 Rh7+ 55.Kg1 Qd2 56.Rf7+ Rxf7 57.exf7 Qe1+ 58.Kg2 Qe2+ 59.Kg1 Qe1+ 60.Kg2 Qe2+ 61.Kg1 Qe1+=]

53...Qxc1+ 54.Nxc1 Rxc1+ Endgame KQ-KRN **55.Kh2 Rc7**

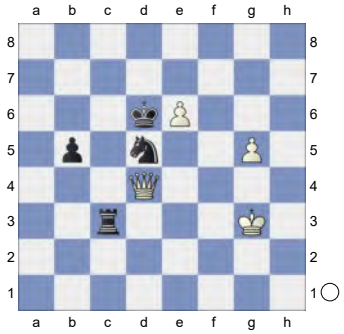
(Diagram)



56.Qxb4

[Much less strong is 56.Qxd4 Kc6 57.g4 *(57.Qxb4 Nd5+-)* 57...Nd5+-]

56...Kc6 57.Qxd4 Nd5 58.g4 Kd6 59.g5 g6 is the strong threat. **59...Rc2+ 60.Kg3 Rc3+**

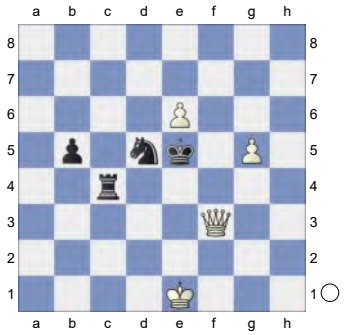


61.Kf2! Rc2+ 62.Ke1 And now e7! would win. **62...Rc4 63.Qd3 Ke5 64.Qg3+ Kf5** 3.76/21

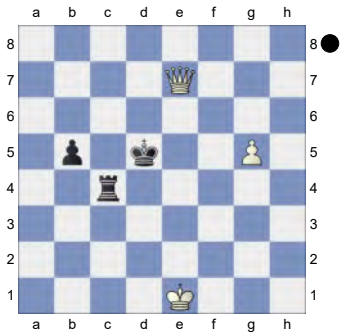
[⌓64...Kxe6 2.68/22 65.Qh3+ Ke5]

65.Qf3+ Ke5? 10.64/23

[65...Kxe6 3.06/24 66.g6 Ne7 67.Qf7+ Kd7]



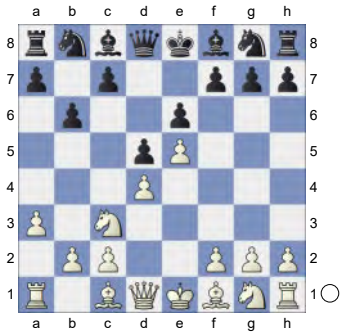
66.e7 White is clearly winning. **66...Nxe7 67.Qf6+ Kd5 68.Qxe7**



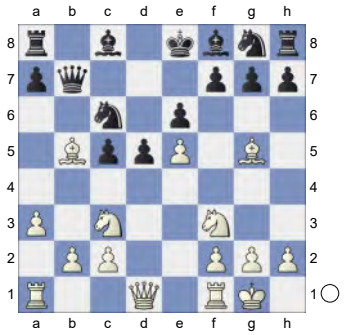
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
1-0

15 **C16**
□ **Berserk** **3589**
■ **Komododragon** **3583**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (21.3) 03.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

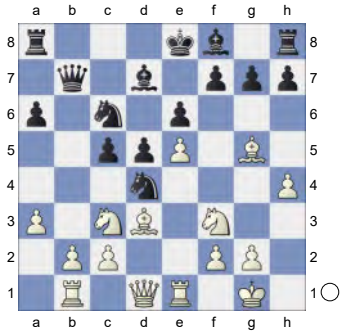
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8



6.Nf3 c5 7.Bg5 Qd7 8.dxc5 bxc5 White is slightly better. **9.Bb5 Nc6 10.0-0 Qb7N**
[10...h6 11.Be3 d4 12.Bxd4 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Bb7 14.Qf3 Nge7 15.Rad1 Qc7 16.Ne4 0-0-0 17.Nd6+ Rxd6 18.exd6 Nxd4 19.d7+ Kb8 20.Rxd4 Bxf3 21.d8Q+ Qxd8 22.Rxd8+ Kc7 23.Rd7+ Kb6 24.gxf3 Kxb5 25.Rxa7 Chapter-Games Game - 1]
[10...a6 11.Ba4 h6 12.Nxd5 hxg5 13.Nb6 Qb7 14.Nxa8 Be7 15.Nxg5 Bd7 16.Nxf7 Kxf7 17.Nb6 Qxb6 18.Qxd7 Nxe5 19.Qe8+ Kf6 20.Rae1 Nf3+ 21.gxf3 Qd6 22.h3 Rxh3 23.Rxe6+ Qxe6 24.Bd7 1-0 (24) Moskalenko,V (2540)-Gonzalez Rodriguez,J (2428) Montcada ESP 2006 CT-2205 [Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net)]]

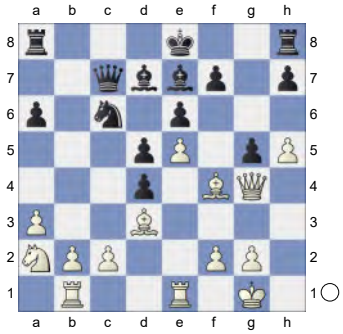


11.Re1 Nxd5! is the strong threat.
11...Nge7 12.Bf1 Bd7 13.Rb1 a6 0.77/19
[13...h6= 0.30/18 14.Bd2 Rc8]
14.h4 0.44/17 &Bianco is more active.
[White should try 14.Na4!± 0.77/19]
14...Nf5 15.Bd3 Nfd4

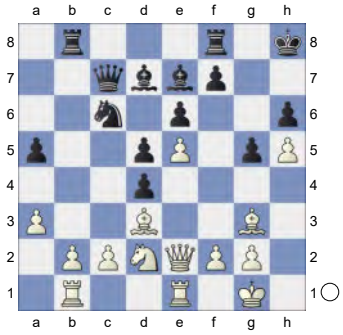


16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Na2 Qc7 18.Bf4
[18.Qh5 is interesting. Qa5 19.Qg4 Rb8 20.Qe2]
18...Be7 19.Qg4 g6 20.h5 g5

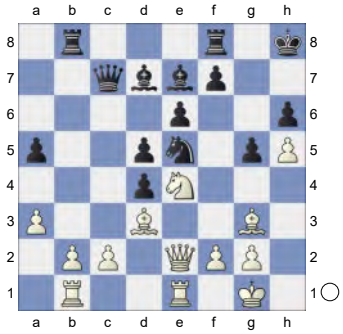
(Diagram)



21.Bg3
[Worse is 21.Bxg5 Rg8 22.f4 h6∓]
21...h6 22.Nc1 a5 23.Nb3 0-0 24.Nd2 Kh8 25.Qe2 Rab8 1.04/19
[25...Bc8± 0.65/18 deserves consideration.]

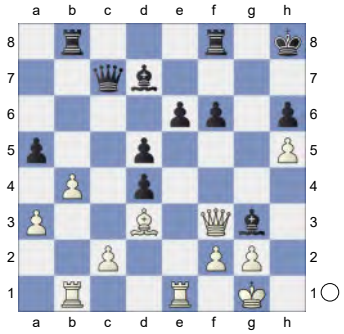


26.Ne4!± Nxe5 1.00/21
[26...dxe4? 27.Qxe4 f5 28.exf6+-]
[26...Na7!± 0.63/18]

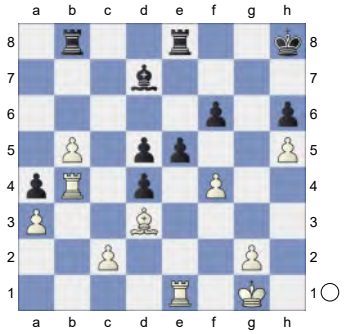


27.Nxg5! f6 28.Nf3 Nxf3+ 29.Qxf3
[But not 29.gxf3 e5±]
29...Bd6 30.b4! Bxg3

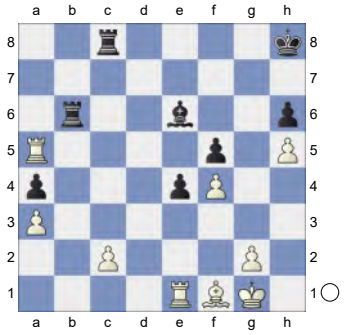
(Diagram)



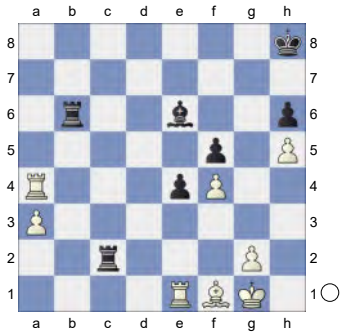
31.fxg3 a4 32.b5 Qd6 33.Qf4
[33.Qg4 looks sharper. e5 34.Qg6 e4 35.Bf1]
33...Qxf4 34.gxf4 Rfe8 35.Rb4 e5



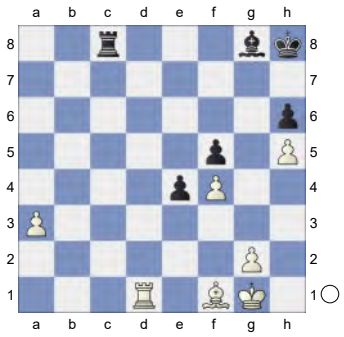
36.b6 e4 37.Bf1 Rec8 38.Rxd4 Rxb6 39.Rxd5 Be6 40.Ra5 f5



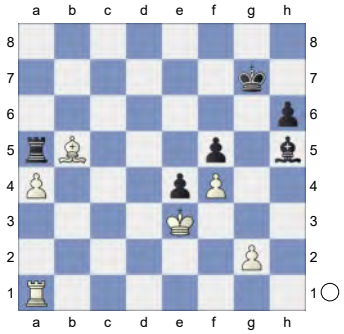
41.Rxa4 Rxc2



42.Ra7! Rbc6 43.Rd1 Black must now prevent Rd8+. **43...Bg8 44.Ra8 Rc8 45.Rxc8 Rxc8+-** Endgame

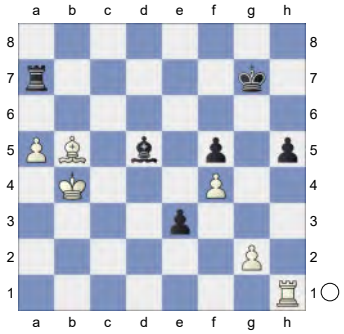


KRB-KRB **46.a4! Rc5 47.Ra1 Ra5 48.Kf2 Bf7 49.Bb5** Inhibits Be8. **49...Kg7 50.Ke3 Bxh5**



51.Kd4 Bf7 52.Kc5 h5 53.Kb4 Ra7 54.a5 Bd5 55.Rh1 e3 1.94/22

[55...Kg6± 1.31/20 56.a6 e3]

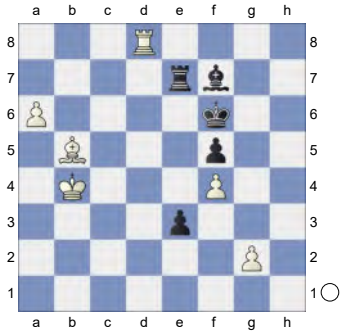


56.Rxh5 Kg6 57.Rh8 Kf6 58.Rf8+ Bf7 3.20/22

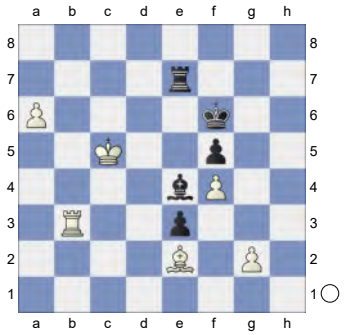
[58...Kg6 2.21/22 might work better. 59.a6 Re7]

59.a6 Rc7 60.Rd8 Re7

(Diagram)



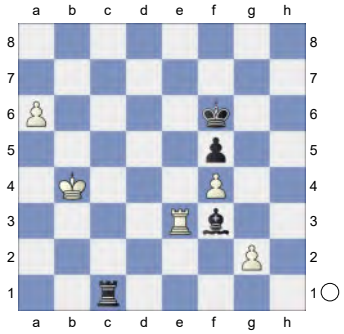
61.Rd6+ Kg7 62.Be2 Ba2 63.Rd3 Kf6 64.Kc5 Bb1 65.Rb3 Be4



66.Rxe3 aiming for Bf3. **66...Rc7+ 67.Kb5 Rc1 68.Bf3 Rb1+ 69.Kc5 Rc1+** 8.56/23

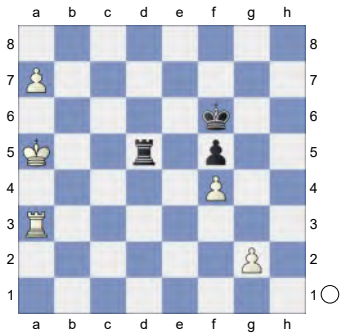
[⌓69...Ra1 4.97/24 70.Kb5 Rb1+ 71.Ka4 Bc2+ 72.Ka3 Ra1+ 73.Kb2 Rxa6 74.Kxc2 Kg6]

70.Kb4 Bxf3

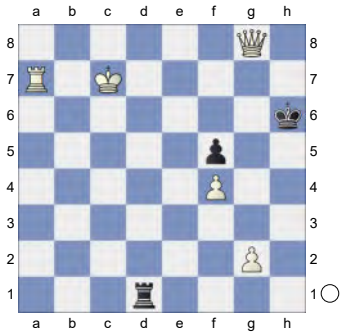


71.Rxf3 White wants to mate with a7. KR-KR **71...Rb1+ 72.Rb3 Ra1 73.Ra3 Rb1+ 74.Ka5** Intending a7 and mate. **74...Rd1 75.a7** White mates. **75...Rd5+**

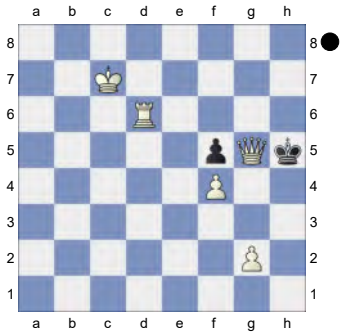
(Diagram)



76.Kb6 Rd6+ 77.Kc7 Rd1 78.a8Q Kf7 79.Ra7 Kg6 80.Qg8+ Kh6



81.Ra6+ Rd6 82.Rxd6+ Kh5 83.Qg5#

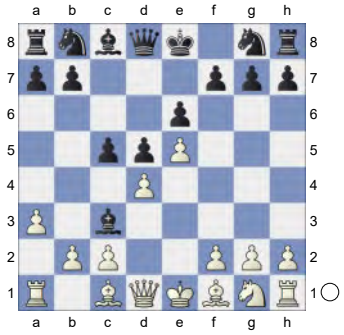


Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
1-0

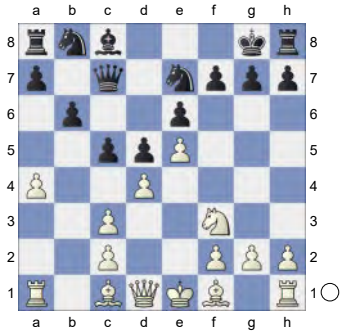
16 **C19**
□ **Komododragon** **3583**
■ **Seer** **3542**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (45.1) 11.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Kf8 8.Qd1 Qc7 9.Nf3 b6 10.a4 Kg8



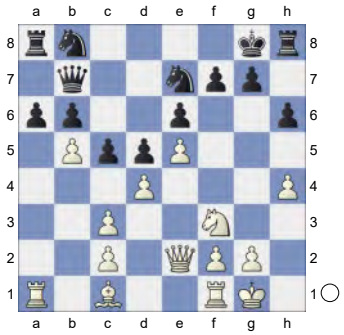
White is slightly better. **11.Bb5**

[11.a5 bxa5 12.Bd3 *(12.Ba3 c4 13.Ng5 Nbc6 14.Be2 f6 15.Nf3 fxe5 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.dxe5 Qc7 19.0-0 Bd7 20.Qd4 a4 21.Rab1 h6 22.Rb4 a5 23.Rb6 Kh7 24.Bg4 Rhe8 25.Rd6 Rab8 26.f4 a3* Mirkovic,S (2633)-Brenneur,G (2640) USSR 16/28 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] ½-½ (38) *)* 12...Ba6 13.0-0 Bxd3 14.cxd3 cxd4 15.cxd4 Nbc6 16.Ba3 h6 17.Qa4 Kh7 18.Rfc1 Qb6 19.Rab1 Qa6 20.Bxe7 Nxe7 21.Rc7 Rab8 22.Rbc1 Rhc8 23.h3 Rxc7 24.Rxc7 Rb7 25.Qd7 Rxc7 Modestov,B (2664)-Brenneur,G (2647) Baile Herculane 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 0-1 (38)]

11...h6N

[11...c4 12.a5 bxa5 13.Ba3 Chapter 20: French Winawer (S-4...c5,5 Lifetime Repertoires: Sethuraman's 1. e]

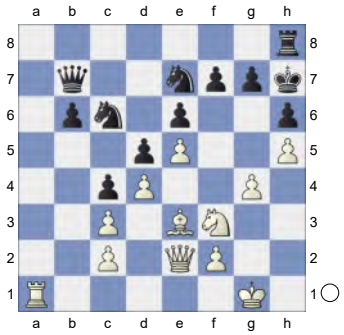
12.h4 Ba6 13.0-0 Bxb5 14.axb5 a6 15.Qe2 Qb7



16.Be3 0.13/23

[16.bxa6± 0.59/20 Nxa6 17.Ba3]

16...c4= 17.bxa6 Rxa6 18.h5 Rxa1 19.Rxa1 Kh7 20.g4 Nbc6



21.Kh2 Rf8 0.53/21

[21...Ra8= 0.22/22 deserves consideration. 22.Rxa8 Qxa8]

22.Nh4 Qb8 0.57/21

[22...b5= 0.26/21]

23.f4± b5 24.Rg1 0.25/19

[24.g5!± 0.90/19]

24...Qd8 0.71/20

[24...b4= 0.25/19 feels stronger.]

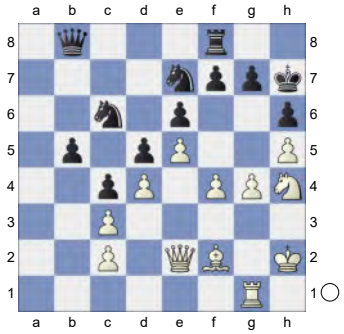
25.Bf2 0.37/18

[25.g5± 0.71/20]

25...Qb8 0.75/20

[25...b4± 0.37/18]

(Diagram)

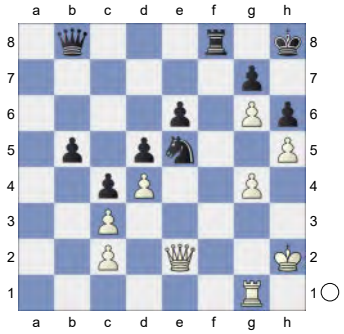


26.f5 0.30/21

[26.g5± 0.75/20]

26...f6= 27.Bg3 aiming for exf6.

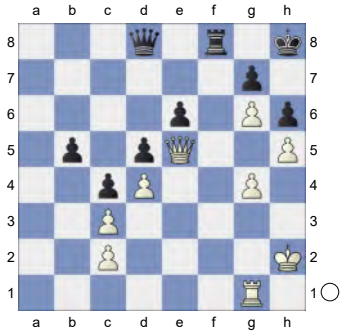
27...fxe5 28.Ng6 Nxg6 29.fxg6+ Kh8! 30.Bxe5 Nxe5



31.Qxe5± Endgame KQR-KQR

31...Qd8 1.56/21

[Black should play 31...Rf2+= 0.01/22 32.Rg2 Qf8]



White now steadily converts the win.

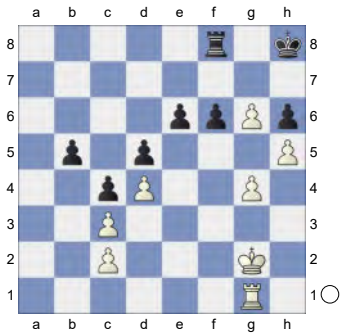
32.Kg2!→ White attacks with force.

32...Qf6 2.14/24 Inhibits Rf1.

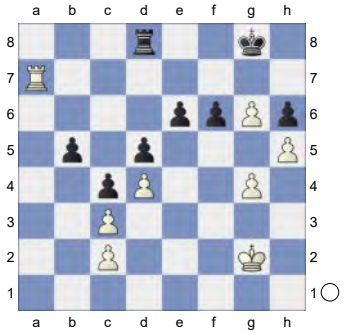
[32...Qh4± 1.56/25 33.Qg3 Qf6]

33.Qxf6+- Active counter play! **33...gxf6**

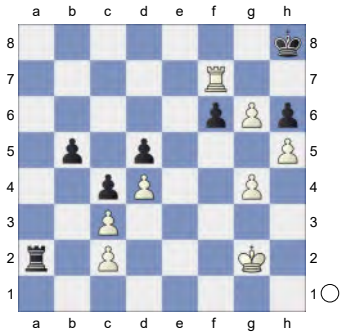
(Diagram)



KR-KR **34.Ra1** Inhibits Ra8. Threatens to win with Ra7. **34...Kg8?** 3.80/27
[34...e5 2.28/23 35.Ra7 Re8]
35.Ra7 Rd8

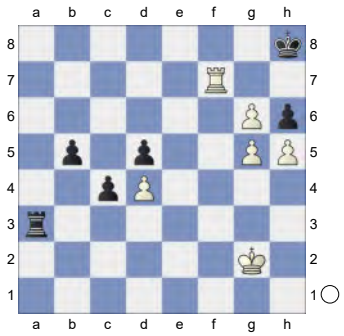


36.Rf7 Rf8 37.Re7 Ra8 38.Rxe6 Kg7 39.Re7+ Kh8? 9.06/32
[39...Kg8 3.11/28 40.Kf3 Ra3]
40.Rf7 Ra2

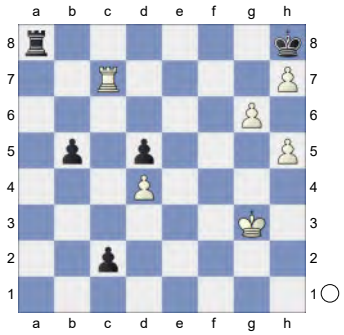


41.Rxf6 Rf8+ would kill now. **41...Rxc2+ 42.Rf2 Rxc3 43.g5 Ra3 44.Rf8+ Kg7 45.Rf7+ Kh8**

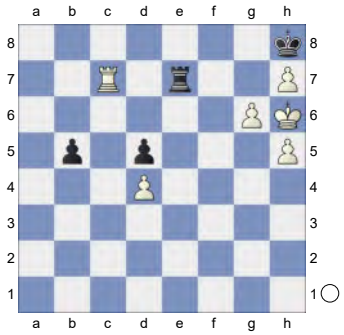
(Diagram)



46.gxh6 Ra8 47.Kg3 c3 48.Rh7+ Kg8 49.Rc7 Prevents Rc8. **49...Kh8 50.h7 c2**

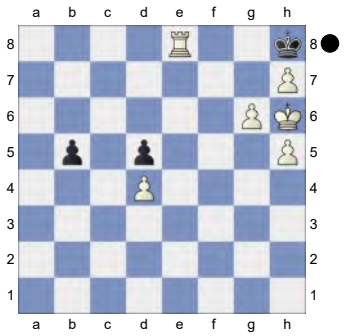


51.Kg4 c1B 52.Rxc1 Re8 53.Kg5 White wants to mate with Kh6. **53...Kg7 54.Rc7+** White mates. **54...Kh8 55.Kh6 Re7**



56.Rc8+ Re8 57.Rxe8#

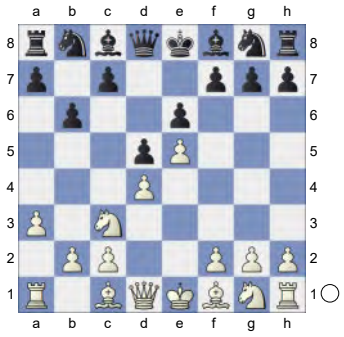
(Diagram)



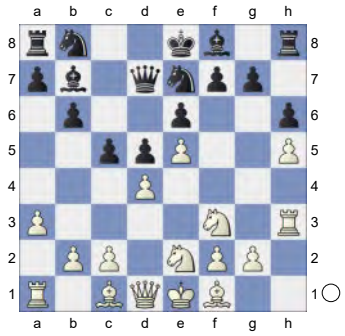
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.38
1-0

17 **C16**
□ **Komododragon** **3583**
■ **Berserk** **3589**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (28.3) 05.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

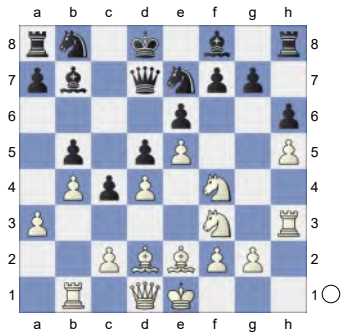
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
Dolmatov,S: 'Inf 39/366' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8**



6.Nf3 c5 7.h4 h6 8.Ne2 Ne7
White is slightly better. **9.h5 Qd7N**
[9...Ba6 10.c3 Nec6 *(10...Nbc6 11.b4 Bc4 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.Nf4 Bxf1 14.Kxf1 Nc8 15.b5 Na5 16.Qa4 Qb6 17.g4 Nc4 18.Nd3 Be7 19.Rg1 Qa5 20.Qxa5 Nxa5 21.Be3 Nb6 22.a4 Rc8 23.Ke2 Nbc4 24.Nd2 Nxd2 25.Bxd2* Lev,R (2413)-Heidrich,W (2543) Kiev 2007 Lexikon09 [FS 12/1979 p311] ½-½ (33) *)* 11.b4 Be7 12.Rh3 Qc7 13.Nf4 Bxf1 14.Kxf1 Nd7 15.Rg3 Bf8 16.Be3 0-0-0 17.Kg1 c4 18.a4 Kb7 19.Qc2 Re8 20.Re1 a6 21.b5 axb5 22.axb5 Na5 23.Nd2 Ra8 24.Ne2 Dolmatov,S (2620)-Fishbein,A (2465) Beersheba 1991 CBM 025 [Boensch, Uwe] 1-0 (36) Re8 25.f4 f6 26.Bf2 Qd8 27.Nf3 Nb3 28.Nc1 Nxc1 29.Rxc1 Qa8 30.Rg6 Qa3 31.Rb1 Qe7 32.Ra1 Ra8 33.Rxa8 Kxa8 34.f5 Rg8 35.Qa4+ Kb8 36.exf6 1-0 (36) Dolmatov,S-Gulko,B USSR 39/366 1985 CI1-130 [Dolmatov, Sergey]]
10.Rh3 Bb7

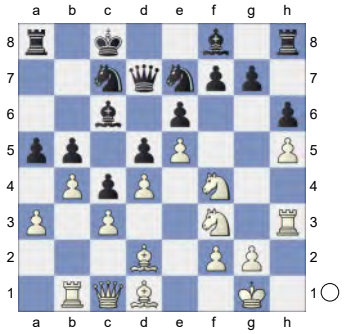


11.Rb1 Nbc6 12.b4 c4 13.Bd2 b5 14.Nf4 Kd8 15.Be2 Nb8

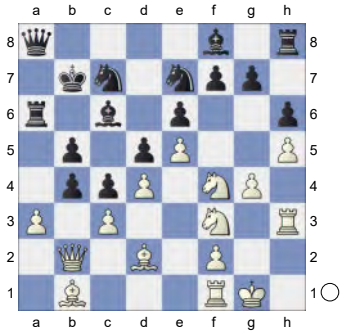


16.Kf1 Na6 17.Kg1 Nc7 18.c3 Bc6 19.Qc1 a5 20.Bd1 Kc8

(Diagram)



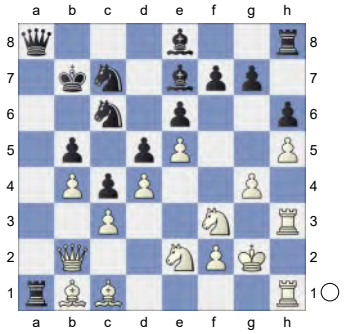
21.Bc2 Qd8 22.Qb2 Kb7 23.g4 Ra6 24.Rf1 Qa8 25.Bb1 0x0.0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces. The black rooks are badly placed. **25...axb4**



26.axb4 Be8 27.Kg2 Nc6 28.Rfh1 0.44/20

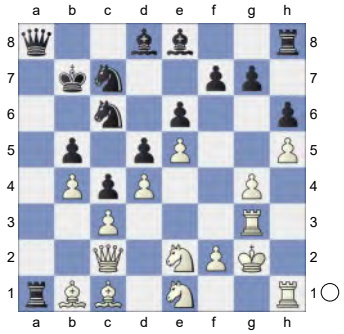
[28.g5± 0.77/18]

28...Be7 29.Ne2 Ra7 30.Bc1 Ra1

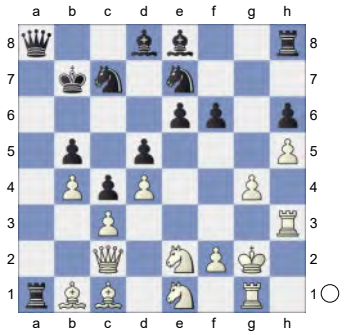


31.Rf1 Ra4 32.Rg3 Ra7 33.Ne1 Ra4 34.Qc2 Ra1 35.Rh1 Bd8

(Diagram)



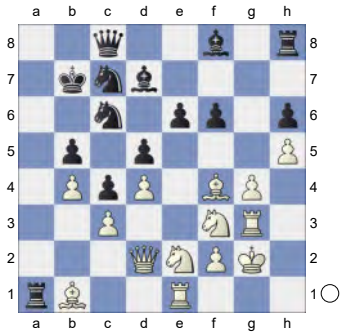
36.Qb2 Ra6 37.Rgh3 Ne7 38.Qc2 Ra1 39.Rg1 f5 40.exf6 gxf6



41.Nf3 Nc6 0.79/18

[41...Qa4± 0.43/18]

42.Bf4± Bd7 43.Rg3 Be7 44.Qd2 Bf8 45.Re1 Qc8



46.Kh2 Ra3 47.Kh1 0.65/18

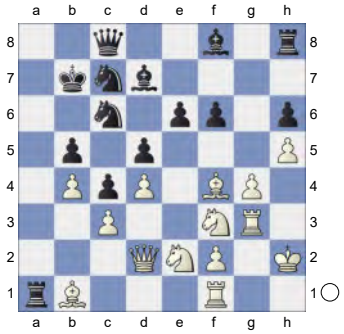
[White should play 47.Bg6= 0.15/18]

47...Ra6 48.Kg1 Ra3 49.Kh2 Ra8 0.83/18

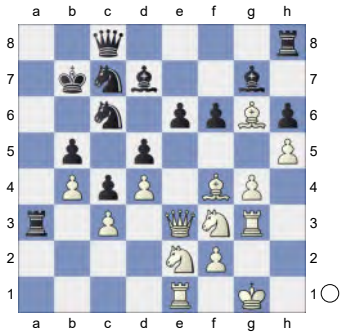
[49...Bg7± 0.43/17]

50.Rf1 Ra1

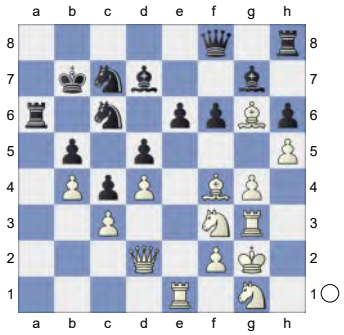
(Diagram)



51.Kg2 Ra6 52.Kg1 Ra1 53.Bg6 Ra6 54.Re1 Bg7 55.Qe3 Against e5
55...Ra3

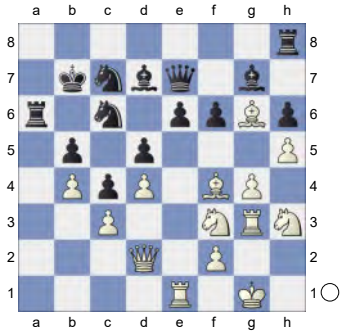


56.Kf1 0.33/19
[⧍56.Kh1 0.69/19]
56...Qd8 57.Kg2 Qc8 58.Qc1 Ra6 59.Neg1 Qd8 60.Qd2 Qf8

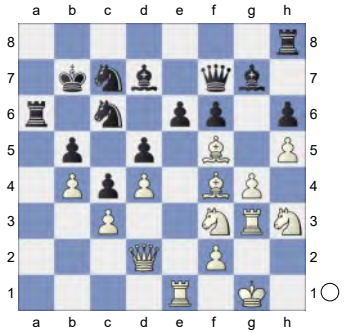


61.Nh3 Qd8 62.Kg1 Qe7

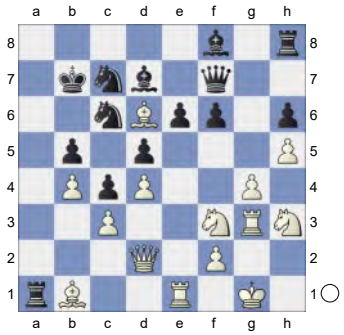
(Diagram)



63.Bf5! 0.32/23 **Qf7**
[63...Qf8 64.Bb1]
64.Bg6 0.01/17
[64.Bc2± 0.38/22 should be considered.]
64...Qe7= 65.Bf5 Qf7!

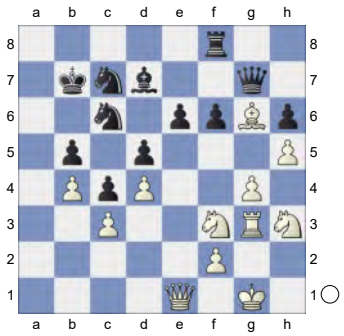


66.Bb1 Ra1 67.Bd6 Against e5
67...Bf8

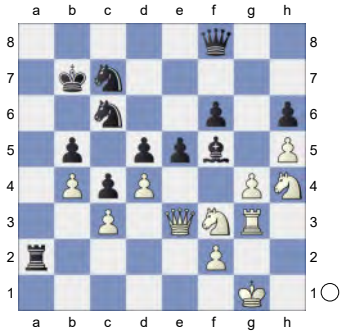


68.Bg6! Rxe1+ 69.Qxe1
[69.Nxe1 Qg7 70.Bxf8 Rxf8=]
69...Qg7 70.Bxf8 Rxf8

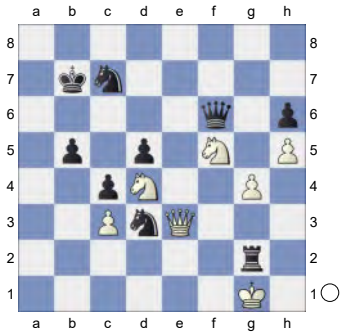
(Diagram)



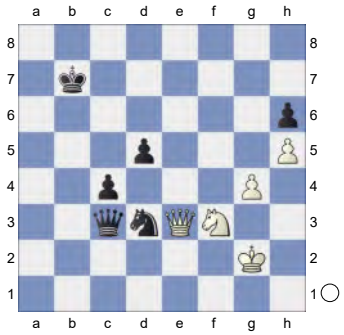
71.Qe3 0.01/22
[71.Qd2± 0.32/20]
71...Ra8! 72.Nf4 Ra2 73.Ng2 Qf8 74.Ngh4! e5 75.Bf5 Bxf5



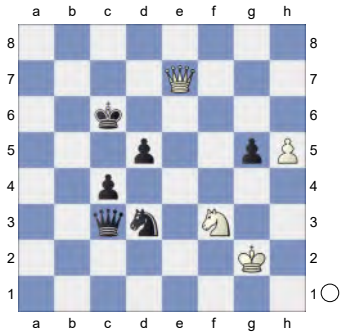
76.Nxf5 Nxb4! 77.dxe5 0.01/21
[77.cxb4± 0.62/22 e4 78.N3h4 *(78.Qxh6 Qxb4 79.Qxf6 Ra6=; 78.Nxh6 exf3 79.Rxf3 Qxb4±)* 78...Qxb4 79.Qxh6]
77...Nd3 78.exf6 Qxf6 aiming for ...b4. **79.N3d4 Rxf2 80.Rg2** The board is on fire. **80...Rxg2+** 0.44/21
[80...Rf4= 0.01/23 might be stronger.]



81.Kxg2± Ne6 82.Nxb5 Hoping for Qa7+. **82...Kc6 83.Nfd4+** 0.01/22
[83.Nbd4+!± 0.48/24 Nxd4 84.Qxd4 *(84.cxd4 Kb5=)* 84...Qxd4 85.Nxd4+ Kd6 86.Kf3 *(86.Nf5+ Ke5=)*]
83...Nxd4= The position is equal.
84.Nxd4+ Kb7 85.Nf3 Qxc3



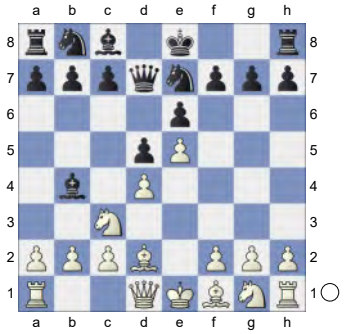
86.g5 Inhibits Qf6. **86...hxg5** White must now prevent ...Nf4+.
87.Qe7+ Kc6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
½-½

18 **C16**
□ **Obsidian** **3555**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-4167c1e-BT4-6**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (28.2) 05.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.Bd2 Ne7



6.Qg4 Kf8N

[6...Nf5 7.Bd3 h5 8.Qf4 Nc6 9.Bxf5 exf5 10.Nf3 Bxc3 11.Bxc3 Qe7 12.Qg3 Rh7 13.h4 Be6 14.Bd2 0-0-0 15.0-0 Qd7 16.b4 Ne7 17.a4 Qc6 18.b5 Qxc2 19.Rfc1 f4 20.Qg5 Nunn,J (2620)-Hort,V (2595) Amsterdam 1988 CI1-130 [RR]]

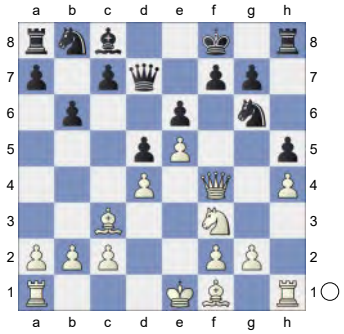
7.Qf4 &Bianco is much more active.

7...b6 8.h4 White is slightly better.

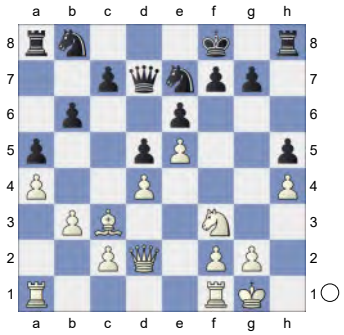
8...h5 9.Nf3 Bxc3 0.71/19

[9...Ng6± 0.34/18 10.Qe3 c5]

10.Bxc3± Ng6

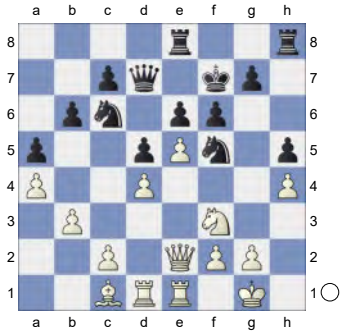


11.Qd2 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.a4 Nb8 14.0-0 a5 15.b3 Ne7

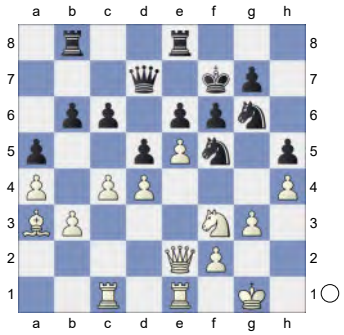


16.Qe2 Nf5 17.Rad1 Nc6 18.Bb2 Re8

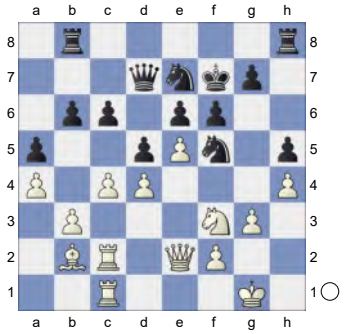
19.Bc1 f6 20.Rfe1 Kf7



21.g3 Rb8 22.c3 Nce7 23.Ba3 Ng6 24.c4 c6 25.Rc1 Rhe8



26.Bb2 Rec8 27.Nd2 Rh8 28.Rc2 Nge7 29.Nf3 Rhc8 30.Rec1 Rh8

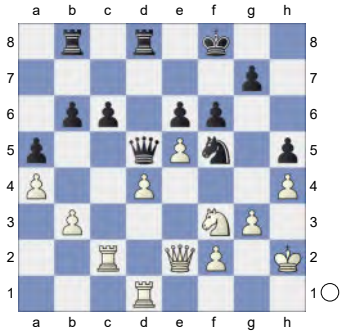


31.Ba3 Rhc8 32.Bxe7 Kxe7 33.Rd1

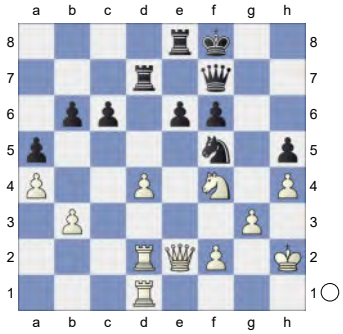
[33.Re1 is interesting. Kf7 34.Kg2 Rg8 35.Qd3]

33...Kf8 34.Kh2 Rd8 35.cxd5 Qxd5

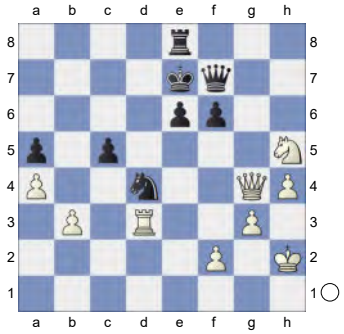
(Diagram)



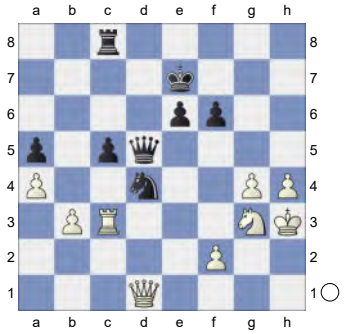
36.Rcd2 Qd7 1.21/19
[Black should try 36...Kg8 0.89/19]
37.Ng1 Qf7 38.Nh3 Inhibits g5.
38...Rd7 39.exf6 gxf6 40.Nf4 Re8



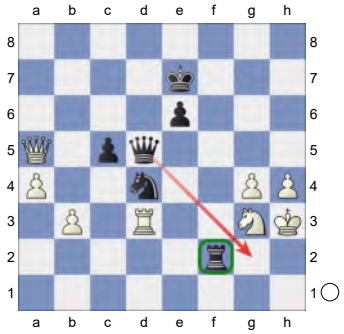
41.Nxh5
[41.Qxh5?! Qxh5 42.Nxh5 Kf7=]
41...c5 42.dxc5 Rxd2 43.Rxd2 Hoping for c6.
[43.Qxd2 Qxh5 44.cxb6 Nxh4 45.gxh4 Qxh4+ 46.Kg2 *(46.Kg1 Qg4+ 47.Kh2 Qh4+ 48.Kg2 Qg4+ 49.Kh2 Qh4+=)* 46...Qg4+ 47.Kh2 *(47.Kf1 Qh3+ 48.Ke1 Qh1+ 49.Ke2 Qh5+ 50.f3 Qh2+ 51.Ke3 Qe5+ 52.Kf2 Qh2+ 53.Kf1 Qh1+ 54.Kf2 Qh2+ 55.Kf1 Qh1+ 56.Kf2 Qh2+=)* 47...Qh4+ 48.Kg2 *(48.Kg1 Qg4+ 49.Kh2 Qh4+=)* 48...Qg4+ 49.Kh2 *(49.Kf1 Qh3+ 50.Ke1 Qh1+ 51.Ke2 Qh5+ 52.f3 Qh2+ 53.Kf1 Qh1+ 54.Kf2 Qh2+ 55.Ke3 Qe5+ 56.Kf2 Qh2+ 57.Kf1 Qh1+ 58.Kf2 Qh2+=)* 49...Qh4+=]
43...bxc5 44.Qg4 Nd4 Inhibits Rc2.
45.Rd3! Ke7



46.Rc3 Rg8 47.Qd1 Rc8 48.g4 Qg6 49.Kh3 Qe4 1.77/21 Against Qh1
[49...Kf8± 1.34/18 50.Ng3 Rc7]
50.Ng3+- Qd5



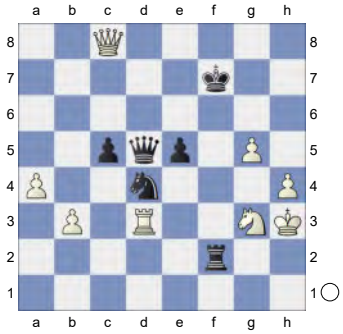
51.Qd2 f5 52.f3 Rf8 53.Rd3 fxg4+ 54.fxg4 Rf7? 3.51/19
[54...Rf3± 1.60/19 was called for. 55.Rxf3 Nxf3]
55.Qxa5 Rf2



56.Qc7+
[56.Ne4 Qxe4 57.Qxc5+ Ke8 58.Qh5+ *(58.Qc8+? Kf7-+)* 58...Rf7 59.Qh8+ Ke7 60.Qxd4 Rf3+ 61.Rxf3 Qxd4-+]
56...Ke8 57.g5 Strongly threatening g6.
[Inferior is 57.h5 Qg2+ 58.Kh4

Qd5=]

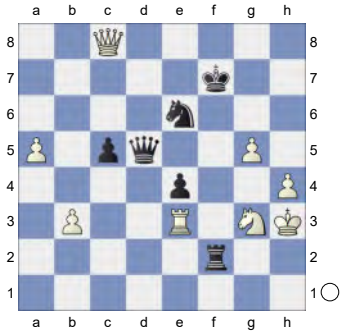
57...e5 (-> ...Qe6+) **58.Qc8+ Kf7**



59.a5!

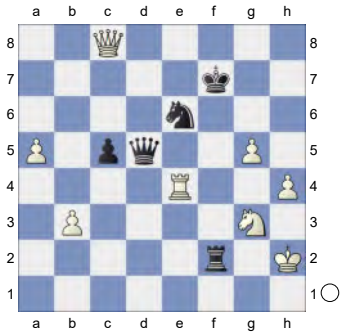
[59.h5? gets mated. Qg2+ 60.Kh4 Qh2+ 61.Qh3 Rf4#]

59...e4 60.Re3 Ne6



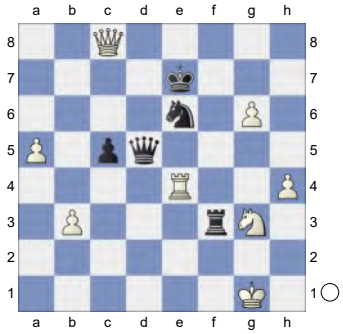
61.Rxe4 Rf3 And now ...Qxe4 would win. **62.Kh2** aiming for g6+! **62...Rf2+** 10.60/26

[⌓62...Qd6 4.68/20 63.Re5 Rf2+ 64.Kg1 Rf6 65.Qb7+ *(65.Re3 Qd1+ 66.Kg2 Nf4+ 67.Kh2 Qd2+ 68.Re2 Nxe2=)* 65...Kg8 66.gxf6 Qxe5]

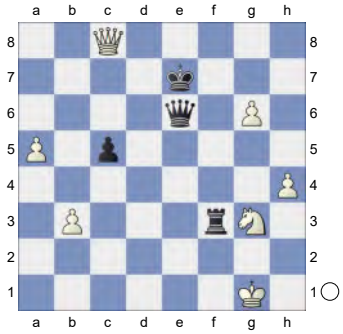


63.Kg1! Rf3 64.g6+ Ke7

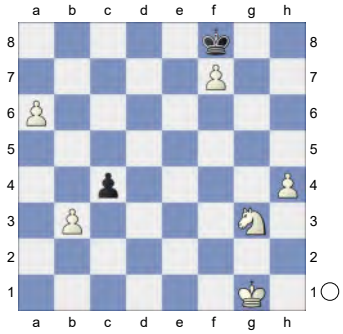
(Diagram)



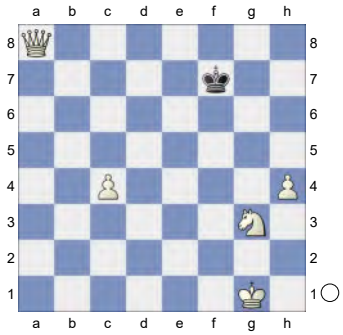
65.Rxe6+! Qxe6



Endgame KQR-KQN **66.Qb7+ Kf6 67.Qxf3+ Kg7 68.Qf7+ Qxf7 69.gxf7 Kf8 70.a6 c4**



71.bxc4 Ke7 72.a7 Kf8 73.a8Q+ Kxf7

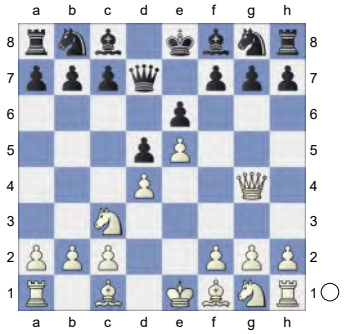


Weighted Error Value: White=0.02

(flawless) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
1-0

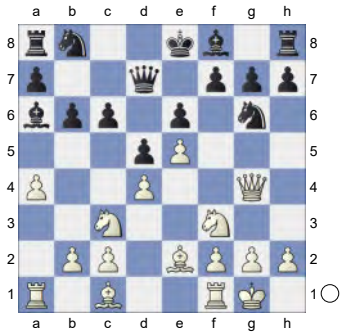
19 **C16**
□ **Caissa** **3545**
■ **Stockfish dev-20241122-b7f173**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (28.4) 05.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.Qg4 Bf8

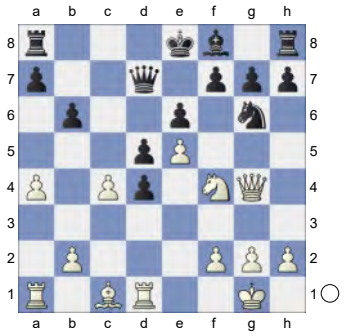


6.Nf3 b6 7.Bb5 c6 8.Be2 Ne7 9.0-0 Ba6 White is slightly better.
[9...Nf5 10.Rd1 Ba6 11.a4 *(11.a3 Qb7 12.b3 Nd7 13.a4 Bb4 14.Nb5 0-0 15.Qh3 Rfc8 16.Bd3 Nf8 17.g4 Ne7 18.Nd6 Bxd6 19.exd6 Neg6 20.Qg3 Bxd3 21.cxd3 c5 22.h4 Nd7 23.h5 Ngf8 24.h6 g6 25.g5 e5* Mokry,K-Ravi,L Dieren 1990 French Nc3 [Myers] 1-0 (39)*)* 11...Bb4 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.Ne2 h5 14.Qh3 Be7 15.Ng3 g6 16.Nxf5 gxf5 17.Bg5 0-0-0 18.Bf6 Rh6 19.a5 b5 20.b3 Rg8 21.Bxe7 Qxe7 22.Ne1 f6 23.exf6 Qxf6 24.f4 3.♘f3 de4 4.♘e4 ♘f6 5.î (2472)-Berenshtein (2512) United States 2011 CYB 12 [Ftacnik Mikhalchishin Beliavsky Neven] 1-0 (52)]

10.a4N
[10.Bg5 Nf5 11.Nh4 h6 12.Nxf5 exf5 13.Qh3 Bb4 14.Bxa6 Nxa6 15.Bd2 Nc7 16.Rad1 Bxc3 17.Bxc3 0-0-0 18.Qd3 f4 19.Bd2 Ne6 20.a4 f3 21.Qxf3 Nxd4 22.Qd3 c5 23.a5 Qb5 24.Qxb5 Nxb5 Dunne,A-Maliangkay,R ICCF corr 1990 Corr Nr. 1 [ChessBase II] 0-1 (49)]
10...Ng6

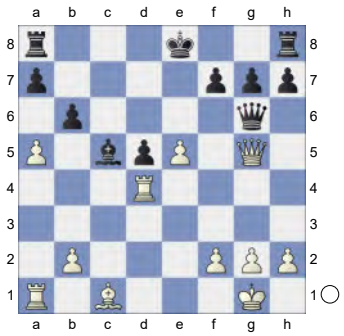


11.Rd1 Bxe2 12.Nxe2 c5 13.c4 Nc6 14.Nf4 Nxd4 0.94/22
[14...dxc4± 0.63/19 15.Nxg6 hxg6]
15.Nxd4± cxd4

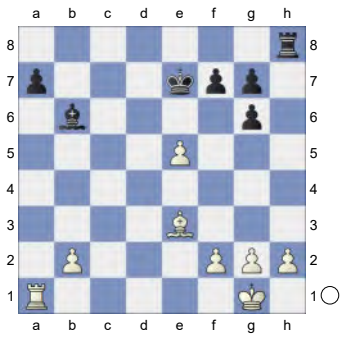


16.cxd5 Nxf4 17.Qxf4 exd5 18.Qg5 0.57/20
[Of course not 18.Rxd4 Bc5=]
[18.Qg3± 0.99/21]
18...Qe6± 19.a5 Qg6 20.Rxd4 Black must now prevent axb6. **20...Bc5**

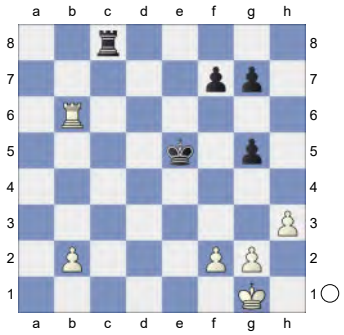
(Diagram)



21.Qxg6 &Bianco is more active. **21...hxg6 22.Rxd5 Rd8 23.Rxd8+ Kxd8 24.axb6 Bxb6±** Endgame KRB-KRB **25.Be3 Ke7**

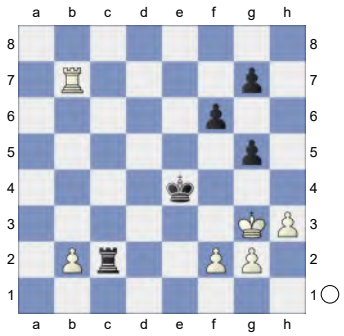


26.Bxb6! axb6 KR-KR **27.Ra7+ Ke6 28.Rb7 g5 29.h3 Rc8 30.Rxb6+ Kxe5**

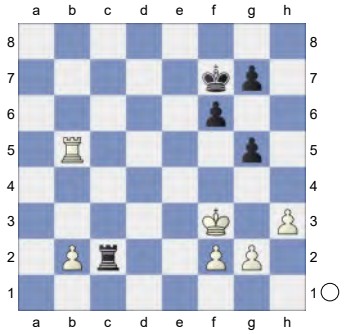


31.Kh2 f6 32.Kg3 Rc2 33.Rb8 Ke4 34.Rb5 Rd2 35.Rb7 Rc2

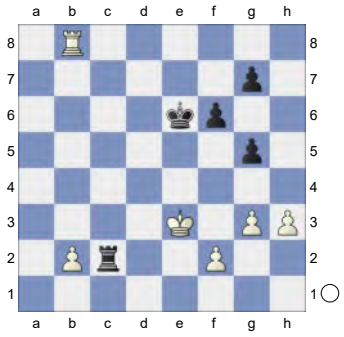
(Diagram)



36.Rb6 0.01/22
[36.b4± 0.76/25]
36...Rd2 0.73/24
[36...Ke5= 0.01/22]
37.Rb5 Rc2 38.Rb4+ Kf5 39.Kf3 Kg6 40.Rb5 Kf7

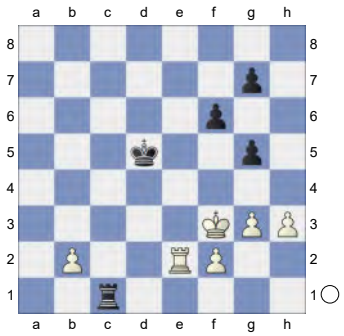


41.Ke3 Ke6 42.g3 Kd6 43.Rb3 Ke6 44.Rb7 Kf5 45.Rb8 Ke6

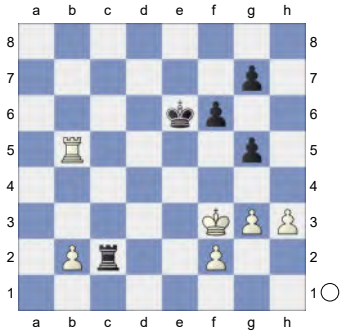


46.Rb4 Kf5 47.Rb7 Ke6 48.Kf3 Ke5 49.Re7+ Kd5 50.Re2 Rc1

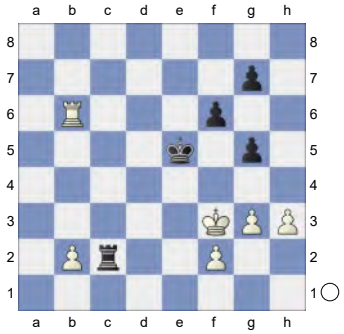
(Diagram)



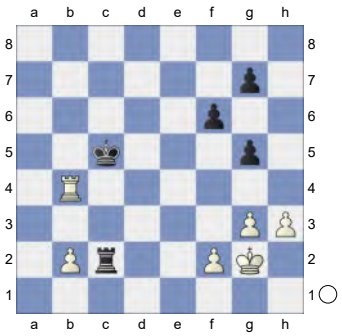
51.Re3 Rc2 52.Rb3 Rc1 1.00/22
[52...Ke5± 0.60/24]
53.Kg4 And now Kf5 would win. **53...Rc2**
54.Rb5+ Kd6 55.Kf3 Ke6



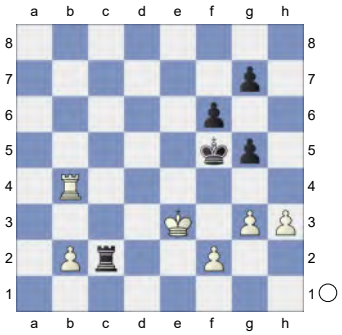
56.Rb3 Kd5 57.Rb6 Ke5 58.Rb7 Ke6
59.Rb3 0.01/23
[59.Rb4± 0.64/24]
59...Kd5!= 60.Rb6 0.01/23
[Better is 60.Rb8± 0.64/24]
60...Ke5!



61.Rb4 Ke6 62.Rb5 Kd6 63.Rb7 0.01/34
[63.b4± 0.71/25]
63...Ke6 0.69/23
[Black should try 63...Ke5= 0.01/34]
64.Rb4 Kd6 65.Kg2 Kc5

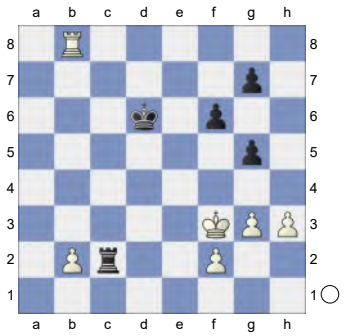


66.Rb7 Kd5 67.Rb6
[Don't take 67.Rxg7 Rxb2 68.h4 gxh4]
67...Ke5 68.Kf3 Kf5 69.Rb4 0.01/25
[69.Rb8± 0.68/24]
69...Rd2 0.78/25
[69...Ke6!= 0.01/25]
70.Ke3 -0.01/22
[70.Rb8± 0.78/25]
70...Rc2

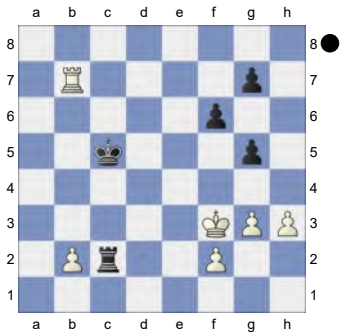


71.Rb6 Ke5 72.Rb3 0.01/21
[72.b4± 0.68/23]
72...Ke6! 73.Rb5 0.01/20
[73.g4± 0.71/23]
73...Ke7 0.86/22
[73...Kd6!= 0.01/20]
74.Rb8 -0.01/20
[White should play 74.f4± 0.86/22]
74...Ke6 75.Kf3 Kd6

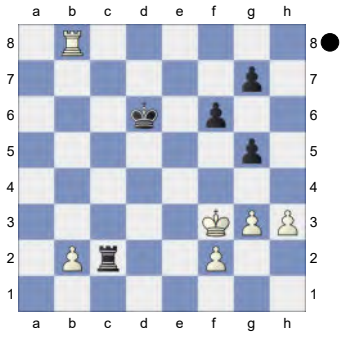
(Diagram)



76.Rb4 0.01/22
[76.b3± 0.75/23]
76...Kc5 0.77/24
[76...Ke6!= 0.01/22 keeps the balance.]
77.Rb7±



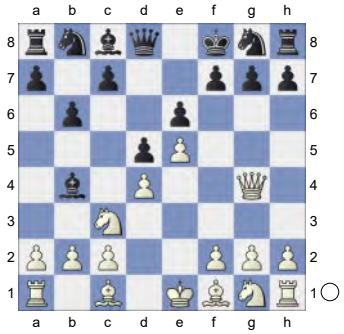
Hoping for Rc7+. **77...Kd6** Inhibits Rc7.
78.Rb8



Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

20 **C16**
□ **Ethereal** **3545**
■ **Seer** **3542**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (21.1) 02.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

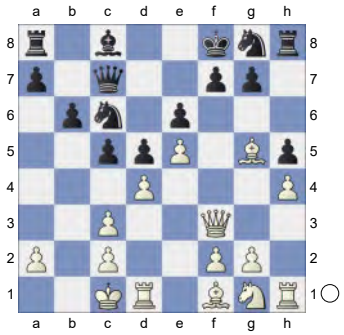
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.Qg4 Kf8
[5...Bf8 6.Bb5+ *(6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Be3 Ne7 8.Qh5 Ng6 9.0-0-0 Ba6 10.Kb1 Bxf1 11.Rhxf1 Nc6 12.Nd2 Bb4 13.Ne2 Bxd2 14.Bxd2 0-0-0 15.f4 Nge7 16.Qxf7 h5 17.f5 Nxf5 18.Qxd7+ Kxd7 19.c3 Rdf8 20.g3 Nce7* Stukopin,A (2564)-Ruiz Castillo, J (2503) Dulles 2021 CBM 208 Extra [Stukopin,Andrey] ½-½ (35) *)* 6...c6 7.Ba4 Qd7 8.Nce2 Ba6 9.c3 Ne7 10.Ng3 Bb5 11.Bxb5 cxb5 12.N1e2 Nbc6 13.0-0 b4 14.cxb4 Nxb4 15.Bd2 Nbc6 16.Rac1 g6 17.Bg5 Nf5 18.Bf6 h5 19.Qf3 Ng7 20.Rfd1 Ter Sahakyan,S (2574)-Lenderman,A (2637) chess.com INT 2019 [John Watson] ½-½ (52)]



6.h4N
[6.Nh3 c5 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Qc7 9.Bd2 Ba6 10.Bd3 Bxd3 11.cxd3 c4 12.Nf4 Qc6 13.0-0 g6 14.dxc4 Qxc4 15.Rae1 Nc6 16.Re3 Nce7

17.Nxe6+ fxe6 18.Qxe6 Nf5 19.Rf3 Re8 20.Rxf5+ gxf5 Rosito,J-Yu,M chess.com INT 1973 Telechess CBM 89 [CCYB 11\242] 1-0 21.Qxf5+ Kg7 22.e6 Qc7 23.Qg5+ Kf8 24.Qf5+ Kg7 25.Bf4 Qe7 26.Be5+ Kh6 27.g4 ½-½ (27) Faibisovich,V (2415)-Mitkov,N (2490) Groningen 1991 CI1-130 [Faibisovich,V]]

6...h5 7.Qf3 c5 8.Bg5 White is slightly better. **8...Qc7 9.0-0-0 Bxc3 10.bxc3 Nc6**



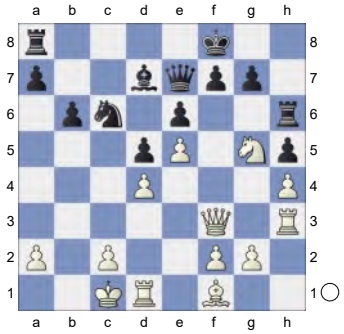
11.Nh3 0.38/18

[White should try 11.Ne2± 0.75/18]

11...cxd4± 12.cxd4 Nh6

[12...Nb4 13.c3±]

13.Bxh6 Rxh6 14.Ng5 Qe7 15.Rh3 Bd7



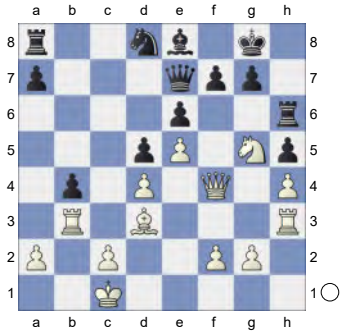
16.Qf4 Be8 17.Rdd3 b5 18.Rc3 Nd8 0.83/20

[18...b4± 0.50/19 19.Rcf3 Rc8]

19.Bd3 0.06/21 &Bianco is much more active.

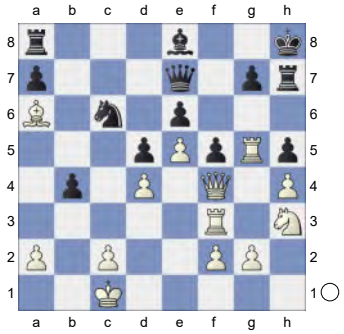
[19.g4± 0.83/20]

19...b4= 20.Rb3 Strongly threatening Nh7+. **20...Kg8**



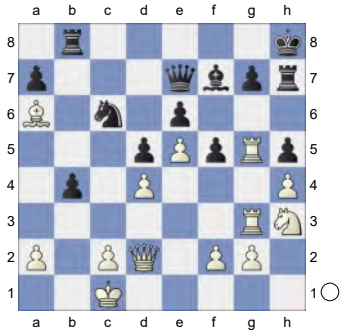
Prevents Nh7. **21.Rg3 Kh8 22.Ba6! f6 23.Nh3 Nc6 24.Rbf3** Threatening Qxh6+! **24...f5! 25.Rg5 Rh7** 0.40/20

[25...Kh7= 0.08/18]



26.Qd2± Rb8 Threatens to win with ... b3! **27.Rfg3 Bf7** 0.77/21

[27...b3± 0.41/22 28.cxb3 *(28.Rxb3? Rxb3 29.axb3 Qa3+ 30.Kb1 Qxa6-+)* 28...Rb4]



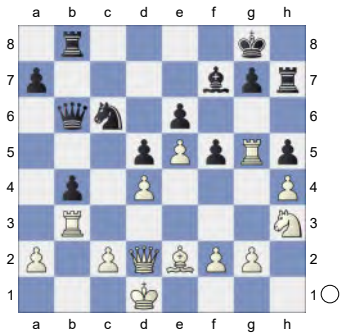
28.Be2!± Qd8 29.Kd1 Kg8 1.18/20

[29...Rb7± 0.49/19]

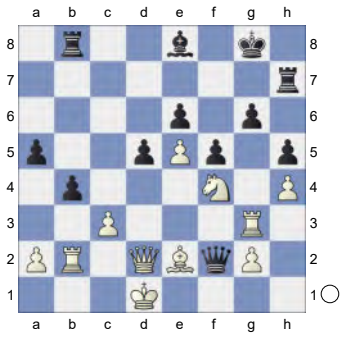
30.Rb3 0.05/17

[Better is 30.Nf4± 1.18/20]

30...Qb6 0.56/20
[Black should play 30...a5!= 0.05/17]

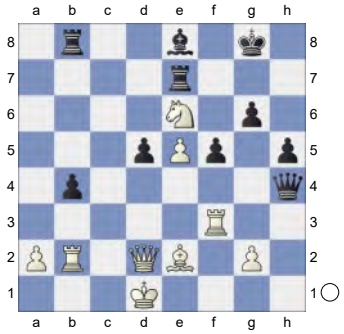


31.c3± a5 32.Rg3 Be8 33.Rb2 g6 0.78/21
[33...a4± 0.39/18 should be considered.]
34.Nf4± Nxe5 35.dxe5 Qxf2

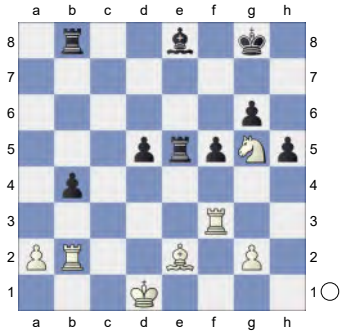


36.Rf3 Qxh4 1.18/20
[⌓36...Ba4+ 0.72/22 37.Kc1 Qg1+ 38.Rf1 Qa7 39.cxb4 *(39.Nxe6 Re8=)* 39...Rc7+ 40.Kb1 Rxb4 41.Rxb4 axb4]
37.cxb4
[37.Nxe6 Ba4+ 38.Kc1 Rc8±]
37...axb4 38.Nxe6 And now Qd4 would win. **38...Re7** 1.51/20
[⌓38...Ba4+ 1.07/20 39.Kc1 Qe4]

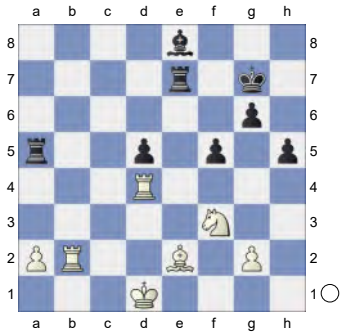
(Diagram)



39.Qg5! 0.91/23 **Qxg5 40.Nxg5 Rxe5**

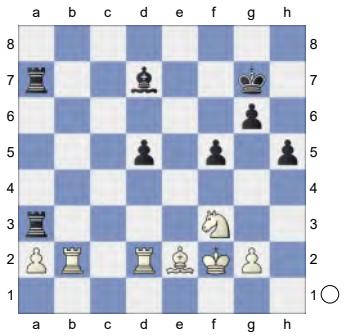


41.Rf4 1.03/21
[⌓41.Kd2 1.39/22]
41...b3 1.84/22
[41...Ba4+? 42.Kd2+-]
[41...Re3± 1.03/21 was worth a try.]
42.Rxb3+- Ra8 43.Rb2 Kg7 44.Rd4 Re7 45.Nf3 Ra5

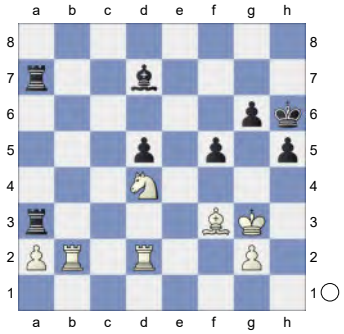


46.Rdd2 Rc5 2.13/20
[46...Re4 1.68/19 is a better defense. 47.Kc1 Kf6]
47.Rb4 Ra5 48.Ke1 Rea7 49.Rbb2 Bd7 50.Kf2 Ra3

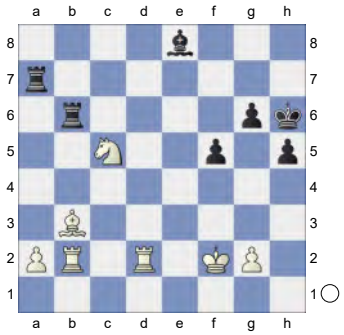
(Diagram)



51.Kg1
[But not 51.Rxd5 Be8 52.Rdd2 Bf7]
51...R3a5 52.Kh2 Be8 53.Nd4 Kh6 54.Bf3 Bd7 55.Kg3 Ra3

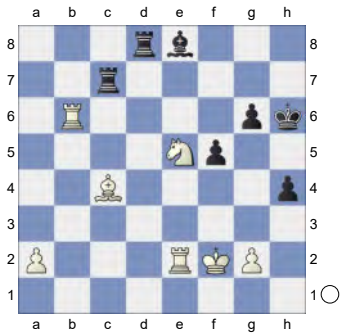


56.Kf2 R3a5 57.Nb3 R5a6 58.Bxd5 Rd6 59.Nc5 Be8 60.Bb3 Rb6

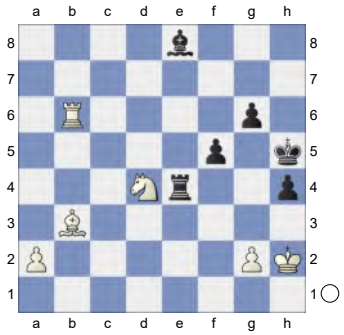


61.Re2 Rb5 62.Nd3
[Don't do 62.Rxe8 Rxc5 63.Re6 Rca5]
62...Rb8 63.Bc4 Rd8 64.Rb6 h4 65.Ne5 Rc7

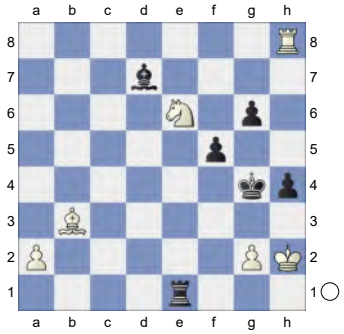
(Diagram)



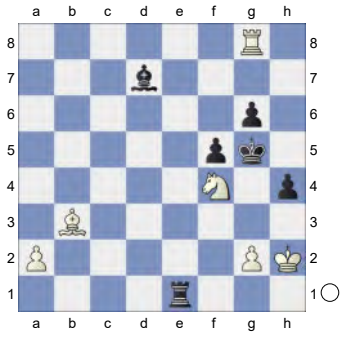
66.Bb3 Kh5 67.Kg1 Re7 68.Kh2 Rd4 69.Nc6 Rxe2 70.Nxd4 Re4



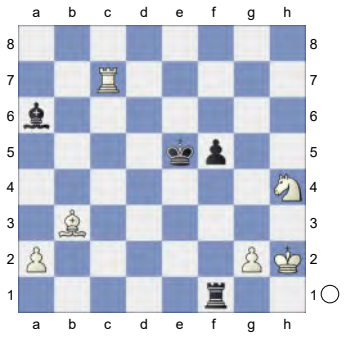
71.Ne6 Re1 72.Rb8 Bd7 73.Rh8+ Kg4



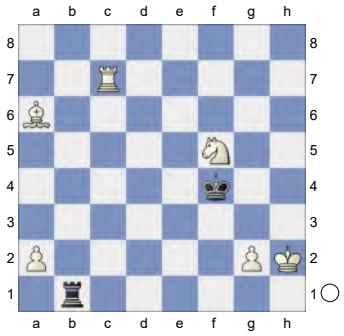
74.Rg8! Kh5
[74...Bxe6 75.Rxg6+]
75.Nf4+ Kg5



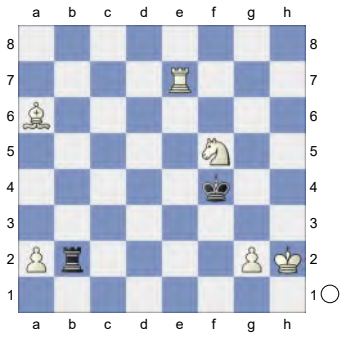
76.Nxg6 Kf6 Prevents Ne5. **77.Nxh4 Rf1 78.Rf8+ Ke5 79.Rf7 Bc8 80.Rc7 Ba6**



81.Nxf5 Ra1 7.50/22
[⌓81...Kxf5 4.45/29 82.Rf7+ Ke4 83.Rxf1 Bxf1]
82.Bc4? 2.40/23 **Kf4?** 8.25/21
[82...Bxc4 2.40/23 83.Rxc4 Kxf5]
83.Bxa6 Rb1

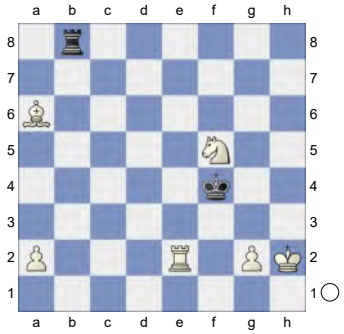


84.Re7! Rb2
[84...Kg5 85.Ne3]

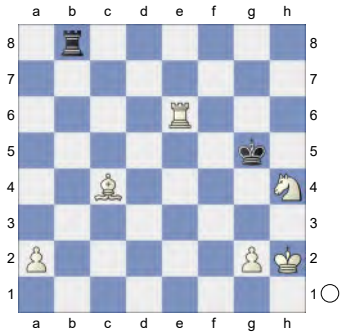


85.Re2! Rb8

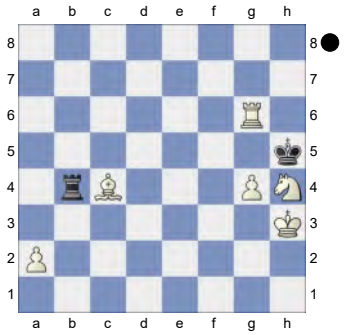
(Diagram)



86.Nh4 Kg5 87.Re4 Kf6 88.Bc4 Threatening mate with Re6+. **88...Kg5 89.Re5+ Kf6 90.Re6+ Kg5**



91.g3 Rb2+ 92.Kh3 Intending Rg6+ and mate. **92...Rb4 93.Rg6+ Kh5 94.g4#**

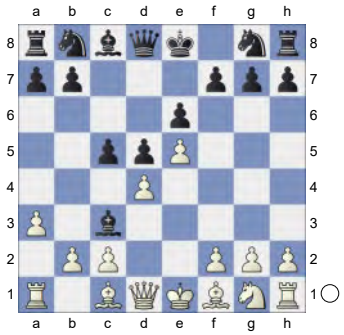


Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
1-0

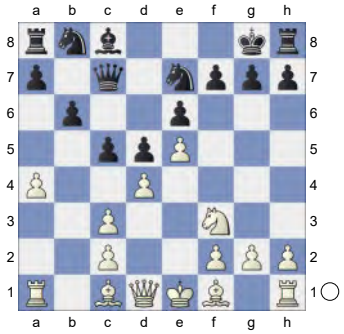
21 **C19**
□ **Seer** **3542**
■ **Komododragon** **3583**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (52.1) 13.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Kf8 8.Qd1 Qc7 9.Nf3 b6 10.a4 Kg8



White is slightly better. **11.Bb5**

[11.a5 bxa5 12.Bd3 *(12.Ba3 c4 13.Ng5 Nbc6 14.Be2 f6 15.Nf3 fxe5 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.dxe5 Qc7 19.0-0 Bd7 20.Qd4 a4 21.Rab1 h6 22.Rb4 a5 23.Rb6 Kh7 24.Bg4 Rhe8 25.Rd6 Rab8 26.f4 a3* Mirkovic,S (2633)-Brenneur,G (2640) USSR 16/28 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] ½-½ (38) *)* 12...Ba6 13.0-0 Bxd3 14.cxd3 cxd4 15.cxd4 Nbc6 16.Ba3 h6 17.Qa4 Kh7 18.Rfc1 Qb6 19.Rab1 Qa6 20.Bxe7 Nxe7 21.Rc7 Rab8 22.Rbc1 Rhc8 23.h3 Rxc7 24.Rxc7 Rb7 25.Qd7 Rxc7 Modestov,B (2664)-Brenneur,G (2647) Baile Herculane 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 0-1 (38)]

11...c4 12.a5

[12.Ng5 is interesting. h6 13.Nxf7 Kxf7 14.Qh5+]

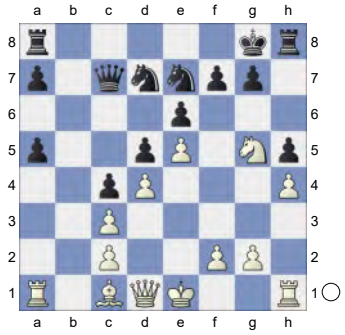
12...bxa5 13.h4N

[13.Ba3]

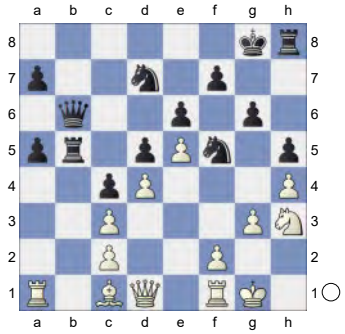
13...h5 14.Ng5 Bd7 Inhibits Be8. **15.Bxd7**

[15.Qf3 Nf5 16.Bxd7 Nxd7∓]

15...Nxd7



16.Nh3 Rb8 17.0-0 Nf5 18.g3 Rb5 19.Nf4 g6 20.Nh3 Qb6

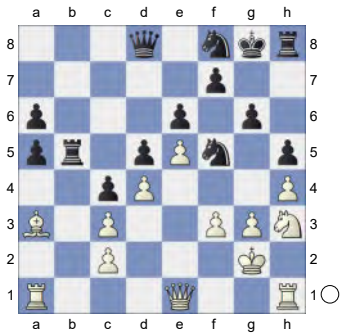


21.Ba3 Kg7 22.Qe1 a6 -0.01/20

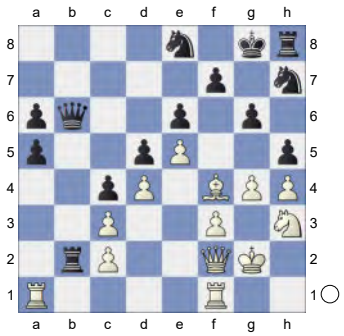
[22...Nb8∓ -0.32/19]

23.Kg2 Qd8 24.f3 White has compensation. **24...Nf8 25.Rh1 Kg8**

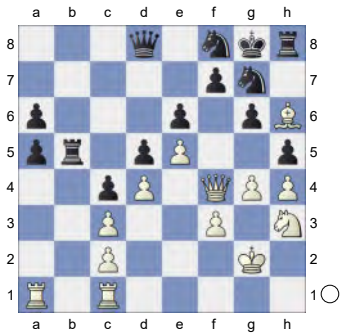
(Diagram)



26.Qf2 Ng7 0.35/22
[26...a4= 0.01/19]
27.Bc1!± Qb6 28.Bf4 Nh7 29.g4 Rb2 30.Rhf1 Ne8 0.91/22
[30...Qc7= 0.27/20]

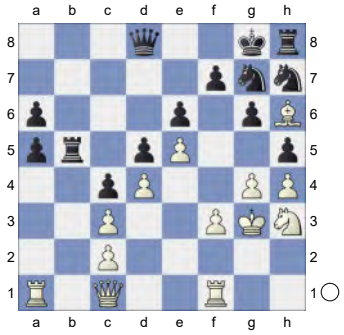


31.Bc1± Rb5 32.Bh6 Nf8 33.Qd2 Ng7 34.Qf4 Qb8 35.Rfc1
[35.Bxg7 Kxg7 36.Ng5 *(36.Qf6+ Kg8=)* 36...Qe8=]
35...Qd8

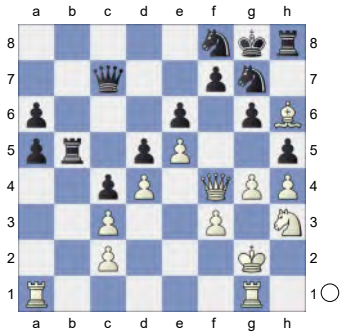


36.Bg5
[36.Bxg7 Kxg7 37.Rcb1 *(37.Ng5 Qe7∓)* 37...Rxb1 38.Rxb1 Qe7=]
36...Qc7 37.Kg3 0.42/21
[37.Qf6± 0.77/22]

37...Nh7 38.Bh6 Qd8 39.Rf1 Rb2 40.Qc1 Dancing on a razor blade.
40...Rb5

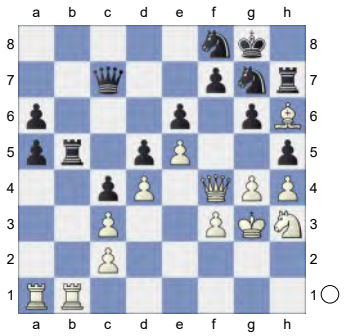


41.Re1 Active counter play! **41...Rb7 42.Qf4 Rb2 43.Reb1 Rb5** 0.58/20
[43...Rxc2? 44.Rb7 Qf8 45.Rxa5 hxg4 46.fxg4+-]
[Black should try 43...Qb6!∓ -0.34/19 44.Qc1 Rxb1 45.Rxb1 *(45.Qxb1 Qc7±)* 45...Qc7]
44.Kg2 Qc7 45.Rg1 Nf8

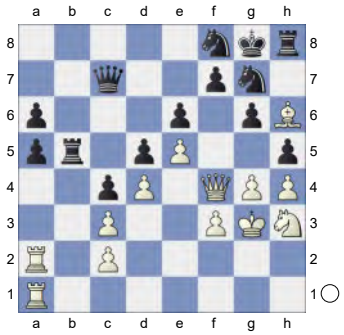


46.Ra2 Rh7 47.Re1 Rh8 48.Kg3 0.23/20
[48.Bxg7 Kxg7 49.Qf6+ Kg8=]
[48.Rea1± 0.64/21]
48...Nd7 0.69/21
[48...Qd8= 0.23/20]
49.Raa1 Nf8 50.Reb1 Rh7

(Diagram)



51.Rh1 Rh8 52.Rhe1 Rh7 53.Ra2 Rh8 54.Rf1 Rh7 55.Rfa1 Rh8



56.Kg2 Rh7 57.Kf2 Rh8 58.Ke3 0.01/20

[58.Kg1± 0.49/19]

58...Qb7 0.37/19

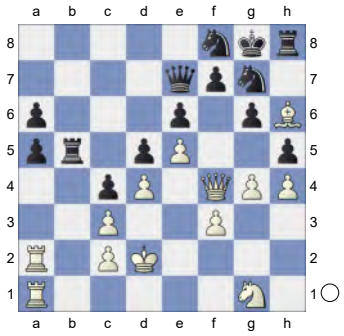
[58...Rh7= 0.01/20]

59.Kd2 Qc7 60.Ng1 -0.01/21

[60.Ke2± 0.42/19 is superior.]

60...Qe7 1.22/26

[60...hxg4= -0.01/21 remains equal. 61.fxg4 *(61.Bxg7 Kxg7 62.fxg4 Kg8±)* 61...Qd8]

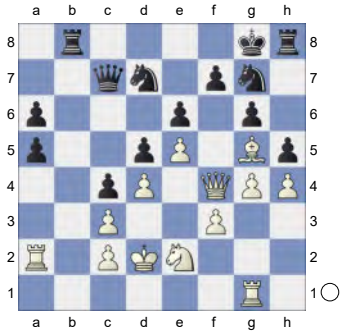


61.Bg5 Black is on the road to losing.

61...Qc7 62.Ne2 Nd7 63.Rg1 0.90/19

[Better is 63.Bh6 1.27/19]

63...Rb8



64.Bh6! Rh7 1.42/20

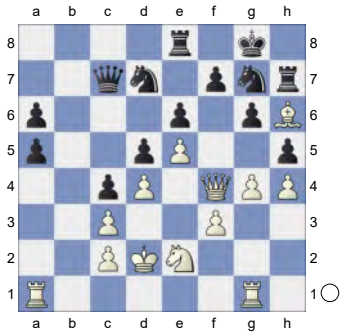
[⌓64...Qd8 0.96/20]

65.Raa1 1.06/18

[⌓65.Qg5 1.42/20]

65...Re8 1.79/21

[65...Qd8± 1.06/18]



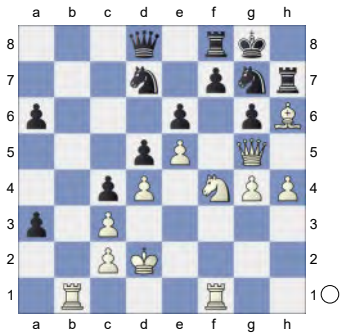
66.Qg5!+- Qd8 67.Nf4 hxg4 68.fxg4 Rf8 2.78/24

[⌓68...Qxg5 1.82/20 69.Bxg5 Ra8 70.Rxa5 Ne8]

69.Rab1 a4 70.Rgf1 Black must now prevent Rb7. **70...a3** 2.86/22

[70...f6 1.88/22 was necessary. 71.Qxg6 Qe8]

(Diagram)



71.Rb7 Hoping for Qxd8. **71...Qe8 72.h5 f6** 4.33/21

[⌓72...a2 2.98/21 73.hxg6 fxg6]

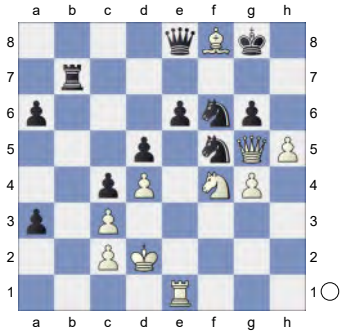
73.exf6 Nxf6 aiming for ...Ne4+. **74.Re1**

[Worse is 74.Rxg7+ Rxg7 75.Qe5 gxh5 76.Bxg7 Nxg4=]

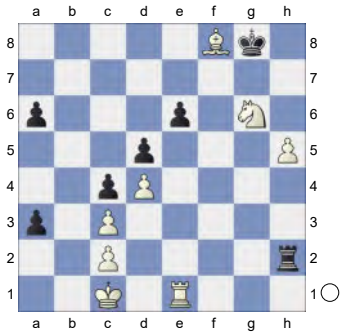
74...Nf5? 11.73/22

[74...Ngxh5 3.61/19 75.Nxh5 *(75.Nxg6 Rxb7 76.Bxf8 a2±)* 75...Rxb7 76.Nxf6+ Rxf6 77.Qxf6 a2 78.Rxe6 Qf7 79.Qxf7+ *(79.Qxg6+ Qxg6 80.Rxg6+ Kh7±)* 79...Kxf7 80.Rxa6 Rb2]

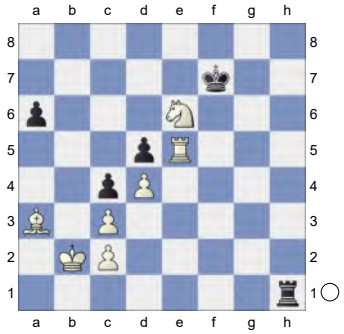
75.Bxf8 Rxb7



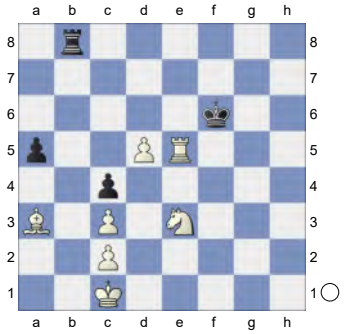
76.Qxf6 Qf7 77.Qxf7+ Rxf7 78.gxf5 Rxf5 79.Nxg6 Rf2+ 80.Kc1 Rh2



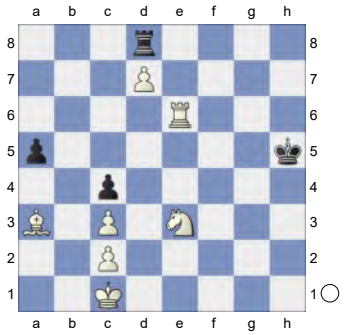
81.Bxa3 Rxh5 82.Nf4 Rf5 83.Nxe6 Rh5 84.Re5 Rh1+ 85.Kb2 Kf7



86.Nc7 Kg6 87.Nxd5 a5 88.Ne3 Rh8 89.d5 Rb8+ 90.Kc1 Kf6

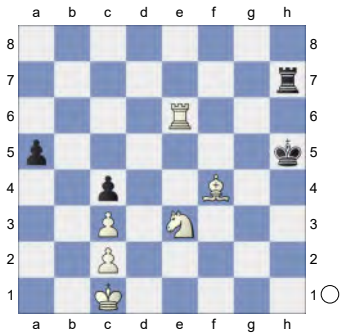


91.Re6+ Kf7 92.Re7+ Kf6 93.d6 Kg6 94.d7 Threatening mate with Re8. White is clearly winning. **94...Rd8 95.Re6+ Kh5**

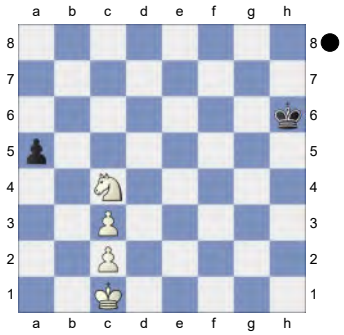


96.Bd6 Bf4 would kill now. **96...Rxd7 97.Bf4 Rh7**

(Diagram)



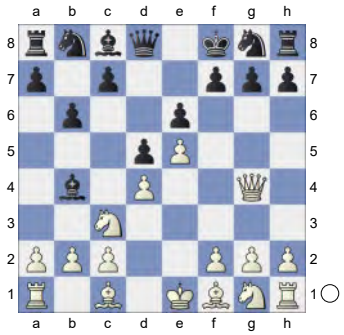
Against Rh6+ **98.Rh6+! Rxh6 99.Bxh6 Kxh6 100.Nxc4**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
1-0

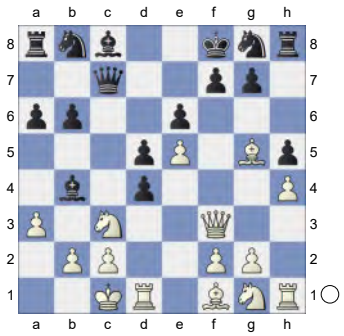
22 **C16**
□ **Seer** **3542**
■ **Ethereal** **3545**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (28.1) 05.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.Qg4 Kf8
[5...Bf8 6.Bb5+ *(6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Be3 Ne7 8.Qh5 Ng6 9.0-0-0 Ba6 10.Kb1 Bxf1 11.Rhxf1 Nc6 12.Nd2 Bb4 13.Ne2 Bxd2 14.Bxd2 0-0-0 15.f4 Nge7 16.Qxf7 h5 17.f5 Nxf5 18.Qxd7+ Kxd7 19.c3 Rdf8 20.g3 Nce7* Stukopin,A (2564)-Ruiz Castillo, J (2503) Dulles 2021 CBM 208 Extra [Stukopin,Andrey] ½-½ (35) *)* 6...c6 7.Ba4 Qd7 8.Nce2 Ba6 9.c3 Ne7 10.Ng3 Bb5 11.Bxb5 cxb5 12.N1e2 Nbc6 13.0-0 b4 14.cxb4 Nxb4 15.Bd2 Nbc6 16.Rac1 g6 17.Bg5 Nf5 18.Bf6 h5 19.Qf3 Ng7 20.Rfd1 Ter Sahakyan,S (2574)-Lenderman,A (2637) chess.com INT 2019 [John Watson] ½-½ (52)]

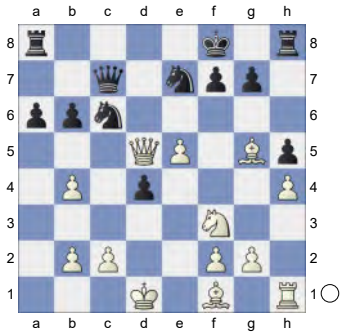


6.h4N
[6.Nh3 c5 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Qc7 9.Bd2 Ba6 10.Bd3 Bxd3 11.cxd3 c4 12.Nf4 Qc6 13.0-0 g6 14.dxc4 Qxc4 15.Rae1 Nc6 16.Re3 Nce7 17.Nxe6+ fxe6 18.Qxe6 Nf5 19.Rf3 Re8 20.Rxf5+ gxf5 Rosito,J-Yu,M chess.com INT 1973 Telechess CBM 89 [CCYB 11\242] 1-0 21.Qxf5+ Kg7 22.e6 Qc7 23.Qg5+ Kf8 24.Qf5+ Kg7 25.Bf4 Qe7 26.Be5+ Kh6 27.g4 ½-½ (27) Faibisovich,V (2415)-Mitkov,N (2490) Groningen 1991 CI1-130 [Faibisovich,V]]
6...h5 7.Qf3 c5 8.Bg5 White is slightly better. **8...Qc7 9.0-0-0 a6** Prevents Nb5. **10.a3**
[10.Nce2 seems wilder. Nc6 11.Qf4 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Rxd4 a5 14.Kb1]
10...cxd4

(Diagram)



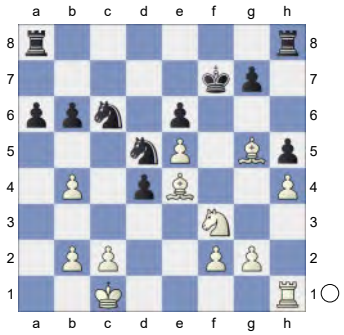
11.Nxd5 exd5 12.axb4 Bg4 13.Qxd5 &Bianco is more active. **13...Bxd1 14.Kxd1 Nc6 15.Nf3! Nge7**



16.Qc4 Qd7 17.Bd3 Qe6 18.Qxe6 fxe6 19.Be4 This bishop pair is nice. **19...Nd5 20.Kc1** 0.85/23

[⌓20.Rh3 1.23/20]

20...Kf7±



21.Rd1 Rac8 22.Nxd4 Strongly threatening Nf5! **22...Ncxb4 23.Kb1 b5** 1.24/22

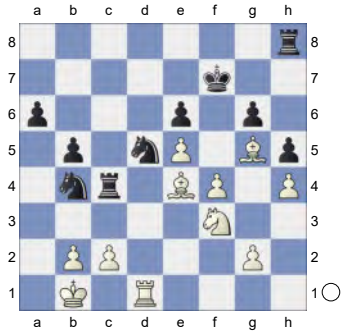
[23...Nc6? 24.Nxe6! Kxe6 25.Bxd5+ *(25.Rxd5 Ne7±)* 25...Kxe5 26.Bf7+-]

[⌓23...Rc5 0.78/19]

24.f4 White has strong compensation. **24...g6** Inhibits f5. **25.Nf3** 0.32/22

[25.Rd2± 1.00/22]

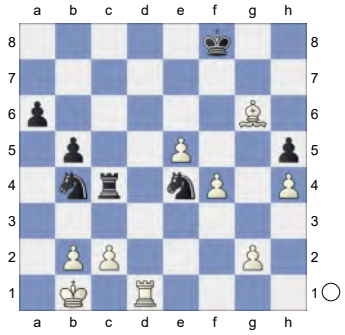
25...Rc4±



26.Bf6! Rf8!

[26...Nxf6? 27.Ng5+ Ke8 28.exf6 Rxe4 29.Nxe4+-]

27.Ng5+ Kg8 28.Bxg6 Chess con chili. **28...Nxf6 29.Nxe6 Ne4 30.Nxf8 Kxf8**



31.Rd7

[31.Bxh5? Rxc2 32.Ka1 *(32.Bg6? Nd2+ 33.Ka1 Nb3+ 34.Kb1 Rxg2-+)* 32...Nd2-+]

31...Nc5 32.Rf7+ Kg8 33.c3

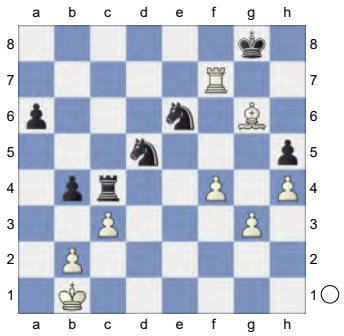
[33.Bxh5?! Re4 34.Kc1 Nd5=]

33...Nd5 34.g3 Ra7 is the strong threat. **34...b4** White is clearly better. **35.e6!** Deflection

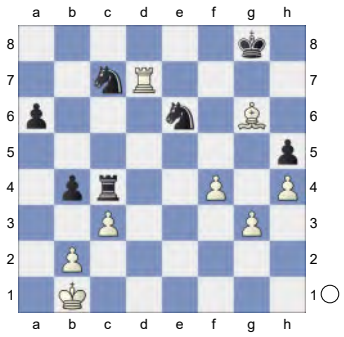
[35.Bxh5 bxc3 36.bxc3 Nxc3+ 37.Kb2 Nd1+! 38.Kb1 Nc3+ 39.Kb2 Nd5-+]

35...Nxe6

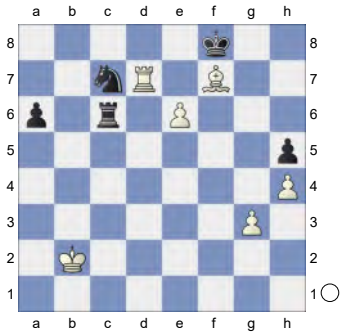
(Diagram)



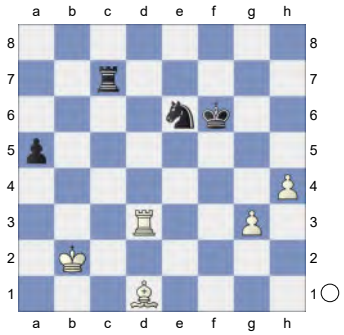
36.Rd7 And now Bf7+ would win.
36...Ndc7
[36...Nxc3+? 37.bxc3 Kh8 38.Rh7+ *(38.Bxh5 Rxc3 39.f5 Nc5±)* 38...Kg8 39.Ra7+- *(39.Rxh5 Rxc3 40.Be4 Nc5±)*]



37.Bf7+!
[Stronger than 37.Bxh5 bxc3 38.Bf7+ Kf8=]
37...Kf8 38.f5 Threatens to win with cxb4. **38...bxc3** White must now prevent ...Nc5! **39.fxe6 cxb2 40.Kxb2+-** Endgame KRB-KRN **40...Rc6**



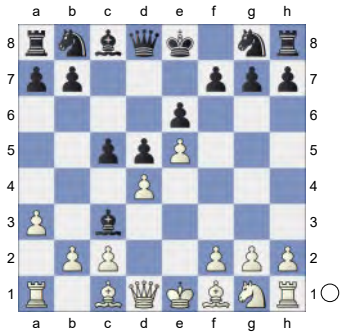
41.Bxh5 e7+ would kill now. **41...Nxe6 42.Be2 a5 43.Bd1 Rc7** 2.04/21
[43...Rb6+± 1.44/19 44.Ka3 Nc5 45.Rd8+ Ke7]
44.Rd6 Ke7 2.06/20
[44...Nc5± 1.49/18 45.Rd4 Kg7]
45.Rd3 Kf6



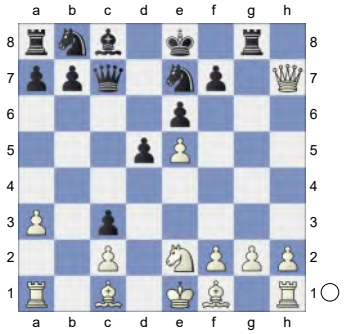
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

23 **C18**
□ **ArasanX** **3040**
■ **pawn_git** **2848**
Rapid 30.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

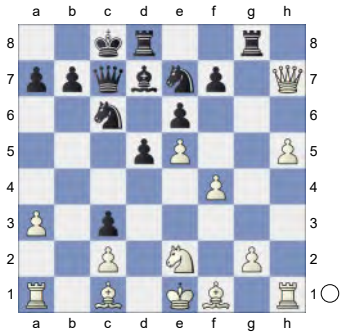
Blitz 10min+3sec
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
A41: 1 d4 d6: Tartakower System and Modern Defence **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 dxc3
(Diagram)



11.h4 Nbc6 12.f4! Bd7 13.h5 White is slightly better. **13...0-0-0**

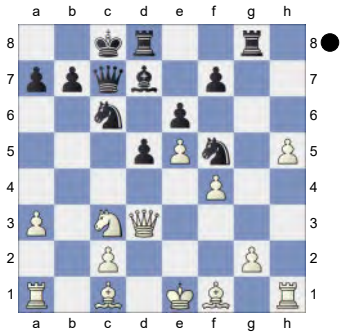


...Nf5 is the strong threat. **14.Qd3**

[14.Qxf7? Rdf8 15.Qh7 Nf5-+]

14...Nf5 15.Qxc3

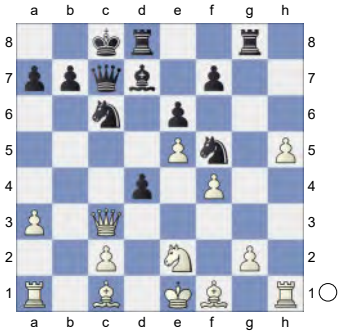
[15.Nxc3?



Nxe5! 16.fxe5 Qxe5+ 17.Kf2 *(17.Kd1? Rg3-+)* 17...Rg3-+]

15...d4

(Diagram)



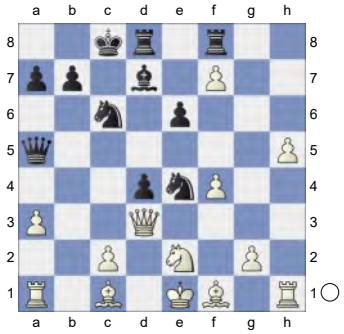
16.Qc4 f6 17.exf6 Nd6 18.Qb3 Ne4 19.f7 Rgf8 20.Qd3 0.01/16

[20.Qf3± 0.84/18 Qa5+ 21.Kd1]

20...Qa5+N

[20...Nc5 21.Qc4 Ne4 22.Rb1 Rxf7 23.h6 Qa5+ 24.Rb4 Nd6 25.Qb3 Re7 26.Bd2 Qc5 27.g4 a5 28.Ra4 e5 29.f5 Rh8 30.Rh3 Be8 31.Bg2 Bf7 32.Qb1 Bd5 33.Bxd5 Qxd5 34.Qb3 Qg2 35.Qg3 Beer,M-Arquint, A Lugano 1986 [ChessCalisthenics] 1-0 (57) Qe4 36.Kd1 Rd7 37.Nc3 dxc3 38.Rxe4 Nxe4 39.Qe3 Rxd2+ 40.Ke1 Nf6 41.g5 Nd5 42.Qc5 Nf4 43.Rxc3 Rhd8 44.Qc4 Ng2+ 45.Kf1 Nf4 46.Rd3 Nxd3 47.cxd3 R8xd3 48.Qxd3 Rxd3 49.g6 Rf3+ 50.Ke1 Beecham,R (2498)-Liebert,E (2456) ICCF 2012 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Beecham,Richard] 1-0 (57) Rh3 51.g7 Rxh6 52.g8Q+ Nd8 53.Qf8 Rh7 54.Qc5+ Rc7 55.Qxa5 Nf7 56.Kf2 Kd7 57.Qd5+ 1-0 (57) Beecham,C (2498)-Liebert,E (2456) ICCF 2012 OM Corr 202003 [Beecham,Richard]]

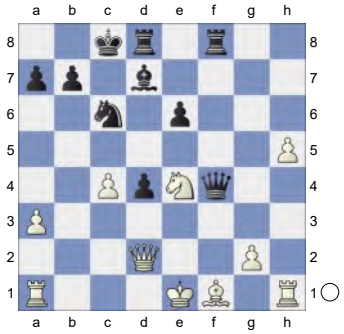
(Diagram)



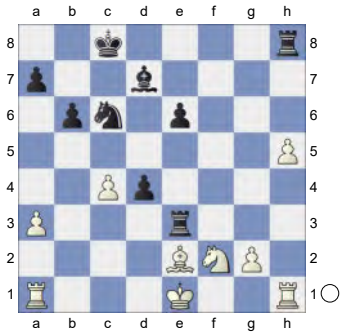
21.Bd2

[21.c3 Nc5 22.Qc4 e5-+]

21...Nxd2 22.Qxd2 Qd5 23.c4 Qf5 24.Ng3 Qxf7 25.Ne4 And now Nd6+ would win. **25...Qxf4**



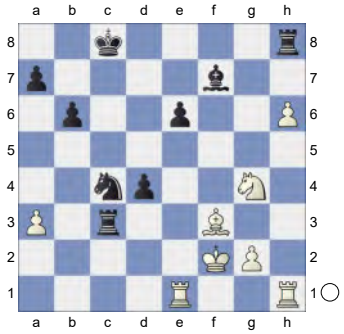
26.Qxf4 Rxf4 27.Nc5 Rh8 28.Be2 b6 29.Nd3 Re4 30.Nf2 Re3



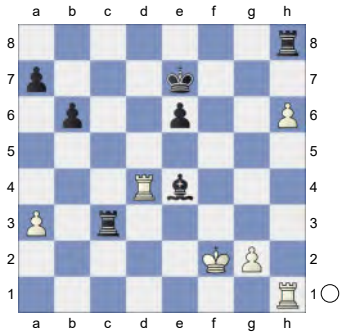
31.Ng4 Rc3 32.h6 Be8 The position is equal. **33.Bf3 Na5 34.Kf2 Nxc4 35.Rae1! Bf7**

[Don't take 35...Rxa3 36.Rxe6 d3 37.h7± *(37.Rc1 b5=)*]

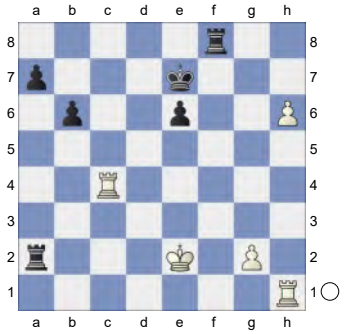
(Diagram)



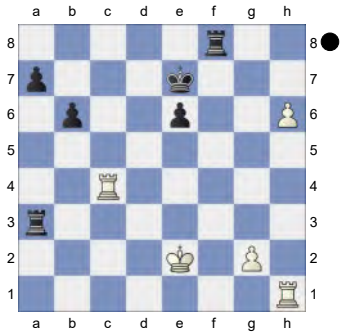
36.Ne5 Nxe5 37.Rxe5 Kd7 38.Re4 Ke7 39.Rxd4 Bg6 40.Be4 Bxe4



41.Rxe4 Rxa3 Endgame KRR-KRR **42.Rc4 Rf8+ 43.Ke2 Ra2+ 44.Ke3 Ra3+ 45.Ke2 Ra2+**



46.Ke3 Ra3+ 47.Ke2

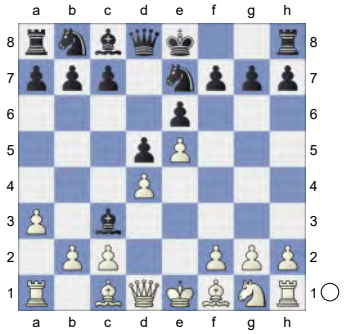


Weighted Error Value: White=0.06

(flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
½-½

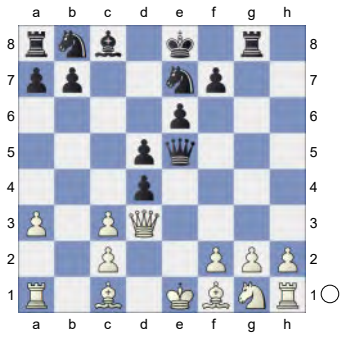
24 **C18**
□ **botswana-compute** **2986**
■ **pawn_git** **2717**
Blitz 29.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



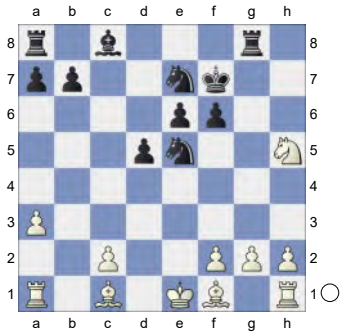
6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Qd3 Qxe5+

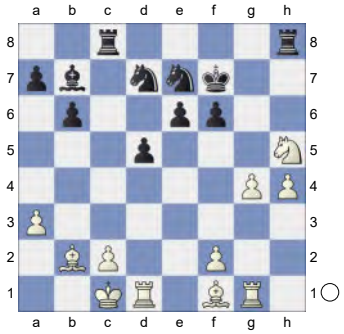


11.Ne2!
[Of course not 11.Qe2 Qc7 12.Qd3 Qxc3+ 13.Qxc3 dxc3∓]

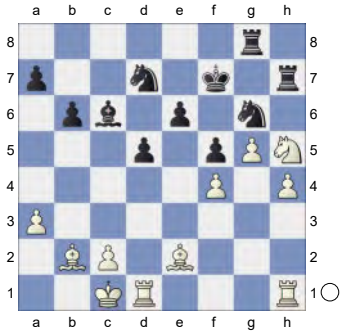
11...dxc3 12.Qxc3 White is slightly better. **12...Nbc6 13.Qxe5 Nxe5 14.Ng3 f6 15.Nh5 Kf7**



16.Bb2! Nd7 17.0-0-0 b6 18.Rg1! Bb7 19.g4 Rac8 20.h4 Rh8

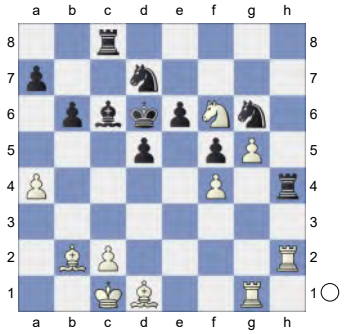


21.f4 Bc6 22.Ba6 Rcg8 23.Be2 This bishop pair is nice. **23...Rh7** 0.79/20
[23...Ba4± 0.40/20]
24.g5 f5 25.Rh1 &Bianco is much more active. **25...Ng6**

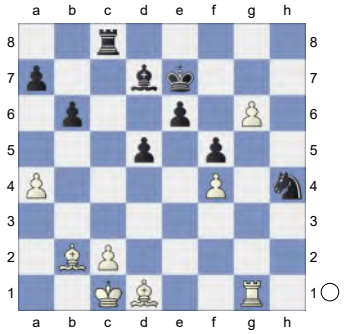


26.Rh2 0.32/18
[26.Rd2 0.65/19 deserves consideration.]
26...Ke7 0.88/19
[Black should try 26...a6± 0.32/18]
27.Rg1 Rf8 1.16/20
[27...Rc8± 0.64/18]
28.Bd1!± Kd6 1.47/19
[Black should play 28...Rc8 0.95/20]
29.a4 aiming for Nf6. **29...Rc8** 2.33/20
[29...Bxa4? 30.Nf6 Rxh4 31.Rxh4 Nxh4 32.g6! Nxg6 33.Rxg6+-]
[29...Ke7± 1.07/19]
30.Nf6!+- Rxh4

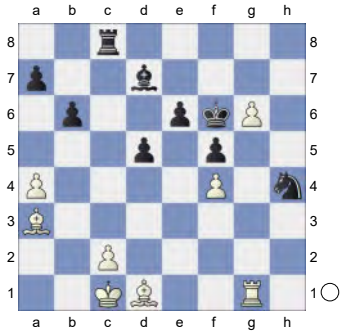
(Diagram)



31.Rxh4 Nxh4 32.g6 Ke7 33.Nxd7 Bxd7 34.Ba3+ Kf6 35.Bb2+? -0.01/19
[Better is 35.g7!+- 2.24/24 White wants to mate with Bf8. Rg8 36.a5]
35...Ke7=

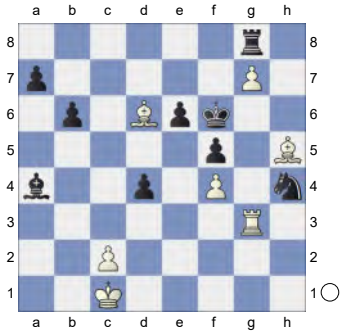


36.Ba3+? -0.01/19
[36.g7!+- 1.95/22 Rg8 37.Rh1]
36...Kf6

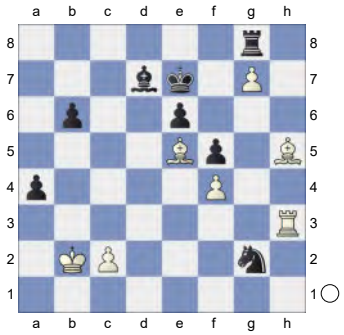


37.g7 White has strong compensation.
37...Rg8 38.Bh5 d4 39.Bd6 Bc6 40.Rg3 Against Bf3 **40...Bxa4**

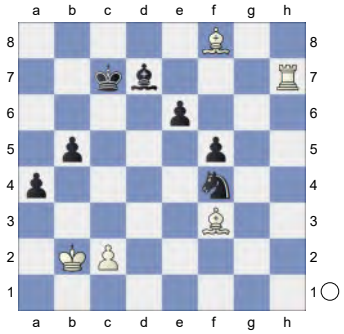
(Diagram)



41.Be5+ Ke7 42.Bxd4 Bd7 43.Be5 a5 44.Kb2 a4 45.Rh3 Ng2

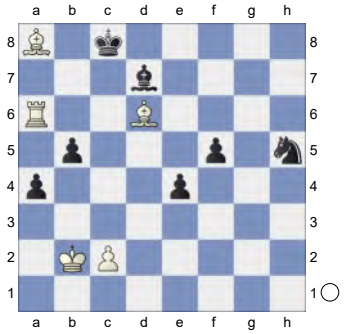


46.Bf3 Nxf4 47.Rh8 Rxg7 48.Bxg7 b5 49.Rh7 Kd6 Inhibits Be5+. **50.Bf8+ Kc7**

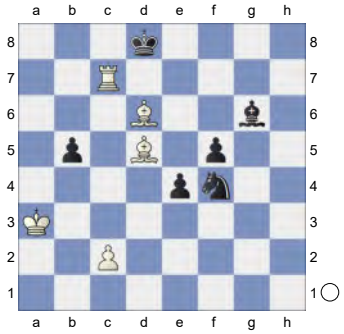


51.Bb4 e5 52.Ba8 e4 53.Rh6 Strongly threatening Bd6+. **53...Kb8 54.Ra6 Kc8 55.Bd6 Nh5**

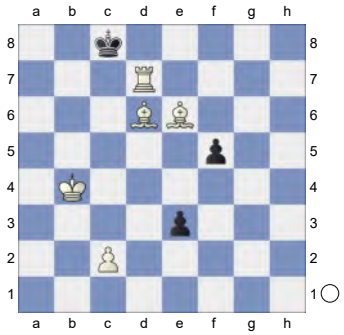
(Diagram)



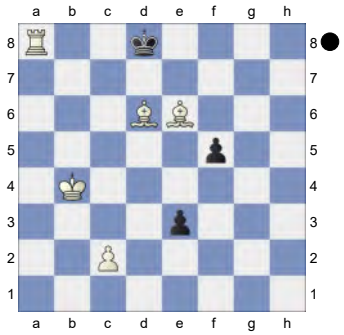
56.Ra7 White threatens Bb7+ and mate. **56...a3+ 57.Kxa3 Be8 58.Rh7** Bb7+ would kill now. **58...Bg6 59.Rc7+ Kd8 60.Bd5 Nf4**



61.Bxf4 e3 62.Be6 Be8 63.Bd6 b4+ 64.Kxb4 Bd7 65.Rxd7+ Kc8



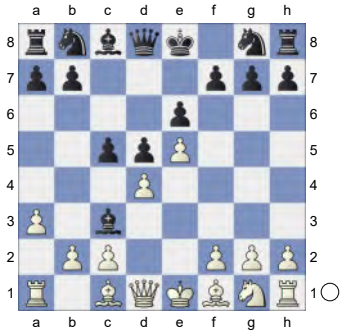
66.Ra7+ Kd8 67.Ra8#



Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.27 (precise)
1-0

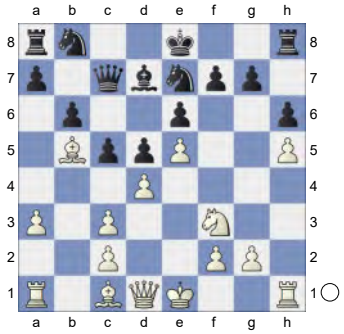
25 **C18**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
■ **Rapport,Richard** **2740**
World Blitz 2022 (14.1) 30.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

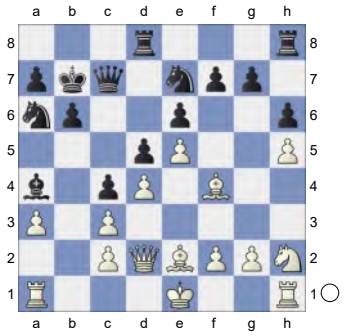


6.bxc3 Qc7 7.h4 Ne7 8.h5 h6 9.Nf3 b6
[9...Qa5 10.Bd2 Nbc6 11.Bd3 c4 12.Be2 Qa4 13.Nh2 Bd7 14.Ng4 0-0-0 15.0-0 Rdg8 16.Bf4 Nf5 17.Qd2 Nce7 18.Rfb1 g5 19.Bh2 Rd8 20.Nf6 Ng8 21.Rb4 Qa6 22.Rab1 Bc6 23.a4 Ng7 24.Qe3 Hansen,E (2610)-Sherman,R (2358) chess.com INT 2024 [John Watson] 1-0 (66)]
10.Bb5+ Bd7

(Diagram)

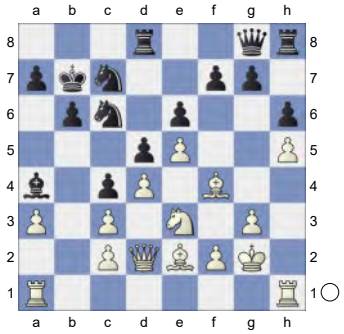


11.Bd3 c4N 0.67/19
[⌓11...Bc8 0.34/18]
[11...Ba4 12.0-0 Nd7
A) 13.Re1 a6 *(13...Qc6 14.Rb1 a6 15.Nd2 cxd4 16.cxd4 Bb5 17.Rxb5 axb5 18.Qe2* C 19/06 *)* 14.Nh4 Bb5 15.Qg4 Bxd3 16.cxd3 Rg8 17.Qe2 c4 18.a4 Rc8 19.Ba3 cxd3 20.Qxd3 Qc4 C 19/06;
B) 13.Be3 c4 14.Be2 0-0-0 15.Qd2 Rdf8 16.Bf4 Qd8 17.Rac1 f6 18.Nh4 fxe5 19.dxe5 Nc5 20.Bg4 Kb7 21.g3 Be8 22.Be3 Ne4 23.Qe1 g5 24.hxg6 Nxg6 25.Nxg6 Bxg6 26.Bxe6 Khasanov,T (2567)-Kolmakov,P (2519) Naestved 2000 200 Traps In The Opening [FS 494] 0-1 (44)]
12.Be2± Ba4 13.Bf4 Na6 White is slightly better. **14.Qd2 0-0-0 15.Nh2 Kb7**



16.Nf1 Qd7 17.Ne3 Nc7 18.Kf1 Nc6 19.g3 0.35/18
[⌓19.Kg1 0.66/17]

19...Qe8 20.Kg2 Qg8



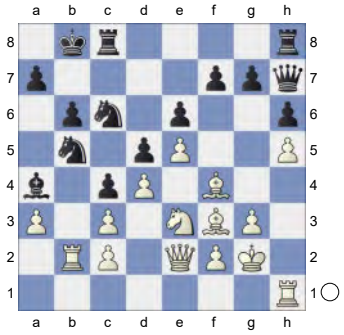
21.Rab1 Qh7 22.Bf3 Kb8 23.Qe2 0.01/22

[23.g4± 0.62/16]

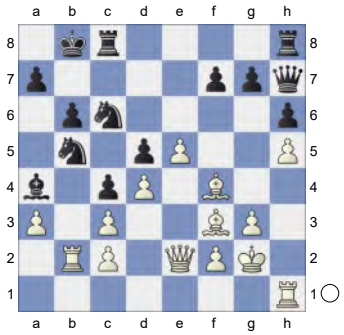
23...Rc8 0.48/18

[23...Nb5= 0.01/22 24.Qd2 Rc8]

24.Rb2 Nb5



25.Nxd5 exd5



26.e6+? -1.83/21

[26.Rxb5!± 0.70/18 Bxb5 27.Bxd5]

26...Kb7-+ 27.exf7 -2.56/20

[27.Bxd5? Nxc3 28.Qxc4 Nxd5 29.Qxd5 Rhd8-+]

[⌓27.Rxb5 -1.79/19 Bxb5 28.Rb1]

27...Qf5

[27...Nxc3? 28.Qe3 Ne4 29.Bg4-+]

28.Rb4? -4.59/22

[28.Qd2 -2.62/18]

28...Nxb4 29.Qe7+ Ka6? -1.48/20

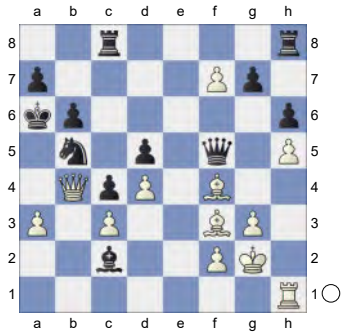
[29...Nc7-+ -4.38/21 has better winning chances. 30.axb4 Rhf8]

30.Qxb4 -2.31/21

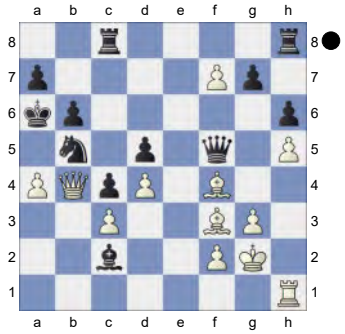
[30.axb4∓ -1.48/20 might work better. Rhf8 31.Ra1 Nxc3 32.Qe1]

30...Bxc2

[30...Qxc2 31.Bd1 Qxc3 32.Qxa4+ Qa5 33.Qc2±]



aiming for ...Nc7. **31.a4**



Nc7 -0.93/23

[31...Nxc3!-+ -2.29/24 and Black stays clearly on top. 32.Qxc3 Be4 33.Bxe4 Qxe4+ 34.f3 Qe2+ 35.Kh3 Qe6+ 36.Kg2 Rhf8]

32.Bxc7∓ This bishop pair is nice.

32...Be4! 33.Bf4! Strongly threatening Re1.

[Reject 33.Bxe4 Qxe4+ 34.Kg1 *(34.Kh2 Qf3-+)* 34...Qe1+ 35.Kg2 Qe4+ 36.Kg1 *(36.Kh2 Qf3∓)* 36...Rhf8∓]

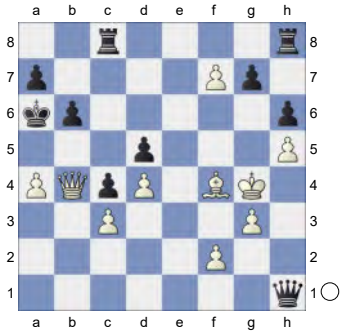
33...Bxf3+

[Much worse is 33...Qxf7 34.Bxe4 dxe4 35.Qb5+ Kb7 36.a5=]

34.Kxf3 Re1 is the strong threat.

34...Qe4+→ Black wants a kill. **35.Kg4 Qxh1** -0.01/23

[Better is 35...Qe6+!∓ -0.56/21 36.Kh4 Kb7]



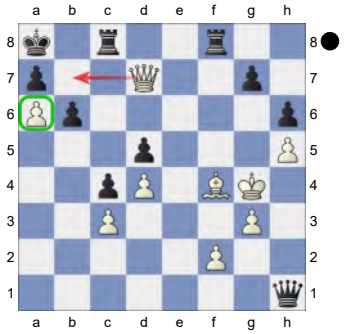
36.Qb5+!= Kb7 37.a5 White wants to mate with a6+. Really sharp! **37...Rhd8?** 14.53/26

[37...g6= -0.01/24 38.hxg6 Qe4 39.Qd7+ Ka6]

38.a6+!+- Ka8 39.f8Q?? -8.07/36 Active counter play!

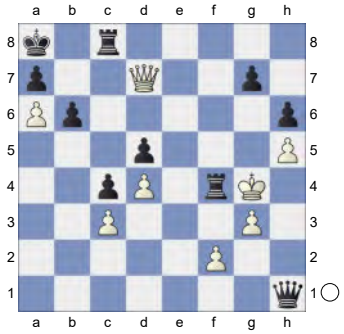
[39.f3+- 14.36/23 g6 40.hxg6 h5+ 41.Kf5]

39...Rxf8-+ 40.Qd7

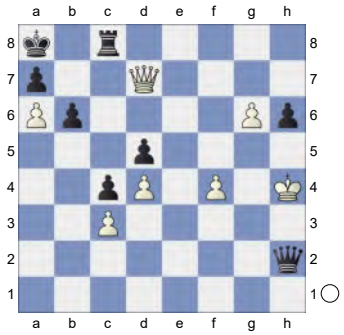


Rxf4+!

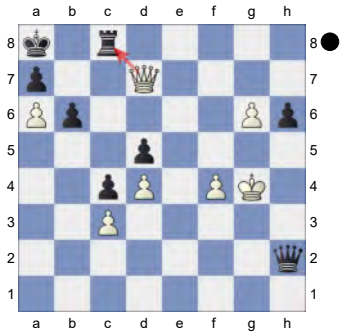
(Diagram)



41.gxf4 Qg2+ 42.Kh4 Qxf2+ 43.Kg4 Qg2+ 44.Kh4 g5+ 45.hxg6 Qh2+



46.Kg4

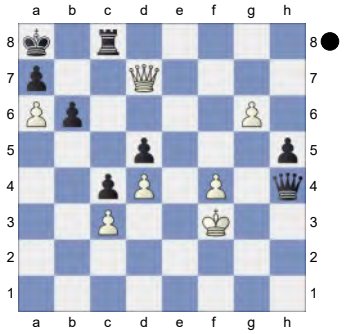


h5+! 47.Kf3 Qh1+ 48.Kf2 -18.39/31

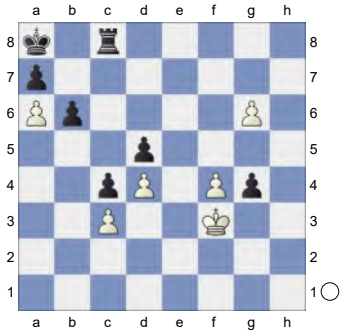
[⌓48.Ke2 -4.43/25 Qg2+ 49.Ke1 Qg3+ 50.Kd2 Qxf4+ 51.Kc2 Qf2+ 52.Kc1 Qe3+ 53.Kc2 Qd3+ 54.Kb2 Qd2+ 55.Kb1 Qd1+ 56.Kb2 Qb3+ 57.Ka1 Qxc3+ 58.Ka2 Qd2+ 59.Kb1 Qe1+ 60.Kc2 Qf2+ 61.Kb1 Qg1+ 62.Ka2 Qh2+ 63.Ka1]

48...Qh4+ 49.Kf3

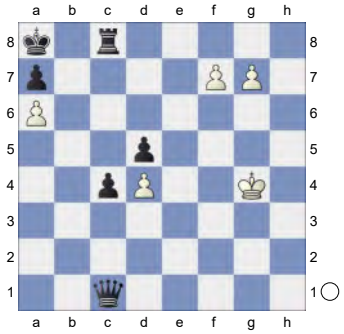
(Diagram)



Qg4+! 50.Qxg4 hxg4+



51.Kxg4 Endgame KR-KP **51...b5 52.f5 b4 53.f6 bxc3 54.f7 c2 55.g7 c1Q**

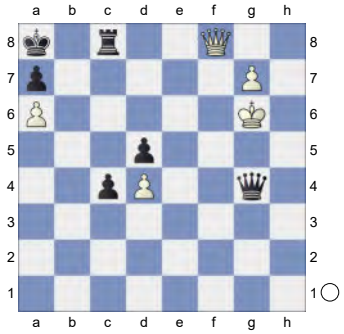


56.f8Q Qg1+ 57.Kh5 Qh2+ 58.Kg6 Qg3+ 59.Kh6 Qh4+ -11.90/5

[⌓59...Qh3+ -#19/23 60.Kg5 Qe6 61.Qb4 Qf7 62.Kh4 c3 63.Qd6 c2 64.g8B Qxg8 65.Qe7 Qd8 66.Qxd8 Rxd8 67.Kg4 c1Q 68.Kf3 Rf8+ 69.Ke2 Qc2+ 70.Ke1 Qb2 71.Kd1 Rf1#]

60.Kg6 Qg4+

(Diagram)



61.Kh6 c3 62.Qf7 Qh4+

[Not 62...Qh3+ 63.Kg5 Qe3+ 64.Kh5 Qh3+ 65.Kg5 Qe3+ 66.Kh5 Qh3+ 67.Kg5=]

63.Kg6 Qe4+ -18.94/24

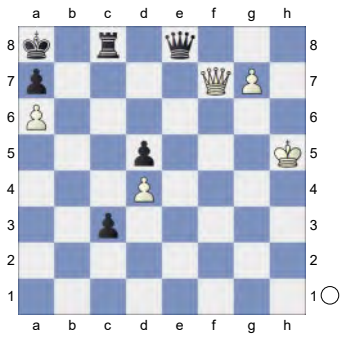
[⌓63...Rc6+ -#7/16 64.Kf5 Qf2+ 65.Kg5 Qxf7 66.g8Q+ Qxg8+ 67.Kf5 Qg6+ 68.Kf4 Rf6+ 69.Ke5 Qg5#]

64.Kg5 Qe3+? -0.01/26

[64...Rb8-+ -13.86/24 (-> ...Qe3+) 65.Qf6 Qe8]

65.Kh5= Qe8? 10.16/23

[65...Qe2+= -0.01/22 66.Kg5 Qe3+ 67.Kh5 Qe2+ 68.Kg5 Qxa6 69.Qxd5+ Qb7]

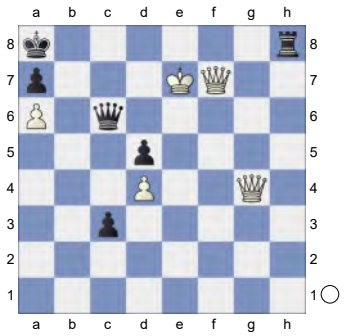


66.g8Q!+- Qe2+ 67.Qg4 Rh8+ 68.Kg5 Qe3+ 69.Kf6 Qh6+ 70.Ke7 10.02/23

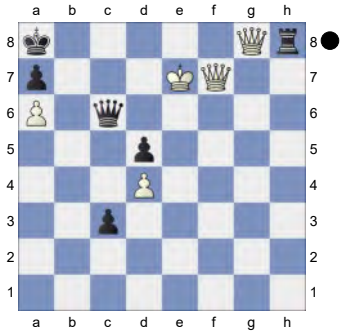
[⌓70.Qgg6 #8/19 Qf4+ 71.Kg7 Qxd4+ 72.Qff6 Rc8 73.Qxd4 Rc7+ 74.Kh6 Kb8 75.Qg8+ Rc8 76.Qf4+ Ka8 77.Qxc8#]

70...Qc6

(Diagram)



71.Qgg8+!

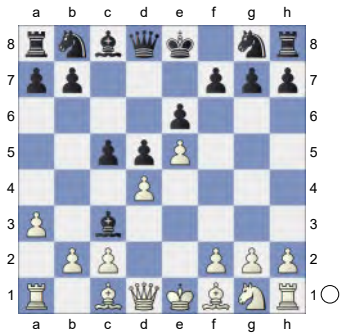


What a fight!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/ Black=0.22 (precise)
1-0

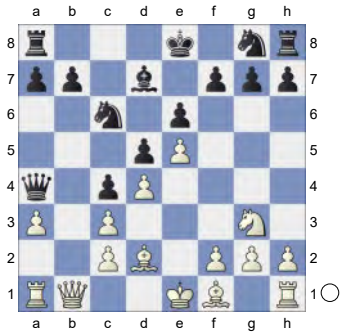
26 **C18**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2842**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2726**
PRO League Group Stage rapid (5)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)

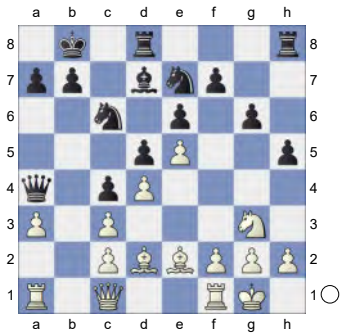


6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qb1 c4 9.Ne2 Nc6 10.Ng3 Bd7
[10...Nge7 11.Nh5 Rg8 12.g3 Bd7 13.Bh3 0-0-0 14.0-0 Rdf8 15.Re1 Kb8 16.Qb2 Nc8 17.Re3 Nb6 18.Rf1 Qa5 19.Qc1 Be8 20.Nf4 a6 21.Ng2 Na7 22.f4 Bd7 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Bxf5 25.Rxf5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 de 5.Ne5 (2514)-Rice,L (2511) Batumi 2001 CBM 018 [Pliester,L] 1-0 (50)]



11.Nh5N White is slightly better.
[11.Qxb7 Rb8 12.Qc7 Qxc2∓]
[11.Be2 0-0-0 12.0-0 Nge7 13.Nh5 Rhg8 14.g3 Rdf8 15.Bg4 b6 16.Nf4 Ng6 14. Winawer Shulman Mainline-5. a3 (7.Bd2 9.Ne2 10.Ng3)]
11...g6 12.Ng3
[12.Qxb7? Rb8 13.Qc7 *(13.Ng7+? Kd8-+)* 13...gxh5-+]
12...0-0-0 13.Be2 Nge7 0.71/19
[13...Rf8± 0.35/18]
14.Qc1± Kb8 15.0-0 h5

(Diagram)



16.h4 Nf5 17.Bg5 Rc8 18.Bf3 Qa5 0.96/18

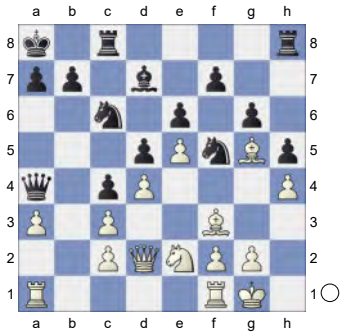
[18...a5!⩲ 0.50/20]

19.Ne2

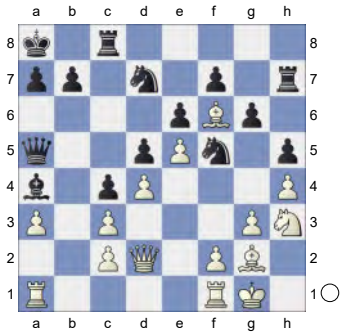
[19.Qb2 keeps more tension. Qa4 20.Bf6 Rh7 21.Ne2]

19...Qa4 20.Qd2 Ka8 0.95/19

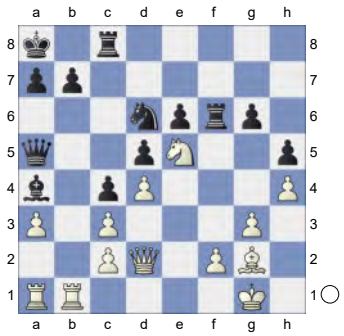
[20...a5!⩲ 0.52/20 deserves consideration.]



21.g3 Nb8 22.Bg2 Qa5 23.Bf6 Rh7 24.Nf4 Ba4 25.Nh3 And now Ng5 would win. **25...Nd7**



26.Ng5 Nxf6 27.exf6 Rhh8 28.Nxf7 Rhf8 29.Ne5 Threatens to win with f7. **29...Rxf6 30.Rfb1 Nd6**



31.Rb4 Qg5 is the strong threat. **31...Rcf8 32.f4 Rc8 33.Qc1 Rc7** 0.95/17

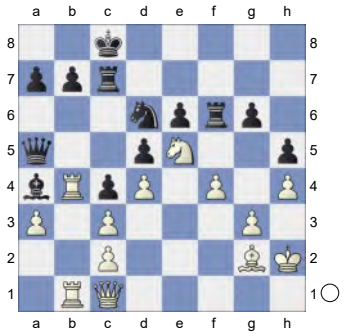
[33...a6⩲ 0.37/19]

34.Rab1 0.35/20

[34.Bf3⩲ 0.95/17]

34...Kb8 35.Kh2 Kc8 0.72/19

[35...a6⩲ 0.41/19]



36.Qd2 Kb8 37.Re1 Ka8 1.25/19

[37...a6⩲ 0.64/20]

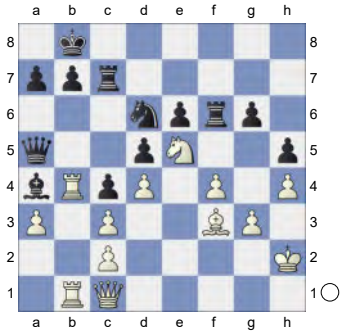
38.Bf3 0.35/20

[38.f5!⩲ 1.25/19 aiming for Qg5. gxf5 39.Qg5]

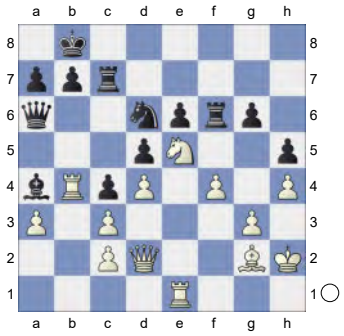
38...Kb8 39.Reb1 Ka8 40.Qc1 Kb8 0.01/20

[40...a6⩲ 0.37/20]

(Diagram)

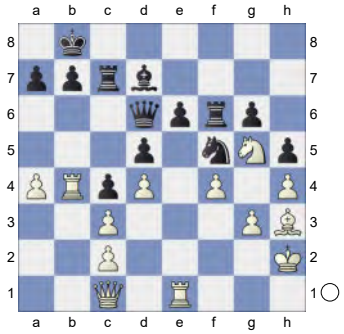


41.Qb2 0.39/19
[41.R1b2= 0.01/20]
41...Qa6 42.Re1 Ka8 43.Bg2 Kb8 44.Qc1 Ka8 45.Qd2 -0.01/18
[45.g4± 0.54/18]
45...Kb8 0.76/18
[45...Qa5!= -0.01/18 keeps the balance.]

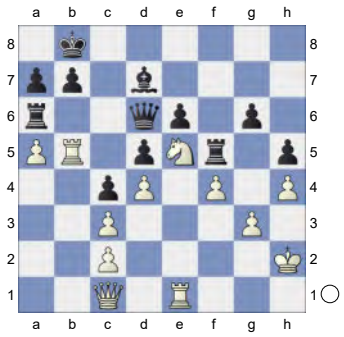


46.Qc1 0.01/19
[Better is 46.Nf3!± 0.76/18]
46...Ka8!= 47.Nf3 Bd7 48.Ng5 0.30/20
[48.Qb2± 0.66/19 should be considered.]
48...Kb8 0.74/20
[48...Nf5= 0.30/20]
49.a4± Nf5 50.Bh3 0.09/22
[50.Qd2± 0.83/20]
50...Qd6 0.62/21
[50...Bxa4= 0.09/22 51.Qa3 Bb5 52.Qxa6 bxa6]

(Diagram)

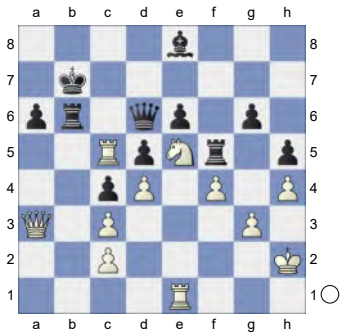


51.Bxf5 Rxf5 0.93/20
[51...a5± 0.60/21]
52.a5! Bc8 53.Nf3 Rc6 1.29/21
[⌓53...Bd7 0.93/18]
54.Ne5 Ra6 55.Rb5
[55.Nxg6 Rxa5 56.Rb1 *(56.Ne5 Qc7±)* 56...b6±]
55...Bd7

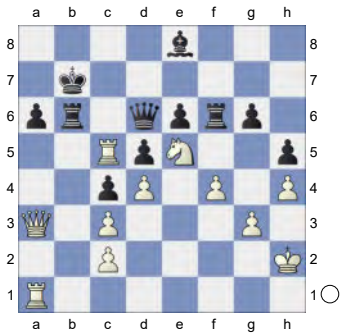


56.Rc5 b6 57.Qb2 Be8 1.28/23
[⌓57...Ka8 0.74/23]
58.Qb4 Hoping for Rc8+! **58...Kb7** Inhibits Rc8. **59.axb6** Intending Rc7+ and mate. **59...Rxb6 60.Qa3 a6** 1.87/24
[60...Rf8± 1.23/25 61.Kg2 *(61.Ra1 a6±)* 61...Rg8]

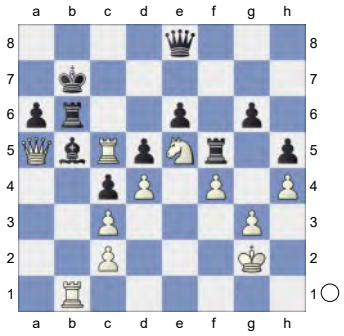
(Diagram)



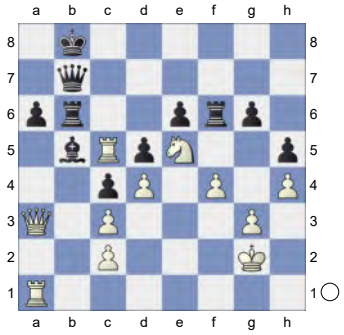
61.Ra1 0.91/22
[61.Rb1!!+- 1.87/24 has better winning chances.]
61...Rf6 1.98/25
[61...Rf8± 0.91/22 keeps fighting.]



62.Qa2 0.95/22
[62.Rb1!+- 1.98/25 and White stays clearly on top.]
62...Qd8 63.Rb1 Bb5 1.61/23
[63...Rxb1± 0.88/24 64.Qxb1+ Qb6]
64.Kg2 1.19/23
[64.Qa3+- 1.61/23]
64...Qe8 65.Qa5 Rf5

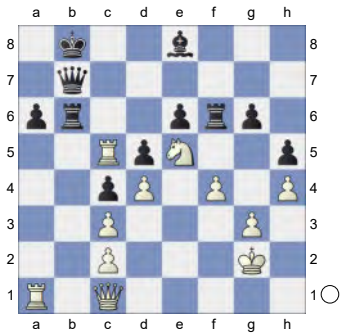


66.Qa3
[66.Rc6? Rxc6 67.Nxc6 Kxc6-+]
66...Rf6 2.01/22
[66...Rf8± 1.12/21 67.Rf1 *(67.Qa5 Rg8±)* 67...Rg8]
67.Re1
[67.Qa5 Rf8 68.Kh1 Rh8±]
67...Qd8 68.Nf3 Qd7 1.93/23
[68...Be8± 1.16/20 is a better defense. 69.Ne5 Rf8]
69.Ra1+- Black must now prevent Ne5.
[Don't do 69.Ne5 Qd6 70.Ra1 Be8]
69...Kb8? 4.75/24
[69...Rf5 2.02/23 was necessary. 70.Ne5 Qe8]
70.Ne5 Qb7 10.74/26
[⌓70...Qe8 4.44/24 71.Rxb5 *(71.Qa5 Kb7+-)* 71...Qxb5]

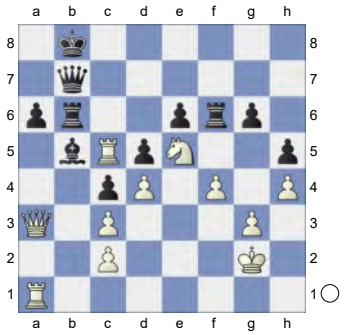


71.Qc1? 1.70/22
[71.Rxb5! 10.74/26 axb5 72.Qc5]
71...Ka7 72.Nf3 1.08/21
[White should play 72.Kf2 1.60/21]
72...Be8± 73.Qe3 Rf5 74.Ne5 Rf6 75.Qc1 0.01/18
[75.Qd2± 1.31/20]
75...Kb8? 2.09/22
[75...Bb5!= 0.01/18 and Black is okay.]

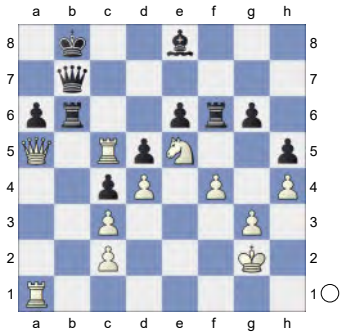
(Diagram)



76.Qa3? 0.01/22
[76.Rca5+- 2.09/22]
76...Bb5!=

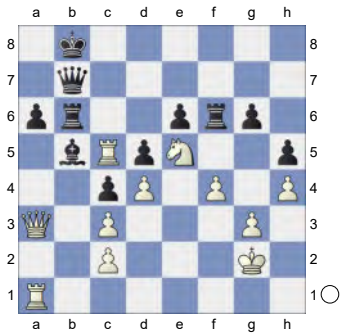


77.Qa5? 1.90/23
[77.Rxb5! 11.00/25 axb5 78.Qc5]
77...Be8? 7.70/22
[77...Ka7 1.90/23 78.Qa3 Bd7]

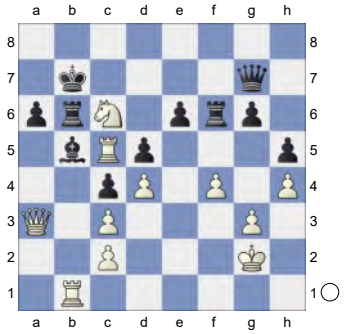


78.Qa3? 0.01/17
[78.Rb1!!+- 7.70/22 Rxb1 79.Qd8+ Ka7 80.Qxe8]
78...Bb5!

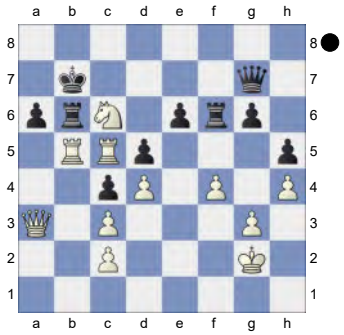
(Diagram)



79.Rb1? 2.49/23
[79.Rxb5! 10.81/26 axb5 80.Qc5]
79...Qg7? 16.59/26
[79...Rf7 2.49/23 80.Nxf7 Qxf7]
80.Nc6+ Kb7



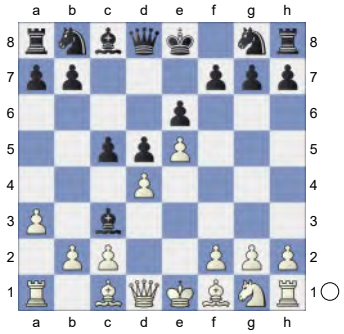
81.Rbxb5!



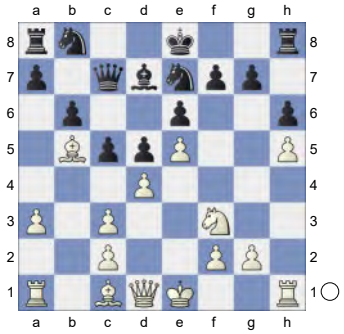
Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.16 (very precise) .
Loss on time!?
0-1

27 **C19**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2839**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2716**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.10)
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and a4 **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.h4 now supersedes 7. 0-0. löst 7.0-0 inzwischen ab. **7...Ne7 8.h5 h6 9.Nf3 b6 10.Bb5+N Bd7**



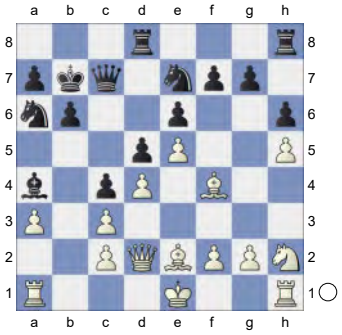
11.Bd3 Black is weak on the dark squares **11...c4 12.Be2 Ba4 13.Bf4N**

[13.Rh4 Na6 14.Rg4 Rg8 15.Bf4 0-0-0 16.Qd2 Qd7 17.Kf1 Nf5 18.Nh4 Ne7 19.Kg1 Qe8 20.Rg3 Qf8 21.Bg4 Rh8 22.Bh3 Qg8 23.Rf3 Qh7 24.Bg3 Rhf8 25.Rxf7 Kd7 26.Rxe7+ Kxe7 27.Ng6+ Kd7 1-0 Caruana,F (2835)-Dominguez Perez,L (2758) Clutch Chess Showdown Int rapid 2020 (1.4)]

13...Na6 White is slightly better. **14.Qd2**

[14.Kd2 is interesting. 0-0-0 15.g4 Kb7 16.Rh3]

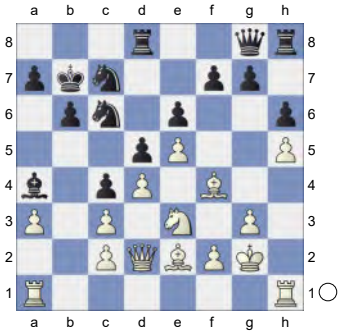
14...0-0-0 15.Nh2 Kb7



16.Nf1 Qd7 17.Ne3 Nc7 18.Kf1 -0.08/19

[18.Bf3 0.29/17 is more appropriate.]

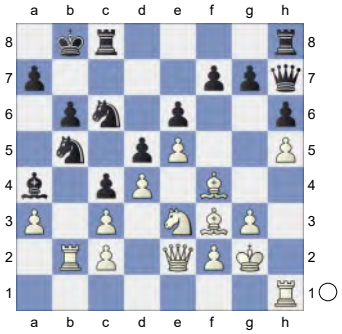
18...Nc6 19.g3 Qe8 20.Kg2 Qg8



21.Rab1 0.08/19

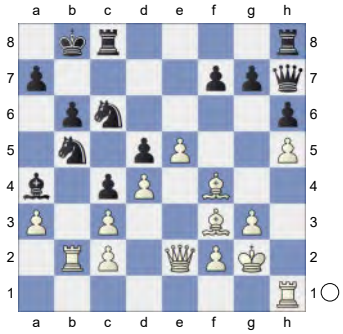
[21.g4± 0.59/19]

21...Qh7 22.Bf3 Kb8 23.Qe2 Rc8 24.Rb2 Nb5



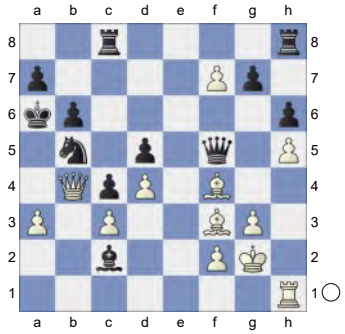
25.Nxd5 exd5

(Diagram)



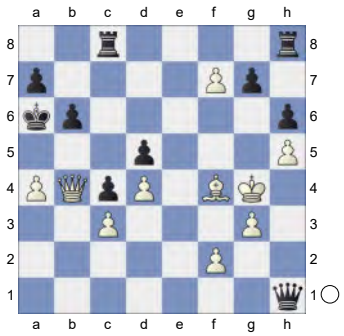
26.e6+? -2.45/21
[26.Rxb5!± 0.48/19 was forced to keep a grip. Bxb5 27.Bxd5]
26...Kb7 27.exf7 -3.12/20
[⌓27.Rxb5 -2.14/19 Bxb5-+ 28.Bxd5 *(28.exf7? Qf5-+; 28.a4? Bxa4 29.Ra1 Bxc2-+)*]
27...Qf5-+
[27...Nxc3 28.Qe6∓]
28.Rb4 Nxb4
[28...Qxf7 29.Rxa4 Nxc3]
29.Qe7+ Ka6? -0.85/21
[29...Nc7
A) 30.Qxb4 Bxc2 *(30...Qxc2? 31.Re1+-)* 31.Qxc4 Be4 *(31...Qxf7? 32.Qa2-+)*;
B) 30.axb4 Rhf8]
30.Qxb4 -2.25/21
[30.axb4∓ -0.85/21 Rh1-a1 is the strong threat. was forced. Nxc3? Hoping for ...Rh8-f8! 31.Ra1!-+ Black must now prevent Bf4-d2.
A) 31...Rhf8!∓ -0.63/20 32.Qe3 *(32.Qe1)* 32...Qxc2;
B) 31...Kb5 -0.09/19]
30...Bxc2
[30...Qxc2? 31.Bd1 Qxc3 32.Qxa4+ *(32.Bxa4 Qxb4 33.axb4 Rhf8∓)* 32...Qa5 33.Qc2+-]

(Diagram)



31.a4 Nc7 -0.84/17
[31...Nxc3!-+ -2.09/22 Threatens to win with ...Bc2-e4! and Black stays clearly on top.
A) ⌓32.a5 -1.99/19 Be4 *(32...bxa5 33.Qxc3 a4 34.Qb4+-)* 33.Qxc3 b5 *(33...bxa5? 34.Ra1+-; 33...Qxf7 34.axb6 axb6 35.Bxe4∓)* 34.Bxe4 dxe4;
B) 32.Qxc3 -3.08/20 32...Be4]
32.Bxc7∓ This pair of bishops is nice.
32...Be4! Chess con chili.
[32...Rxc7 33.Rh4 *(33.Qb5+ Kb7∓)* 33...Qd7 *(33...Rxf7? 34.Rf4+-)* 34.Rf4=]
33.Bf4 Bxf3+ Remove Defender
[33...Qxf7?! 34.Bxe4 dxe4 35.Qb5+ Kb7 36.a5=]
34.Kxf3 Qe4+ 35.Kg4∓ Qxh1 0.00/28
[Better is 35...Qe6+∓ -1.12/23 36.Kf3 Kb7! ...Qe6-e4+ would now be deadly. *(36...g5* 0.00/27 36...Ka6-b7 -1.18 *37.Re1!; 36...Qxf7?! 37.Qb5+ Kb7 38.a5∓)* 37.a5 g5! 38.hxg6 Qe4+ 39.Kg4 Qxg6+ 40.Kf3? -#4/13 *(40.Kh3∓* -1.22/17 *Qxf7 41.Qa4)* 40...Qe4+ 41.Kg4 Rcg8+ 42.fxg8Q Rxg8+]

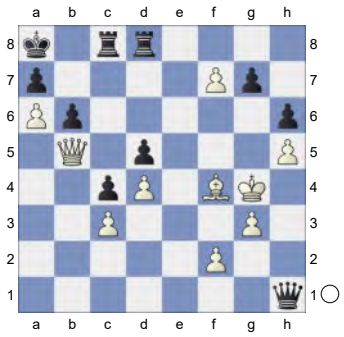
(Diagram)



36.Qb5+= Kb7 37.a5 Intending a5-a6+ and mate. **37...Rhd8?** 4.10/20

[37...g6!= 0.00/28 and Black stays safe. 38.hxg6 White threatens a5-a6+ and mate. Qe4! 39.Qd7+! Ka6 40.Kh5 *(40.Qf5!? h5+□ 41.Kg5 Qe7+ 42.Qf6=)*]

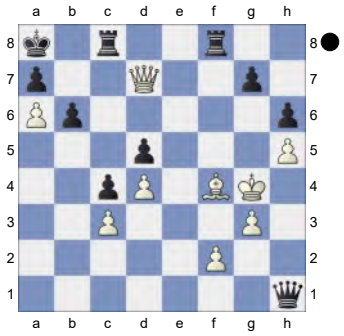
38.a6++- Ka8



39.f8Q?? -7.87/24

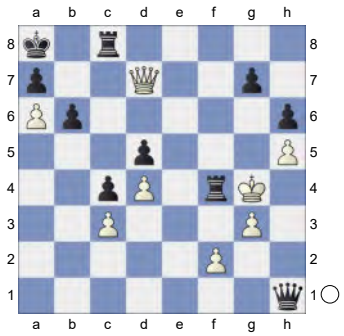
[39.f3 g6 40.hxg6 h5+ 41.Kf5 Qxf3 42.g7 Qe4+ 43.Kf6 h4 44.g8Q Rxg8 45.fxg8Q Rxg8 46.Qc6#]

39...Rxf8-+ 40.Qd7

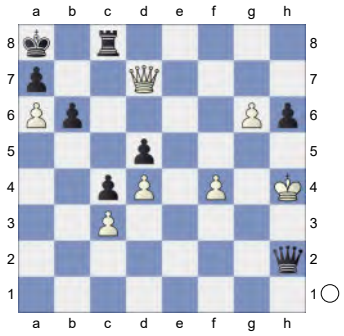


Against g7-g6 **40...Rxf4+!**

(Diagram)



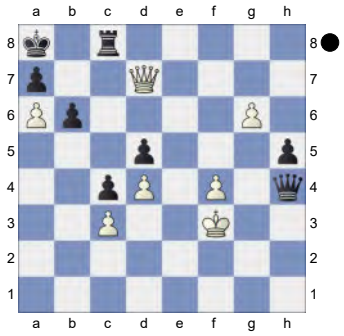
41.gxf4 Qg2+ 42.Kh4 Qxf2+ 43.Kg4 Qg2+ 44.Kh4 g5+! 45.hxg6 Qh2+



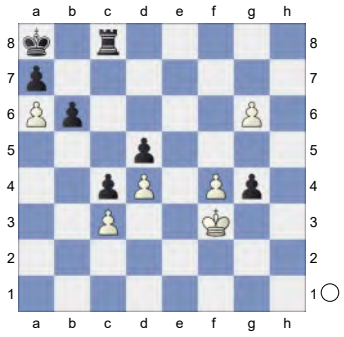
46.Kg4 h5+! 47.Kf3

[47.Kg5? -13.00/20 47.Kg4-f3 -3.03 Qg3+ 48.Kh6 Qxf4+ 49.Kh7 Rc7]

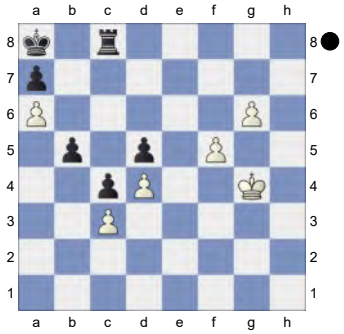
47...Qh1+ 48.Kf2 Qh4+ 49.Kf3



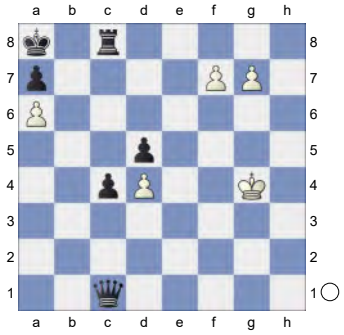
Qg4+! 50.Qxg4 hxg4+



51.Kxg4 Endgame. KR-KP **51...b5** And now ...b5-b4! would win. **52.f5**



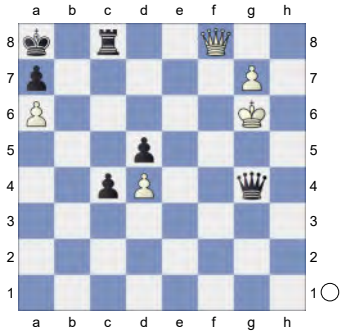
b4! 53.f6 bxc3 54.f7 c2 55.g7 c1Q
[55...c1B 56.f8Q *(56.g8B? c3-+)* 56...Kb8 57.Qd6+ *(57.g8R Rxf8 58.Rxf8+ Kc7±)* 57...Ka8 58.Qxd5+ Kb8 59.Qb7#]



56.f8Q -#37/32
[56.f8R-+ -4.33/12 Qg1+ 57.Kh5 Kb8 58.Kh6 Qg4 *(58...Qxd4? 59.Rxc8+ Kxc8 60.g8Q+ Kc7 61.Qh7+ Kb6 62.Qb7+ Ka5 63.Qe7-+; 58...c3 59.Kh7 c2 60.g8Q Qxg8+ 61.Rxg8 Rxg8 62.Kxg8 c1Q 63.Kh8 Qg5 64.Kh7 Kc7 65.Kh8 Kd7 66.Kh7 Ke8 67.Kh8 Kf8 68.Kh7 Qh5#)* 59.Kh7 Qh5+ *(59...Qxd4? 60.Rxc8+ Kxc8 61.g8Q+ Kc7 62.Qf7+ Kb6 63.Qb7+ Ka5 64.Qc7+ Kxa6 65.Qd6+ Kb5 66.Qd7+ Kb4 67.Qb7+ Ka3 68.Qa6+ Kb2 69.Qb5+ Kc1 70.Qb4-+)* 60.Kg8 Qf3 *(60...c3 61.Rxc8+ Kxc8 62.Kf8 Qf5+ 63.Ke7 Qh7 64.Ke6 c2 65.Kxd5 c1Q 66.g8Q+ Qxg8+ 67.Ke5 Qgg5+ 68.Kd6 Qf6+* Skewer, Double Attack *69.Kd5 Qcc6#)* 61.Kh7 Rxf8 62.gxf8N Qxf8 *(62...Qf7+ 63.Kh6 Qxf8+ 64.Kh5 c3 65.Kh4 c2 66.Kh3 c1Q 67.Kg4 Qg1+ 68.Kh5 Qh8#)* 63.Kg6 c3 64.Kh7 c2 65.Kg6 c1Q *(65...c1R 66.Kh7 Rh1+ 67.Kg6 Rg1+ 68.Kh7 Qg7#)* 66.Kh5 Qfh6+ 67.Kg4 Qcf4#]

56...Qg1+ -26.95/26
[⌓56...Qd1+ -#37/32 57.Kg5 Qd2+ 58.Kh5 Qe2+ 59.Kg5 Qe3+ 60.Kh5 Qe6 61.Kg5 c3 *(61...Qxa6 62.g8Q∓)* 62.Qb4 Qd7 *(62...Qxa6 63.Qxc3 Qb7 64.Qd3 Qxg7+ 65.Qg6 Qxg6+ 66.Kxg6 a5 67.Kf6 a4 68.Ke6 a3 69.Kxd5 a2 70.Ke4 a1Q 71.Kf5 Qxd4 72.Ke6 Rc6+ 73.Ke7 Qe4+ 74.Kd8 Rd6+ 75.Kc8 Qc6#; 62...Qe3+ 63.Kf5 Qf3+ 64.Ke6 Qe4+ 65.Kd6 Qg6+* Skewer, Double Attack *66.Ke5 Qxg7+ 67.Kxd5 c2 68.Qe7 Qg2+ 69.Ke5 c1Q 70.Qb7+ Qxb7 71.axb7+ Kxb7 72.Ke4 Re8+ 73.Kf5 Qf1+ 74.Kg6 Rg8+ 75.Kh7 Qf7+ 76.Kh6 Qg6#)* 63.Qb7+ Qxb7 64.axb7+ Kxb7 65.Kh6 c2 66.Kh7 Rc7 *(66...c1R 67.Kg6 R1c7 68.Kf6 Kc6 69.Kg6 Rg8 70.Kg5 Rcxg7+ 71.Kf4 Rf7+ 72.Ke3 Rg2 73.Kd3 Rf3#; 66...c1Q 67.g8Q Qh1+ 68.Kg7 Qg1+* Skewer, Deflection *69.Kf6 Qxg8 70.Ke5 Qg5+ 71.Kd6 Rc6+ 72.Kd7 Qg7+ 73.Ke8 Rc8#)* 67.Kh6 c1Q+ *(67...c1R 68.g8Q Rh1+ 69.Kg5 Rg1+* Skewer *70.Kf4 Rxg8 71.Ke3 Rf7 72.Kd2 Rg3 73.Ke2 Rg2+ 74.Ke1 a5 75.Kd1 Rf1#)* 68.Kg6 Rc6+ 69.Kf7 Qf4+ 70.Kg8 Rc8+ *(70...Qxd4 71.Kh7 Qh4+ 72.Kg8 Rc7 73.Kf8 Qd8#)* 71.Kh7 Qf5+ 72.Kh6 Rc6#]

57.Kh5 Qh2+ 58.Kg6 Qg3+ 59.Kh6 Qh4+ 60.Kg6 Qg4+



61.Kh6 c3 62.Qf7 Qh4+

[62...Rc6+ 63.Kh7 Qh3+ 64.Kg8 Rc8+ 65.Qf8 c2]

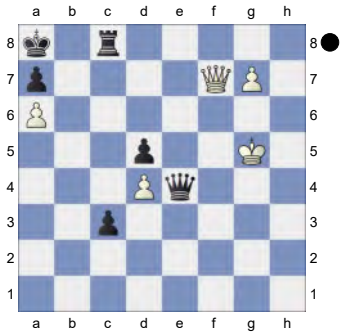
[62...Qxd4 63.Qb7#]

63.Kg6 Qe4+ -13.34/20

[63...Rc6+ 64.Kf5 Qf2+ ½-½ Rakhmanov,A (2634)-Bocharov,I (2563) RUS-chT blitz 2018 (2.3) *(64...Rxa6 65.g8Q+)* 65.Kg5 Qxf7 66.g8Q+ Qxg8+ 67.Kf4 Rf6+ *(67...Rxa6 68.Ke3 Qg3+ 69.Ke2 Ra2+ 70.Kf1 Qf2#)* 68.Ke3 Qg5+ 69.Ke2 Qd2#]

[63...Qxd4 64.Qb7#]

64.Kg5



Qe3+? 0.00/35

[64...Rb8! (→ ...Qe4-g2+)

A) 65.Qc7 Qe8 *(65...Qxd4 66.Qc6+)*;

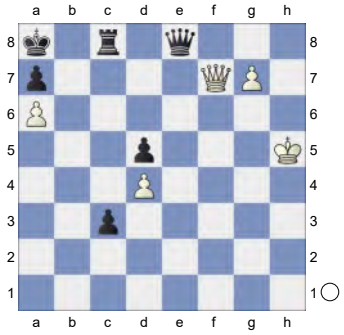
B) 65.g8Q Qg2+ 66.Kf6 Qxg8]

[64...Qxd4 65.Qb7#]

65.Kh5!= Qe8? 9.07/17

[65...Qxd4 66.Qb7#]

[65...Qh3+= 0.00/35 66.Kg5 Qg2+ 67.Kh5 Qh3+ 68.Kg5 Qg3+ 69.Kh5 Qh3+]



66.g8Q!+- Qe2+

[66...Qxg8 67.Qb7#]

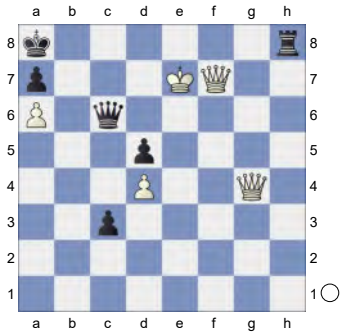
67.Qg4 Rh8+ 68.Kg5 Qe3+ 69.Kf6 9.21/17

[⌓69.Qgf4 #8/17 Qg1+ 70.Kf6 Rh6+ 71.Ke7 *(71.Qxh6 Qxd4+ 72.Ke7 Qe4+ 73.Kd7 Qg4+ 74.Kd8 Qb4 75.Qc6+ Kb8 76.Qc8#)* 71...Qe1+ 72.Kd7 Qe6+ 73.Qxe6 Rh7+ 74.Kd6 Rd7+ 75.Qxd7 c2 76.Qf8#]

69...Qh6+ Vorgänger: **70.Ke7** 8.96/16

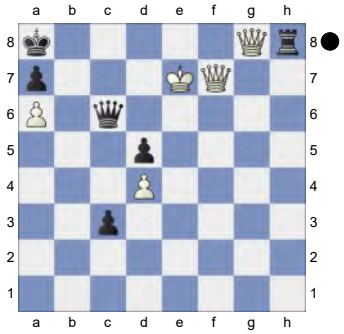
[⌓70.Qgg6 #8/17 Qf4+ 71.Kg7 Qxd4+ 72.Qff6 Rc8 73.Qxd4 Rc7+ 74.Kh6 Kb8 75.Qh8+ *(75.Qxd5 Rh7+ 76.Qxh7 Kc8 77.Qdg8#)* 75...Rc8 76.Qg3+ Deflection Ka8 77.Qxc8#]

70...Qc6



71.Qgg8+!!

(Diagram)



Quite a comeback for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/Black=0.47. Loss on time!?
0-1

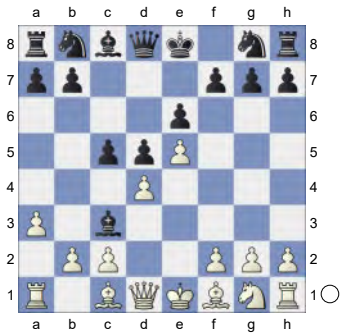
28 **C18**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2832**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2835**
World-ch Carlsen-Caruana (1) 09.11.18
[Duda,Jan Krzysztof]

Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'About the Author GM Ernesto Inarkiev Ernesto Inarkiev was born in Kyrgyzstan, far from the major centres of chess culture. His talent for chess manifested itself at the age of 11 when he won a big children's tournament in Moscow and the following year played for his country's team in the World Chess Olympics in Elista. His play did not go unnoticed, and shortly afterwards the President of both FIDE and the Republic of Kalmykia, Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, gave Ernesto the opportunity to move to Elista, together with his family, and to pursue his chess training there under the guidance of prominent Russian coaches. Then, in 1999, he won the U-16 Asian Youth Championship and the Kyrgyzstan men's title; in 2000, he again competed in the Olympics as part of the Kyrgyzstan team, since when he has represented Russia in all international events. In 2001, he won the U-16 European Youth Championship, and the following year the Russian U-20 title, after which he was awarded the title of grandmaster, becoming Kalmykia's first player to achieve that distinction. Inarkiev's development as a grandmaster was greatly influenced by Mark Dvoretsky, honoured coach of the USSR, who was his mentor for some 8 years. In the meantime, Ernesto graduated from Moscow's Russian State Social University in 2008 with a degree in Banking and Finance. To bring his career up to date, he finished third in the 2006 Russian Championship Super Final, won two Russian Championship Higher Leagues (in 2006 and 2013), and took bronze at the Karpov/Poikovsky international tournament in 2013. He has scored victories in five Russian national championships (2004, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2012) and in two (2005, 2006) European Club Cups, playing for the team Tomsk-400. In 2014 he claimed victory in the Vladivostok Primorsky Debut tournament and in the strong Baku Open, and in 2016 he became the European Champion winning the title in magnificent style. Most recently, Inarkiev participated in the FIDE Grand Prix series of tournaments competing with the chess elite very successfully. BOURNE IS NOT SUPERIOR ANYMORE On November 9, the most important chess event, the World Championship, started in London. The attention in the chess world is always revived when the match for the ultimate crown is scheduled, but in my opinion, the interest has recently

increased to even larger proportions. The organizers invested a lot of effort and hard work in this event - and a thoughtful choice of the venue is also to be mentioned. 2 years ago it was New York, now London, and a great number of decisions were made in style along the way. On the other hand, there were many internet sites where you could watch the match with expert comments. This match promised to be unique for several reasons: 1. For the first time since 1972 (Spassky - Fischer match), the US representative fought for the title. 2. For the first time in quite a while, the top two rated players in the world competed for the title. Moreover, the difference between them was only 3 points, and if the challenger won, he would also have dismissed the Champion from the very top of the rating list. 3. For the first time during the Carlsen era there was no clear favourite in the match, so the experts discussed more about their preferences than about the advantage of one of the opponents. All these factors promised not only a spectacle, but also a possible discovery of something new in chess, because it is in such confrontations that significant changes take place. Chance for a Million Traditionally, the first game of the World Championship matches is a cautiously played one. The match consists of 12 games, so the rivals slowly enter the game, conducting development and aiming for possible chances. This time, Carlsen and Caruana did not warm up and immediately started a real fight.' Duda, Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'About the Author GM Ernesto Inarkiev Ernesto Inarkiev was born in Kyrgyzstan, far from the major centres of chess culture. His talent for chess manifested itself at the age of 11 when he won a big children's tournament in Moscow and the following year played for his country's team in the World Chess Olympics in Elista. His play did not go unnoticed, and shortly afterwards the President of both FIDE and the Republic of Kalmykia, Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, gave Ernesto the opportunity to move to Elista, together with his family, and to pursue his chess training there under the guidance of prominent Russian coaches. Then, in 1999, he won the U-16 Asian Youth Championship and the Kyrgyzstan men's title; in 2000, he again competed in the Olympics as part of the Kyrgyzstan team, since when he has represented Russia in all international events. In 2001, he won the U-16 European Youth Championship, and the following year the Russian U-20 title, after which he was awarded the title of grandmaster, becoming Kalmykia's first player to achieve that distinction. Inarkiev's development as a grandmaster was greatly influenced by Mark Dvoretsky, honoured coach of the USSR, who was his mentor for some 8 years. In the meantime, Ernesto graduated from Moscow's Russian State Social University in 2008 with a degree in Banking and Finance. To bring his career up to date, he finished third in the 2006 Russian Championship Super Final, won two Russian Championship Higher Leagues (in 2006 and 2013), and took bronze at the Karpov/Poikovsky international tournament in 2013. He has scored victories in five Russian national championships (2004, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2012) and in two (2005,

2006) European Club Cups, playing for the team Tomsk-400. In 2014 he claimed victory in the Vladivostok Primorsky Debut tournament and in the strong Baku Open, and in 2016 he became the European Champion winning the title in magnificent style. Most recently, Inarkiev participated in the FIDE Grand Prix series of tournaments competing with the chess elite very successfully. BOURNE IS NOT SUPERIOR ANYMORE On November 9, the most important chess event, the World Championship, started in London. The attention in the chess world is always revived when the match for the ultimate crown is scheduled, but in my opinion, the interest has recently increased to even larger proportions. The organizers invested a lot of effort and hard work in this event - and a thoughtful choice of the venue is also to be mentioned. 2 years ago it was New York, now London, and a great number of decisions were made in style along the way. On the other hand, there were many internet sites where you could watch the match with expert comments. This match promised to be unique for several reasons: 1. For the first time since 1972 (Spassky - Fischer match), the US representative fought for the title. 2. For the first time in quite a while, the top two rated players in the world competed for the title. Moreover, the difference between them was only 3 points, and if the challenger won, he would also have dismissed the Champion from the very top of the rating list. 3. For the first time during the Carlsen era there was no clear favourite in the match, so the experts discussed more about their preferences than about the advantage of one of the opponents. All these factors promised not only a spectacle, but also a possible discovery of something new in chess, because it is in such confrontations that significant changes take place. Chance for a Million Traditionally, the first game of the World Championship matches is a cautiously played one. The match consists of 12 games, so the rivals slowly enter the game, conducting development and aiming for possible chances. This time, Carlsen and Caruana did not warm up and immediately started a real fight.' C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH Inarkiev,Ernesto Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'With this move Caruana opened the first game of the 2018 World Championship match. It is a bit strange to talk about the lack of experience of a chess player who played hundreds of games at the highest level, but a match for the most important title on the planet is really different and special. There was really a lot of press attention before the start of the game with dozens of photographers and journalists present. The playing venue was not spacious enough for all of them as the excitement reached incredible proportions. Of course, the inner excitement must be enormous when you have a chance to fight for the ultimate chess prize against the best player in the world. Such experience is far beyond any regular tournament. In such conditions additional pressure is obvious and every player is trying to show his very best. However, Magnus plays under such pressure all the time, and he is always confident that he will be able to come out on top.' **1...e6!?**

A minor surprise, as early as on move 1. Normally people tend to play relatively solid openings at the beginning of the WCC matches. Magnus decided however to play in a principled way, instead of choosing a Ruy Lopez / Italian torture. **2.d4 d5** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Magnus proposes the Chelyabinsk (Sveshnikov) variation.' **3.Nc3** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Maybe next time!' The Rossolimo Variation, a favourite of the Challenger. Even though he lost beautiful game in the Wijk Ann Zee to Carlsen some years ago, everyone keeps in mind many of his masterpieces against strong opposition. And probably all kibitzers were happy - there is no easy draw in sight. **3...Bb4 4.e5 c5** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'This move leads to static positions in the spirit of the Spanish game. Black has the pair of bishops, but doubled pawns as well. White will seek to limit the black light square bishop, and treat the position very carefully. Black, on his part, should strive to open the centre in order to allow as much activity to his bishops as possible.' Lately the favourite of Magnus. **5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Not allowing ...Bg4, which would ease Black's play. **6...Qa5 7.Bd2** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'All these moves were seen in the games of the opponents played shortly before the match.' **7...Qa4** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'A small surprise. Previously, this move was considered the be the main one.' **8.Qg4 Kf8 9.h4** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Since Fabiano already began to think, it is obvious that he did not remember this line.' Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'However, the position is not concrete, so that is why this move order, although it gives Black more opportunities, doesn't strongly influence the development of the game.' **9...Nc6** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Black's dream is to transfer the knight to d4. It takes a lot of time, but if successful, the position would be great. The play in these positions is often arranged around the knight's manoeuvres to this square - Black is eager to execute such operation, while White is starting a more concrete game so the black knight could not reach the desired destination.'

[9...Nd7 10.Qf4 *(10.Be2 Qxc2 11.Rc1-+* Black has numerous threats. It is no longer possible to play *Qb2?* Inarkiev,Ernesto *12.Nf3; 10.Nf3 Ne7!!* and thanks to the idea of d3-d4 White has sufficient counterplay. *11.Bd3)*
10...Qxc2

A) 11.Be2!-+ with transposition to the position, which is mentioned in the earlier comment. Ne7 Inarkiev,Ernesto 12.Nf3!;

B) 11.Ne2 Ne7-+

B1) 12.Ng3! -0.18/20 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '12.Rc1 0.56'

B1a) 12...Qb2= 0.16/19 (Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH) was preferrable. 13.Rc1 Kg8 0.56/18 *(13...Qxa3=* -0.01/17 *14.Be2 Qb2)*;

B1b) Black should play 12...Rb8= -0.18/20 Duda,Jan

Krzysztof, MH;

B1c) 12...Nb6 0.49/20 13.h5 h6;

B2) 12.Rc1 Qe4! It's very important to avoid eventual checks on f7. 13.Qh2 h6 14.f3 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'The correct way is' Qh7!-+ Inarkiev,Ernesto: '-+!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'increasing the pressure. Although White has some counterplay' with b4 next would create too many holes in White's position. with transposition to the position, which is mentioned in the earlier comment. 15.Nf4 (Inarkiev, Ernesto) after the natural and simple;

C) 11.Rc1 Nothing changes in case of 11...Qe4+ Inarkiev,Ernesto 12.Qxe4 dxe4 13.f3 *(13.h5-+ h6 14.Ne2 b6 15.Rh4=* Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '=!' *Bb7! 16.Ng3)* 13...exf3 14.Nxf3 h6 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' Against Ng5. Prevents Ng5.' *(14...Ne7?)* 15.dxc5 Nxc5 16.Be3 Nd7 *(16...b6)* 17.Bd3 b6 18.Be4 reaching the same position as in the game. Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'reaching the same position as in the game. Wards off Bb7. Prevents Bb7.' White cannot hold after Rb8?! 19.Rd1 Ne7]

[9...Ne7!∞ 10.h5? h6-+ Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '-+!']

10.h5

[10.Nf3 Qxc2 *(10...b6)*

A) 11.Rc1 Qe4+ 12.Qxe4 dxe4 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'A very interesting start of the match. Carlsen played the game very well, with a strong idea-plan in the opening, then developed the initiative well, but could not get the ball into the seemingly empty goal. Although the advantage was decisive, it was necessary to make several precise moves in order to convert it. At first Magnus did not want to force the matter, but when a more concrete play began there was very little time left to figure everything out in most precise manner. It is important to note that Caruana, despite a very difficult position and only seconds remaining for thinking, continued to resist and pose new problems. The resources he managed to find (38. c3, 39.Kc2) provoked the World Champion to make mistakes. With hindsight, I can say that this game was the best chance for Magnus in the classical part of the match.' A fighting, nerve-racking, and unpleasant game for both players. Fabiano Caruana didn't manage to get even the slightest of an opening initiative, and quickly had to defend himself. Magnus Carlsen on the other hand was winning several times before the 40th move, but in time trouble he spoiled, what looked like an easy win, and had to settle for the endgame which was drawn. Still 11 games to come, and it seems it will be entertaining match! 13.Ng5 f5 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.f3 exf3= 16.Nxf3 cxd4 17.cxd4 Ke7= 18.Bb5? 0.17/21 Inarkiev, Ernesto *(18.h5!⩲* 0.54/20 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH*)* 18...Bd7 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '=' Being in Magnus' place I would have tried to play with the pawn on b6, but still this should be an easy draw.

19.0-0;

B) 11.dxc5

B1) 11...Nge7;

B2) 11...Bd7 0.53/18 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '11...Nh6 0.08';

B3) 11...Qb2± 0.34/21 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH Duda, Jan Krzysztof, MH: '=' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' keeps the balance.' 12.Rc1 Nge7 *(12...Qxa3* Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH *)*;

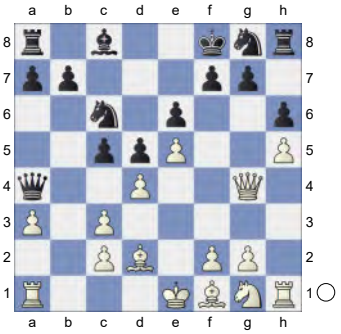
B4) 11...f5 0.73/19 12.Qg3 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' ±' One of possible defensive set-ups for White Qb2 13.Rc1 Qxa3 14.Be3 *(14.Bd3 Qxc5 15.Nd4; 14.Be2 Qxc5 15.0-0)*

B4a) 14...Nh6 15.Be2 Ng4 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' Threatens to win with ...Nxe3.' 16.Bf4 0.18/18 *(16.Qf4±* 0.58/20 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH *)*;

B4b) 14...Nge7 15.Be2 Qa4 16.0-0]

10...h6

[10...Nxe5 11.Qf4 Nc6 12.Qd6+ *(12.Nf3; 12.h6 Nxh6)* 12...Nge7 13.h6 g5 0.98/20 *(13...gxh6±* 0.45/19 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH *14.Ne2! Rg8; 13...g6±* 0.49/20 (Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH) was preferrable.*)* 14.Bxg5 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '±' Ke8 15.Rd1 Qxc2 3.01/21 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '?' *(15...c4±* 0.99/19 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH Duda, Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' was worth a try.'*)* 16.Bb5 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '+-!' Bd7 17.Bxc6 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '!' Nxc6 18.Nf3 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '!']



Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'It is logical to relocate the knight before castling, so Black does not have to waste time on Re8.' A typical maneouvre started with Nd7

11.Qd1 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'White must do something before the knight arrives.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'White must do something before the knight arrives.'. White is slightly better. White is slightly better.'

11...cxd4

[11...b6 12.Nf3 Ba6 13.Bxa6 *(13.Rh4 Bxf1 14.Kxf1 Qa6+ 15.Kg1 Nge7* Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '!'*)* 13...Qxa6 14.dxc5 bxc5 15.Qe2

A) 15...Qa4 0.49/21 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '15...c4 0.06 15...c4 0.01' 16.c4 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '!' Nge7 17.cxd5 exd5 18.0-0 Nd8 19.Rfb1 Ne6 20.Qb5 Qxb5 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '!' 21.Rxb5 Ke8 22.Rab1 Nc6 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' Against Rb8+' 23.Rb7 Ncd8 24.R7b2 Nc6;

B) 15...Qxe2+ 16.Kxe2 f6 17.Nh4 Nge7 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Rab1 Kg7 1.07/22 *(19...Kf7±* 0.65/19 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH*)* 20.Rb5 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' ±' Rhc8 21.Rxc5 Rab8 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' Prevents Rb1. Repels Rb1' 22.Nf3;

C) 15...c4 16.Rh4 *(16.a4 Nge7 17.Bc1 Kg8 18.Ba3 Kh7)*

16...Qa4 17.Be3 Nge7]

12.Nf3 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '!'

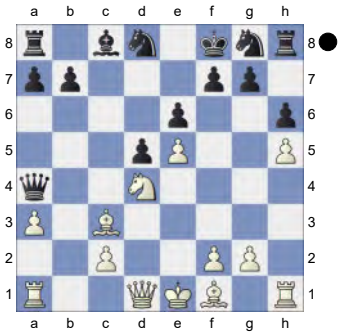
12...dxc3!? Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!' Interesting set-up. I thought he was going to play Ne6-Nd4 asap, but this is even nicer, as it controls all important squares.

[12...b6 13.Rh4 *(13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.cxd4 Ba6 15.Bb4+=* The endgame is a draw, although White needs to be a bit careful not to allow Black to get two rolling pawns. Magnus tries to win for another 60 moves, but the draw is trivial. *Ne7 16.Rh3)* 13...Nge7 0.48/22 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' ±' '!' Duda, Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' should be considered.' *(13...Ba6* 0.95/22 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '13...Nge7 0. 42 13...Nge7 0.56' *14.Nxd4 Bc4* 3.98/23 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'The black king is in the box.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '?' *15.Bxc4* Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '+-' Otherwise Black runs out of moves *Nxd4 16.Rxd4* Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' Bxd5! would now be deadly.' *dxc4 17.Qg4* Inarkiev, Ernesto: ' ∓' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'White has a strong pawn on b4, and Black can only exchange it for pawn his a pawn, reaching an elementary draw. Magnus played the game to the end, but there was no more chance to squeeze the blood from the stone.'*)* 14.Rb1 Ba6 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' Prevents Bb5.' 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Thanks to this counterplay Fabiano saves himself.' 16.Rxd4 Bc4 17.Bxc4 dxc4 18.Rb4 Qc6 0.99/22 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'A very precise play by the challenger.' *(18...Qxa3±* 1.34/22 (Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH) 18...Qa5 0.92 *19.Rd7! Ke8)* 19.Kf1 b5 20.Rd6 Initially when I first saw this position, I thought Black has nearly 50/50 chances, but on the closer inspection I understood that White is going to play either d4 or b4, and 2 vs 3 pawns on the queenside is a draw. Qe8 Inarkiev, Ernesto: '!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'An important resource that allows White to place the black king in a box.' 21.Qf3]

[12...Nge7 13.Rh4 Nf5 0.75/22 *(13...b6 14.Rf4; 13...g5=* 0.26/20 (Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH) deserves consideration. *14.hxg6 Nxg6 15.Rxh6 dxc3 16.Rxh8+ Nxh8 17.Bxc3 Ng6)* 14.Rf4]

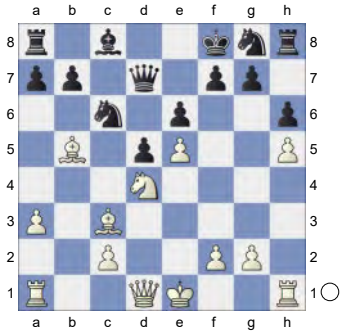
13.Bxc3 g5 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'This move is still necessary, as Black must cover the dark squares.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'This move is still necessary, as Black must cover the dark squares.'. Repels Rh4. Prevents Rh4'

[13...Nd8 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '-+!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'After this powerful move, it becomes clear that the white knight will be knocked out from a good position, and Black will have different possibilities for invasion.' 14.Nd4?! Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Diagram

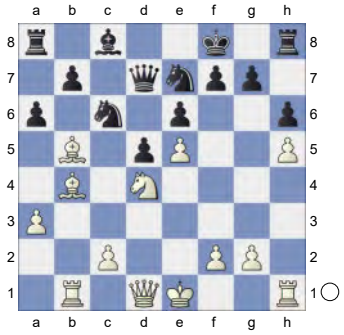


This move was made with only few seconds left on the clock. From this

moment until time control Caruana played exclusively on the increament.' Looks strange, because White gives away the control of the big diagonal without even gaining a tempo which Black has to spend on h5. Still there is no good enough preparatory move, and I think Black is winning already. Qd7? Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?!' Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'Magnus had 18 minutes, but he spent less than 3 minutes on this move. Knowing the outcome of the game, we can say that he should have invested a bit more time in order to find the way to win. At the same time, maintaining a fast pace, he did not give Fabiano a breather, thereby provoking new mistakes. Was Carlsen's approach correct? There is no straightforward answer!' 15.Bb5 Nc6 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'It is a tempo move, but the black queen is easily cut off from the queenside. There is a suspicion that Magnus intuitively underestimated White's queenside weakness, and therefore the manoeuvres associated with the transfer of the black queen to that side did not seem very promising to him.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '



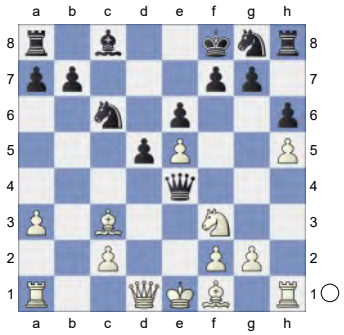
Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'It is a tempo move, but the black queen is easily cut off from the queenside. There is a suspicion that Magnus intuitively underestimated White's queenside weakness, and therefore the manoeuvres associated with the transfer of the black queen to that side did not seem very promising to him.'' The wrong direction! 16.Bb4+ Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '!' Nge7? Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Magnus spent 7 minutes out of the remaining 12 on this move.' 17.Rb1? Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?!' a6 Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'Once again, Black is in full control.' The position is still dead lost for White, because of the threat Qg7-Qa1, there is one more, namely Rg3! It's really amazing that Caruana survived this storm! Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Diagram



' 18.Bxc6 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!' Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'White is still in a tough position, but now the idea of d3-d4 appears, and Magnus also needs to make responsible decisions. This is the main advantage for Magnus who enjoys depriving the opponent of any counterplay. However, Caruana finds the way to force Magnus to enter the realms of concrete play once again. Carlsen had 5 minutes at the clock at this point.' bxc6 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'It looks logical to maximize the position of the pieces before forcing the events. ' 19.Bc5 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!']

[13...Qe4+?! Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'With 2

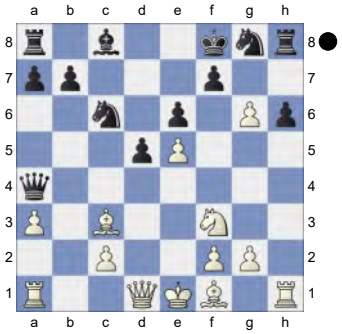
more minutes remaining for Black after this move.' This would be a serious blunder, if not the fact that Black can repeat his position. Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'Diagram



' 14.Be2 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!' Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'Poses the problems for Black. There is a feeling that Magnus overlooked this move.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Poses the problems for Black. There is a feeling that Magnus overlooked this move.'. And now Rh4 would win. Rh4 would now be deadly.' Nge7?? Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'This move loses all the advantage. With this move the players reached the time control.' Actually this move lets all the advantage go. Black still could win by means of 15.Rh4 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'The game continues with a sequence of forced moves:' Qh7 Now by force White can save himself in an rook endgame with pawn down. Other alternatives also failed to win: 16.Bd3 Qg8 1.00/20 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '!' *(16...g6±* 1.27/21 (Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH) 16...Qg8 -0.16 *)*]

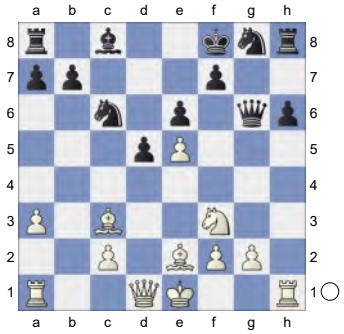
14.hxg6 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Diagram

(Diagram)



' there is the same position as in the game, but obviously both sides are flexible and can change something basically on every move **14...Qe4+!?** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'N!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Specifically, there were not many games in this position, and since Fabiano took much time for Qd2 move, it is likely that Magnus studied this plan was at home. The decision is positionally sound - to put pawns on the dark squares with his dominant light squared bishop on the board. This move asks very serious questions. Blacks now has clear perspective for his pieces. On the other hand, White's pieces may have a rather limited scope. In actual fact, White has to hurry in order to use the advantage in development and obtain some positional pluses.' Restraining white pieces. Honestly, I don't know what is White's best bet here, as he lacks visible improvements. It would be lovely to get the h2-knight to f5, but how? Also loosening Black's queenside is not at all that easy. a4 can always be parried by a5, while it's not easy to achieve b4 in a comfortable way. Therefore I think Magnus won the opening duel, and now the challenger move by move was using a large amount of time. **15.Be2** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'White prepares for the activity on the kingside. Apparently, White has active ideas, and it is difficult

to evaluate that such kind of play is beneficial for Black.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'White prepares for the activity on the kingside. Apparently, White has active ideas, and it is difficult to evaluate that such kind of play is beneficial for Black.'. aiming for gxf7. White is more active.' **15...Qxg6** Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Diagram



' **16.Qd2** Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?' Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'Consistently, Whites is looking for a way to use the activity, but he does not choose the correct way.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Consistently, Whites is looking for a way to use the activity, but he does not choose the correct way.'. Black is weak on the dark squares' The American decides to improve his worst piece, the h2-knight. Even though the computer doesn't like it, it's still better to have a faulty plan than any.

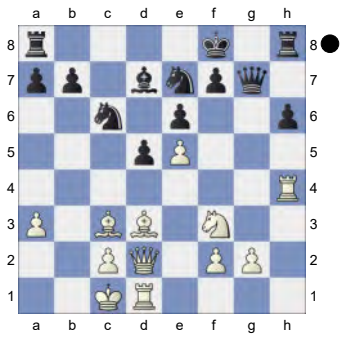
[16.Kf1 0.69/19 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Clearly, in time trouble it is much easier to play the natural moves, and not to rely on the calculation of risky options. But here, White's pieces are very badly positioned, so he must resort to concrete play.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '16.Qd2 1.08 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Clearly, in time trouble it is much easier to play the natural moves, and not to rely on the calculation of risky options. But here, White's pieces are very badly positioned, so he must resort to concrete play.'']

16...Nge7 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'White's position is an unpleasant one. Black castled and can concentrate on White's kingside. The white knight on g4 is "perfectly" placed from Black's perspective.' The king is safe on the queenside for the time being, and now Black is having all the fun on the kingside.

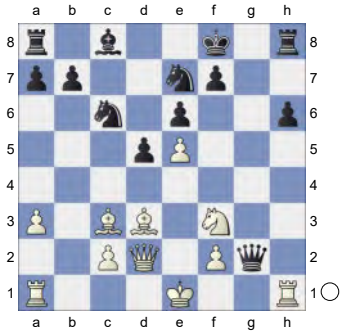
[16...Ke8 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '∓!']

17.Bd3 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '↑' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' White has strong initiative. This pair of bishops is nice. A strong pair of Bishops.' Other plans are: **17...Qxg2** 1.84/23 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '

[17...Qg7 1.02/23 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' ±' '±' 18.0-0-0 *(18.Rh3 Qxg2* Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'The White's king castle is destroyed, so it's time to run away! After this move, Fabiano had 2 minutes left, while Magnus had 24. Even more trouble for the challenger.' The least place where White's king is safe is the kingside, so logically Fabiano removes it to the center.*)* 18...Bd7 *(18...Ke8* Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH*)* 19.Rh4 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Diagram



It seems that the knight securely blocked the passage for the black pieces into White's camp, but after' Ke8! Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'it turns out that there will be no blockade.' Going after h5-pawn, and then kicking White's knight with h5. 20.Rdh1]



' **18.Ke2** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'I believe that Fabiano was counting on this manoeuvre, hoping to block the kingside:' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '+-!' Not exchanging the knight which made so many moves.

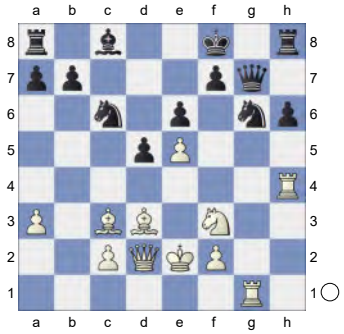
[18.Rxh6 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH Qg7 19.Rxh8+ Qxh8=]

18...Qg4 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '∓!' Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'It turns out that the knight on h5 does not prevent anything. On the contrary, it is very vulnerable, and its transfer from h2 to h5 was not only a waste of time, but also led to the deterioration of White's position.' **19.Rh4** Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Of course, it would be great to be able to solidify the position without such moves, but there is no other way to prevent the opening of the lines in Black's favour.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Of course, it would be great to be able to solidify the position without such moves, but there is no other way to prevent the opening of the lines in Black's favour.'. White has strong compensation.' Such moves were unthinkable some 60 years ago, but now are standard. The kingside is so far locked, and White gains space.

[19.Rxh6 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '?!' Rxh6 20.Qxh6+ Qg7 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '±']

[19.Rag1 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH Qa4 20.Rxh6 Rxh6 21.Qxh6+ Ke8± Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '+-']

19...Qg7 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!' Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'Creating the Bf7 threat, and emphasizing the vulnerability of White's position.' **20.Rg1** Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' White has strong compensation.' **20...Ng6**



21.Rf4 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Diagram

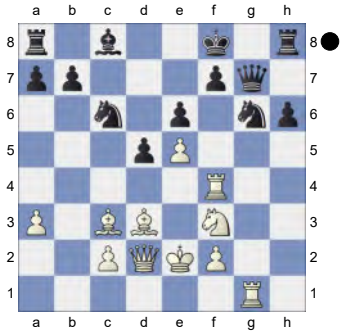
[21.Bxg6 0.73/22 (Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH) 21.Rhg4 1.88 fxg6 22.Rgh1

A) 22...g5 23.Qxg5 0.22/21 *(23.Nxg5!± 0.89/22 Ke7 24.f4)* 23...hxg5= 24.Rxh8+ Kf7 0.74/25 *(24...Qxh8± 0.33/24 25.Rxh8+ Kg7)* 25.R8h7!± Pin;

B) 22...Nd8± Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH;

C) 22...h5±]

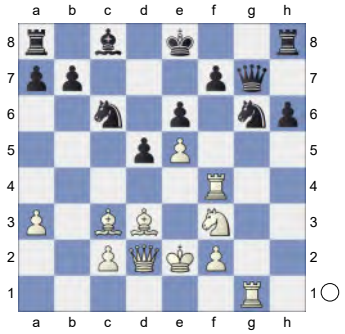
(Diagram)



The knight is the only piece that is not participating in the defence, and now White uses the opportunity to improve it. White is preparing to take on h5 in order to bring the knight to g4.' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Diagram [#] The knight is the only piece that is not participating in the defence, and now White uses the opportunity to improve it. White is preparing to take on h5 in order to bring the knight to g4.'. White is more active.'Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Black is facing a serious task. How to increase the advantage?' **21...Nce7** 8.37/23 Inarkiev,Ernesto: '!?' Inarkiev, Ernesto: 'Both rivals did not find a proper defence for White. Magnus' decision is a very strong one.' Imaginative, but not neccesary. Black could part with his light-square bishop, and try to gain the h5-pawn or break with g4. An important note is that in that case White would remain even more passive than in the game.

[Not 21...Ke8? 6.43/21 (Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH) 21...Ke7 1.92

(Diagram)



22.Rxf7! Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '!!' Kxf7 23.Rxg6 *(23.Bxg6+?* 0.81/24 23.Rxg6 7.46 *Ke7∓* Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: '=') 23...Qxg6 24.Qf4++- *(24.Bxg6+ Kxg6 25.Qf4* Qf6+ would kill now. Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' Intending Qf6+ and mate.' *Kg7+-; 24.Bxg6+ Kxg6 25.Qf4* Intending Qf6+ and mate. *Kg7+-)*]

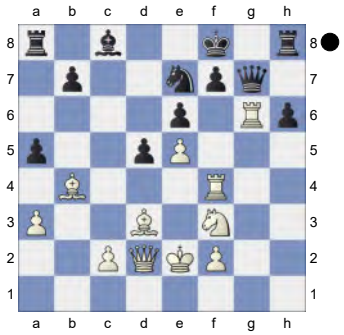
[21...Ke7± 1.59/22 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH 22.Rf6 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH Rg8]

22.Bb4 a5 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'At this point, Fabiano had 10 minutes while Magnus had 35 minutes on the clock.'

[22...Ke8 Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Black wishes to force the opening of the lines.' 23.Bxe7 Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: ' Rxf7! is the strong threat.' Kxe7 24.Qb4+ Ke8 25.Bb5+ Bd7↑ Inarkiev,Ernesto: ' ∓' Inarkiev,Ernesto: 'Despite the fact that a lot of pieces were exchanged, Black has a clear superiority in the remaining forces. In addition to the open white king, Black has a powerful bishop, and a strong pawn on f4. At this point, Magnus had a big advantage on the clock - 33 minutes to Fabiano's 6 minutes.' White's king is open, and Black is enjoying a long-lasting initiative. 26.Bxd7+ The position is not easy to analyse, and even harder to play. Both sides have many ideas, which

sometimes are similar to each other. From now on I will focus on the most critical positions. Kxd7 Inarkiev, Ernesto: '!' 27.Qxb7+]

23.Rxg6



Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?' Duda,Jan Krzysztof, MH: 'Inarkiev,Ernesto: '?'. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) / Black=0.15 (very precise) . An unexpected result. Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.17 (very precise) '

½-½

29 **C18**

□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2831**

■ **Xiong,Jeffery** **2636**

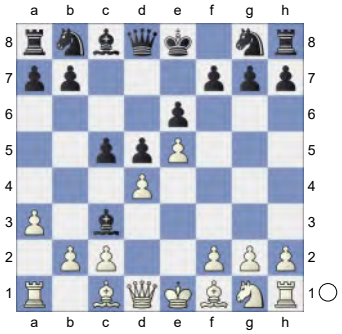
Titled Tue 19th Nov Early (7) 19.11.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



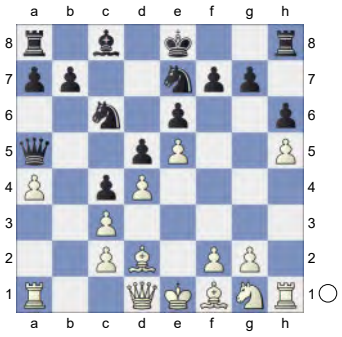
6.bxc3 Nc6 7.h4 Qa5 8.Bd2 Nge7 9.h5 h6 10.a4

[10.Bd3 seems wilder. 0-0 11.g4 f6 12.exf6 Rxf6 13.Nf3]

10...c4N 0.68/20

[10...0-0= 0.17/17]

[10...Bd7 11.Qg4 0-0-0 12.Qxg7 Nf5 13.Qg4 Qb6 14.dxc5 Qb2 15.Rc1 Nxe5 16.Qb4 Qxb4 17.cxb4 Bxa4 18.Ne2 Bxc2 19.Rxc2 Nd3+ 20.Kd1 Nxf2+ 21.Ke1 Nxh1 22.Bf4 d4 23.Ra2 d3 24.Nc3 Nhg3 25.Rxa7 Samant,A (2467)-Puranik,A (2620) Delhi IND 2022 [John Watson] 0-1 (41)]



11.Ne2 Bd7 White is slightly better.

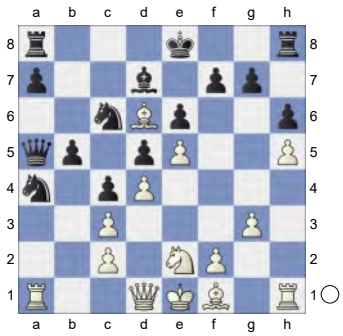
12.g3 Nc8 13.Bc1 0.25/20

[13.f4± 0.66/17]

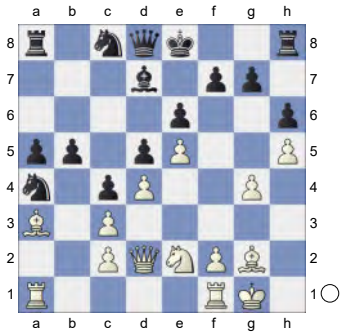
13...Nb6= 14.Ba3 Nxa4 15.Bd6 b5

[15...Nxc3 16.Rxa5 Nxd1 17.Ra2±]

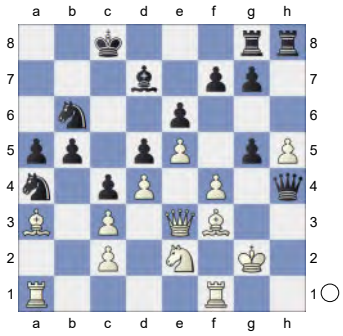
(Diagram)



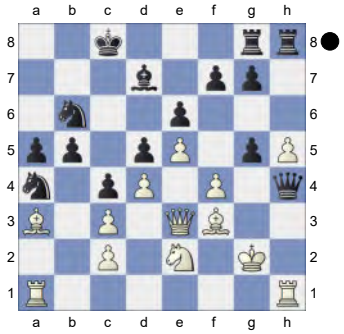
16.Bg2 Qb6 17.0-0 White has compensation. **17...Ne7 18.Qd2 a5 19.g4 Nc8 20.Ba3 Qd8**



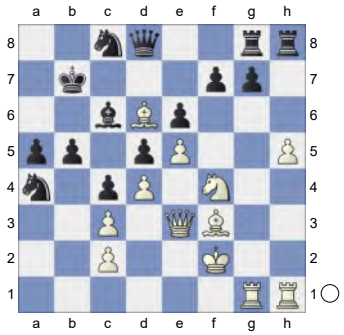
21.f4 Ncb6 0.93/18
[21...Rb8= 0.29/18 keeps the balance.]
22.Qe3 0.45/18 &Bianco is more active.
[22.Qe1!± 0.93/18]
22...Qh4± 23.Bf3 0-0-0 24.Kg2 Rdg8 25.g5 -0.46/20
[Better is 25.Rh1= 0.16/17 Qd8 26.Bd6]
25...hxg5∓



26.Rh1 -1.64/21
[26.fxg5∓ -0.52/21 Rxh5 27.Bxh5 Qxh5 28.Ng3]

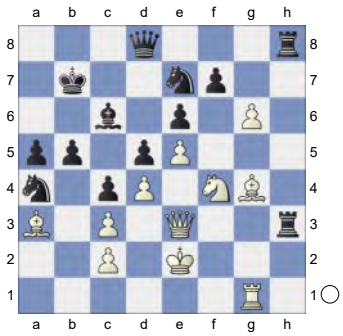


26...gxf4!-+ ...Qg5+ is the strong threat.
27.Nxf4 -2.40/20
[⌓27.Rxh4 -1.62/20 fxe3 28.Bc1]
[27.Qd2 Qg5+]
27...Qd8 -1.04/18
[27...Qg5+-+ -2.40/20 is more deadly. 28.Kf2 Qf5]
28.Bd6 -1.66/20
[28.Kf2∓ -1.04/18]
28...Bc6 -1.16/19
[28...Qg5+-+ -1.66/20 29.Kf2 Qf5]
29.Kf2 Kb7 30.Rag1 -1.54/20
[⌓30.Bg4 -1.11/20]
30...Nc8!∓

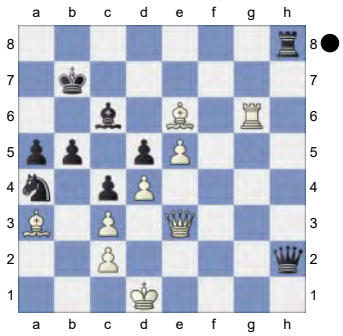


31.Ba3 Ne7 32.Bg4 Rh6 -1.05/18
[32...g6-+ -1.68/20 33.Qf3 gxh5 34.Nxh5 Nf5]
33.Ke2 Rgh8 34.Rh3 g5 35.hxg6 Rxh3!
[35...Nxg6 36.Nxe6! fxe6 37.Rxh6 Nxc3+ 38.Ke1± *(38.Qxc3? Rxh6 39.Qg3 Qg8-+)*]

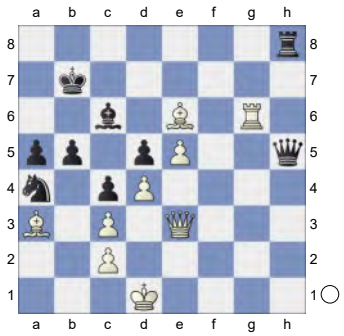
(Diagram)



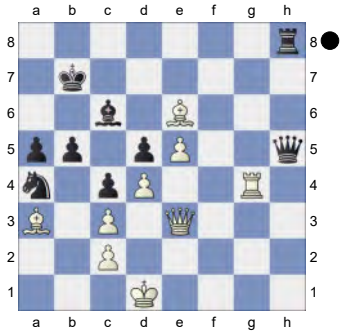
36.Bxh3 Nxg6
[36...b4 37.cxb4 Nxg6 38.Nxg6 fxg6 39.bxa5= *(39.Bxe6 Rh2+ 40.Kd1 axb4-+; 39.Rxg6 Qh4=)*]
37.Nxg6 fxg6 38.Bxe6? -3.07/21
[38.Rxg6∓ -0.92/23 was necessary. Qh4 39.Rg3 *(39.Rg7+? Ka6-+)*]
38...Qh4 -1.40/21
[38...Rh2+-+ -3.07/21 and Black stays clearly on top. 39.Kf1 b4]
39.Kd1? -4.26/23
[39.Kf1∓ -1.40/21 only move.]
39...Qh2 -1.93/21
[⌓39...Qe4 -4.26/23 40.Re1 *(40.Qxe4? Nxc3+ 41.Kc1 dxe4-+)* 40...b4 41.Qxe4 *(41.cxb4? Qg2-+)* 41...Nxc3+ 42.Kc1 Nxe4]
40.Rxg6? -11.01/22
[40.Rg3 -1.93/21]



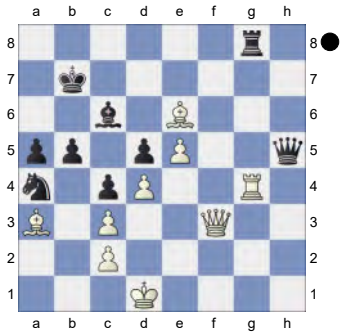
40...Qh5+ -4.33/22
[⌓40...Nxc3+! -11.01/22 41.Kc1 Qh1+ 42.Rg1 Qxg1+!! 43.Qxg1 Ne2+ 44.Kd1 Nxg1]



41.Rg4-+

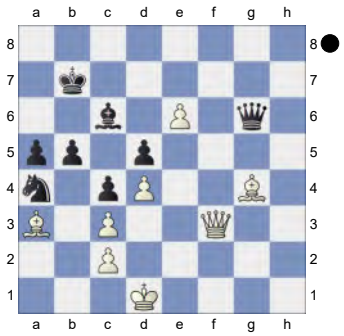


Rg8!! 42.Qf3

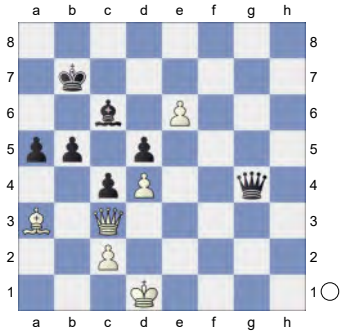


Rxg4 -1.65/20
[⌓42...Nxc3+! -4.11/23 43.Ke1 Rxg4 44.Bxg4 Qh4+ 45.Kf1 b4]
43.Bxg4 A strong pair of Bishops.
43...Qg6 0.01/19
[Black should play 43...Nxc3+!∓ -1.42/23 44.Kd2 Ne4+ 45.Qxe4 Qg5+ 46.Qe3 Qxg4]
44.e6? -3.19/23
[44.Kd2!= 0.01/19]

(Diagram)



44...Nxc3+! 45.Qxc3 Qxg4+



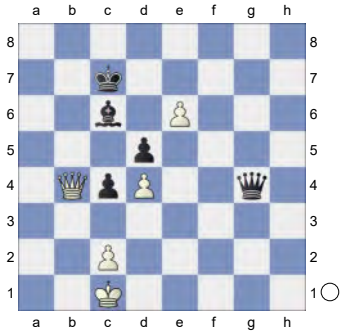
46.Kc1 b4? -0.01/22

[46...Qg1+-+ -4.19/21 47.Kd2 b4 48.Bxb4 Qf2+ 49.Kc1 axb4 50.Qxb4+ Kc8]

47.Bxb4!= The position is equal.

47...axb4 48.Qxb4+ Ka6 49.Qa3+! Kb7 50.Qb4+ Kc7

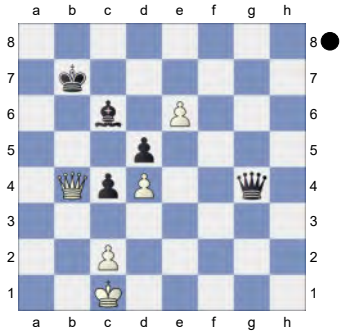
[50...Ka6!? 51.Qa3+ Kb6 52.Qb4+ Ka6=]



51.Qe7+ Kc8 52.Qf8+ Kb7 aiming for ...Qg1+.

[52...Kc7!? 53.Qe7+ Kb8 54.Qf8+ Ka7 55.Qe7+ Bb7 56.Qc5+ Kb8 57.Qf8+ Kc7 58.Qe7+ Kb8 59.Qf8+ Kc7 60.Qe7+ Kb8 61.Qf8+=]

53.Qb4+

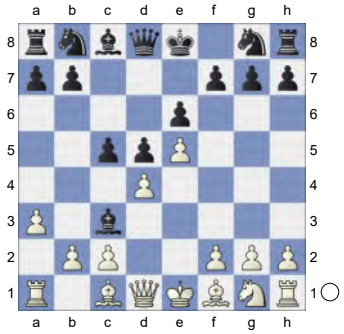


Whites escaped into a draw.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.57/ Black=0.61
½-½

30 **C19**
□ **Molina,Roberto Junio Brito** **2830**
■ **Salman,Fatima** **2654**
Merida (14) 30.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

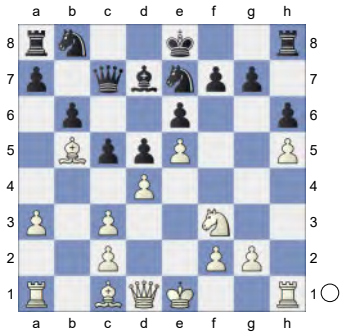


6.bxc3 Qc7 7.h4 Ne7 8.h5 h6 9.Nf3 b6

[9...Qa5 10.Bd2 Nbc6 11.Bd3 c4 12.Be2 Qa4 13.Nh2 Bd7 14.Ng4 0-0-0 15.0-0 Rdg8 16.Bf4 Nf5 17.Qd2 Nce7 18.Rfb1 g5 19.Bh2

Rd8 20.Nf6 Ng8 21.Rb4 Qa6 22.Rab1 Bc6 23.a4 Ng7 24.Qe3 Hansen,E (2610)-Sherman,R (2358) chess.com INT 2024 [John Watson] 1-0 (66)]

10.Bb5+ Bd7



11.Bd3 c4N 0.63/19

[11...Bc8= 0.25/16]

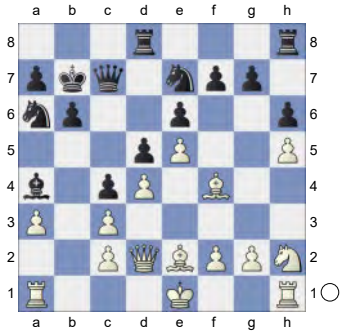
[11...Ba4 12.0-0 Nd7

A) 13.Re1 a6 *(13...Qc6 14.Rb1 a6 15.Nd2 cxd4 16.cxd4 Bb5 17.Rxb5 axb5 18.Qe2* C 19/06 *)* 14.Nh4 Bb5 15.Qg4 Bxd3 16.cxd3 Rg8 17.Qe2 c4 18.a4 Rc8 19.Ba3 cxd3 20.Qxd3 Qc4 C 19/06;

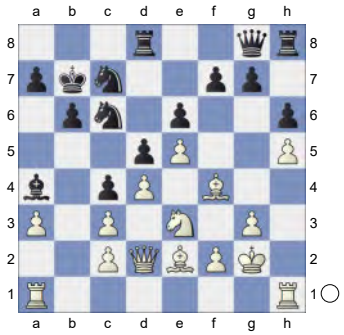
B) 13.Be3 c4 14.Be2 0-0-0 15.Qd2 Rdf8 16.Bf4 Qd8 17.Rac1 f6 18.Nh4 fxe5 19.dxe5 Nc5 20.Bg4 Kb7 21.g3 Be8 22.Be3 Ne4 23.Qe1 g5 24.hxg6 Nxg6 25.Nxg6 Bxg6 26.Bxe6 Khasanov,T (2567)-Kolmakov,P (2519) Naestved 2000 200 Traps In The Opening [FS 494] 0-1 (44)]

12.Be2± Ba4 13.Bf4 Na6 White is slightly better. **14.Qd2 0-0-0 15.Nh2 Kb7**

(Diagram)



16.Nf1 Qd7 17.Ne3 Nc7 18.Kf1 Nc6 19.g3 Qe8 20.Kg2 Qg8



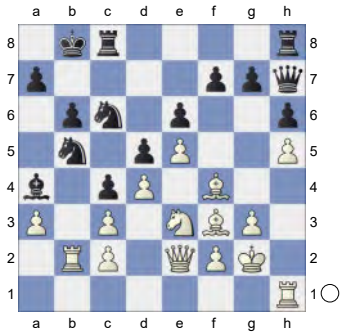
21.Rab1 Qh7 22.Bf3 Kb8 23.Qe2 -0.01/21

[23.Kg1± 0.60/18]

23...Rc8 0.55/18

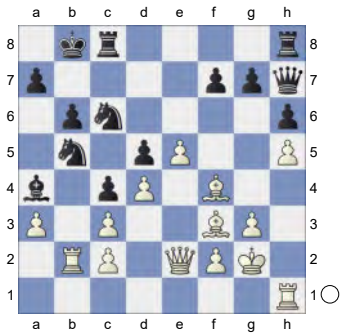
[23...Nb5= -0.01/21 24.Qd2 Rc8]

24.Rb2 Nb5

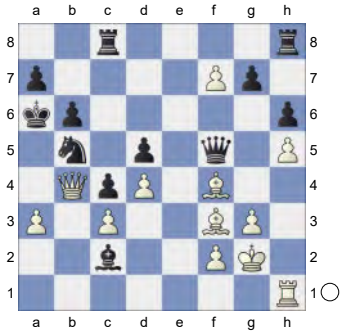


25.Nxd5 0.72/19 **exd5±**

(Diagram)

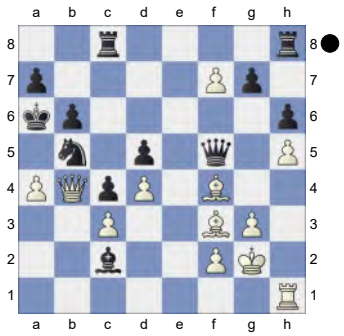


26.e6+? -1.54/20
[26.Rxb5!± 0.54/19 Bxb5 27.Bxd5]
26...Kb7∓ 27.exf7 -2.63/20
[27.Bxd5? Nxc3 28.Qxc4 Nxd5 29.Qxd5 Rhd8-+]
[⌓27.Rxb5 -1.85/18 Bxb5 28.Rb1]
27...Qf5-+
[27...Nxc3? 28.Qe3 Ne4 29.Bg4-+]
28.Rb4? -4.59/23
[28.Qd2 -2.53/18]
28...Nxb4 29.Qe7+ Ka6? -1.38/22
[29...Nc7-+ -4.51/21 30.axb4 Rhf8]
30.Qxb4 -2.13/22
[30.axb4∓ -1.38/22 Rhf8 31.Ra1 Nxc3 32.Qe1]
30...Bxc2
[30...Qxc2 31.Bd1 Qxc3 32.Qxa4+ Qa5 33.Qc2±]

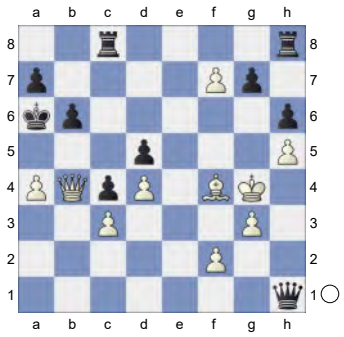


White must now prevent ...Nc7. **31.a4**

(Diagram)

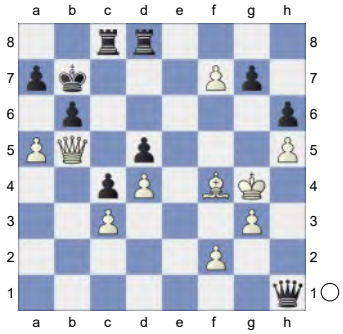


Nc7 -0.69/23
[31...Nxc3!-+ -2.29/23 32.Qxc3 Be4 33.Bxe4 Qxe4+ 34.f3 Qe2+ 35.Kh3 Qe6+ 36.Kg2 Rhf8]
32.Bxc7∓ This bishop pair is nice.
32...Be4!
[32...Rxc7 33.Rh4 Kb7 34.Rf4=]
33.Bf4
[33.Bxe4 Qxe4+ 34.Kg1 *(34.Kh2? Qf3∓)* 34...Qe1+ 35.Kg2 Qe4+ 36.Kg1 *(36.Kh2? Qf3∓)* 36...Qe1+ 37.Kg2 Qe4+]
33...Bxf3+
[Don't play 33...Qxf7?! 34.Bxe4 dxe4 35.Qb5+ Kb7 36.a5=]
34.Kxf3 Strongly threatening Re1.
34...Qe4+→ Black is out for blood.
35.Kg4 aiming for Qb5+. **35...Qxh1** 0.01/23
[35...Qe6+!∓ -0.91/22 36.Kh4 Kb7]



36.Qb5+!= **Kb7** Hoping for ...Rhd8.
37.a5 Threatening mate with a6+. Really sharp! **37...Rhd8?** 14.63/25
[37...g6± 0.63/21 38.hxg6 Qe4

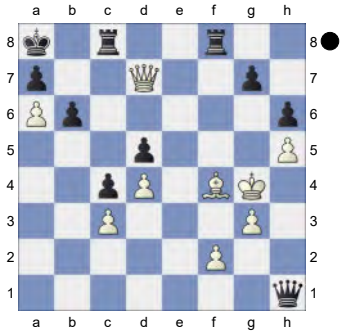
39.Qd7+ Ka6]



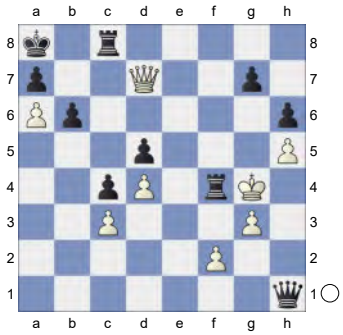
38.a6+!+- Ka8 39.f8Q?? -10.35/38 Active counter play!

[39.f3+- 15.85/24 g6 40.hxg6 h5+ 41.Kf5]

39...Rxf8-+ 40.Qd7

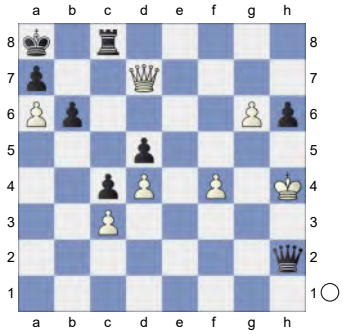


Rxf4+!

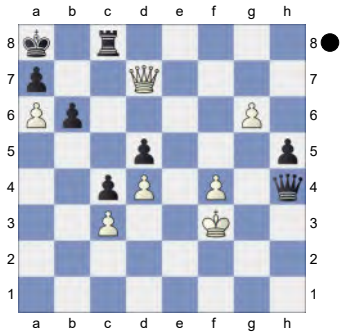


41.gxf4 Qg2+ 42.Kh4 Qxf2+ 43.Kg4 Qg2+ 44.Kh4 g5+ 45.hxg6 Qh2+

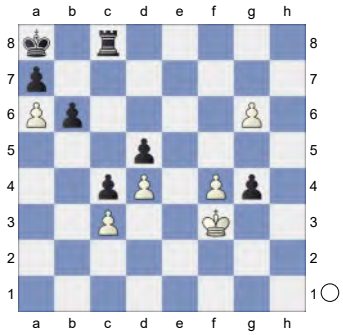
(Diagram)



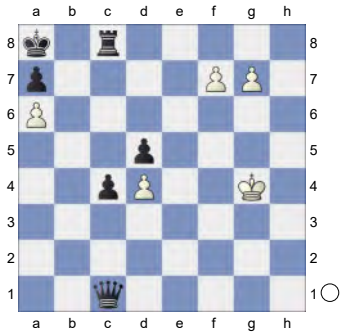
46.Kg4 h5+ 47.Kf3 Qh1+ 48.Kf2 Qh4+ 49.Kf3



Qg4+! 50.Qxg4 hxg4+



51.Kxg4 Endgame KR-KP **51...b5 52.f5 b4 53.f6 bxc3 54.f7 c2 55.g7 c1Q**

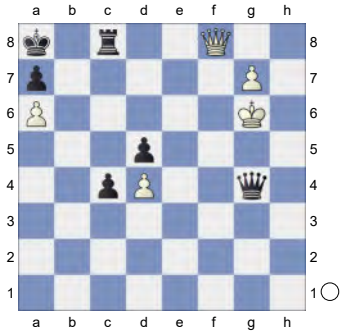


(-> ...Qg1+) **56.f8Q Qg1+ 57.Kh5**

Qh2+ 58.Kg6 Qg3+ 59.Kh6 Qh4+ -4.67/5

[⌓59...Qe3+ -#20/23 60.Kg6 Qe6+ 61.Kg5 c3 62.Qb4 Qe3+ 63.Kh5 Qh3+ 64.Kg5 Qg3+ 65.Kf5 Qf2+ 66.Kg5 Qg3+ 67.Kf5 Qf2+ 68.Kg5 Qg3+]

60.Kg6 Qg4+



61.Kh6 c3 62.Qf7 Qh4+

[Stronger than 62...Qh3+ 63.Kg5 Qe3+ 64.Kh5 Qh3+ 65.Kg5 Qe3+ 66.Kh5 Qh3+ 67.Kg5=]

63.Kg6 Qe4+ -19.24/24

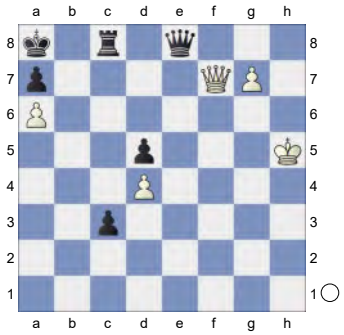
[⌓63...Rc6+ -#7/16 64.Kf5 Qf2+ 65.Kg5 Qxf7 66.g8Q+ Qxg8+ 67.Kf5 Qg6+ 68.Kf4 Rf6+ 69.Ke5 Qg5#]

64.Kg5 Qe3+? -0.01/26

[64...Rb8-+ -13.49/24 65.Qf6 Qe8]

65.Kh5= Qe8? 9.92/21

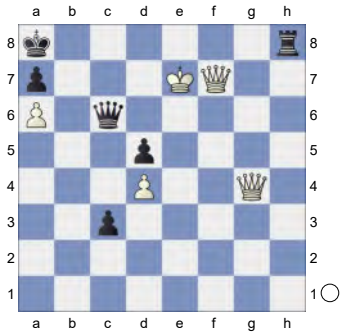
[65...Qh3+= -0.01/25 66.Kg5 Qg3+ 67.Kh5 Qh2+ 68.Kg5 Qg2+ 69.Kh5 Rb8]



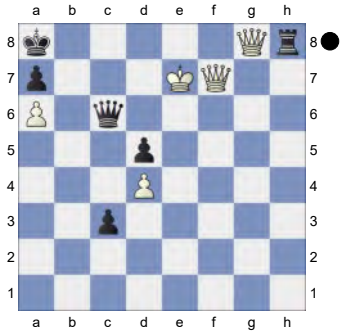
66.g8Q!+- Qe2+ 67.Qg4 Rh8+ 68.Kg5 Qe3+ 69.Kf6 Qh6+ 70.Ke7 10.22/23

[⌓70.Qgg6 #8/18 Qf4+ 71.Kg7 Qxd4+ 72.Qff6 Rc8 73.Qxd4 Rc7+ 74.Kh6 Kb8 75.Qg8+ Rc8 76.Qf4+ Ka8 77.Qxc8#]

70...Qc6



71.Qgg8+!



White used his chance.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.25 (precise)

1-0

31 **C18**

☐ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2828**

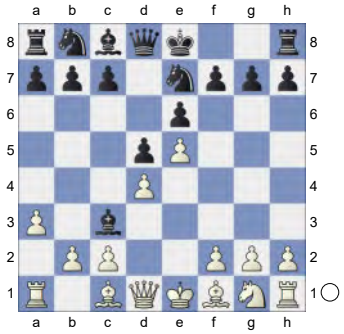
■ **Moranda,Wojciech** **2593**

PRO League Group (5) 07.02.2019

[Chris Ward]

Chris Ward,MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)

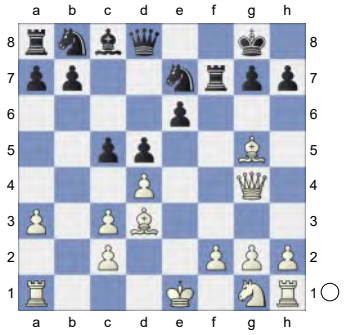


6.bxc3 c5 Chris Ward,MH: 'N'

[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth,P (1739) Nuremberg Zabo op 23rd 2023 (1) *)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 *(8.a4 Qd7 9.Bb5 c6 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.Ba3 c5 12.dxc5 Qc7 13.Nf3 bxc5 14.0-0 Bxd3 15.cxd3 Nd7 16.d4 0-0* Burnazovic, E (2574)-Aschenberg,A (2603) 32/71 Polanica Zdroj 1981*)* 8...h5 9.Qg3 *(9.Qd1 Qd7 10.Bd3 Ne7 11.Ne2 Qc6 12.Bg5 Nf5 13.0-0 Ba6 14.Ng3 Bxd3 15.cxd3 Qxc3 16.Rc1 Qxd4 17.Nxf5 exf5 18.Rxc7 0-0 19.e6 Na6 20.exf7+ Rxf7 21.Rxf7 Kxf7 22.Re1 Qg4 23.Re7+ Kg6* 1-0 Burnazovic,E (2560)-Shaposhnikov,Y (2509) 36/(116) London 1983*)* 9...Ba6 10.Ne2 Kf8 11.a4 Nc6 12.Nf4 Bxf1 13.Qxg6 fxg6 14.Nxe6+ Kg8 15.Nxd8 Bxg2 16.Rg1 Nxd8 17.Rxg2 Kh7 18.Be3 Nc6 19.Ke2 Rhe8 20.Rag1 Ne7 21.Kd3 1-0 7.♗b3 ♘c6 8.♘c3 b5_7152 (2464)-Pasanen,T (2371) Swiss Ch Pontresina 2000 (3)]

[6...Nd7 7.a4 a5 8.Qg4 Nf5 9.Bd3 h5 10.Qh3 Nf8 11.Nf3 Ng6 12.Bg5 f6 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Bc1 Kf7 15.g4 hxg4 16.Qxg4 Ngh4 17.Nxh4 Rxh4 18.Qf3 Qd6 19.Qg2 Qf8 20.Rg1 Qg7 21.Qxg7+ 1-0 Zheliandinov,V-Borisenko,G RSFSR-ch19 Voronezh 1959]

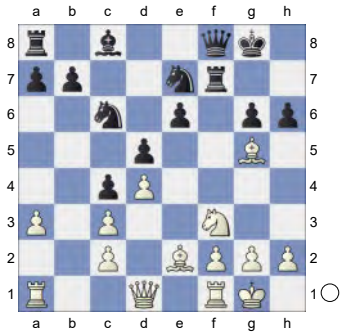
7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7



11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Nbc6 13.Nf3 Qf8 14.0-0

[14.Qd2 Rxf3 15.gxf3 cxd4 *(15...Qxf3* 0.71/22 Chris Ward,MH: '15...cxd4 0.26' *16.Rg1)* 16.f4 -0.13/21 *(⊿16.Bxe7* 0.26/20 *Qxe7 17.h4)* 16...e5]

14...c4 15.Be2 h6



16.Bc1 White must accept this pawn offering if he is to try to prove an advantage. Chris Ward,MH: 'White must accept this pawn offering if he is to try to prove an advantage. White is slightly better.'

[16.Be3 Bd7 17.Qd2 was for ages the main line that was simply contested all the time until the text and Kh7 18.h3 Nf5 or indeed 13...Qc7, came along as valid alternatives. In light of the very reasonable results that the immediate swap of bishops has reaped, the knight trade has fallen

by the wayside in terms of coverage on this site although in fairness I have noticed that it continues to be wheeled out from time to time. 19.Nh2 Qg7 20.f4 Raf8 21.Bf2 Nd6]

[16.Bh4 Nf5 17.Bg3 g5 *(17...Nxg3 18.hxg3 Qd6 19.Qd2 Kg7 20.Qe3 Bd7)* 18.Qd2 *(18.Ne5 Nxg3* Chris Ward,MH: '!' *19.hxg3 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Qc5)* 18...Bd7 19.h4 *(19.Ne5* 0.02/22 Chris Ward,MH: '19. a4 0.57' *Nxg3* Chris Ward,MH: '!' *20.hxg3 Nxe5 21.dxe5 Qg7 22.Qd4 Rf5 23.f4 g4)* 19...Qe7 *(19...g4 20.Ne5* Chris Ward,MH: '!' *Nxg3 21.fxg3 Nxe5 22.dxe5)* 20.hxg5 Nxg3 21.fxg3 hxg5

A) 22.Nxg5 Rg7 23.Nh3 *(23.Nf3* 0.25/19 Chris Ward,MH: '23.Nh3 0. 69' *Rxg3 24.Qf4 Qg7)* 23...e5 24.dxe5 0.01/20 *(24.Kh2±* 1.04/19 *)* 24...Bxh3 Chris Ward,MH: '=' 25.gxh3 Rxg3+ 26.Kh2 Chris Ward,MH: '!' Qxe5 0.43/20 *(26...Qh4!=* -0.01/23 *27.Bg4 Rxg4)*;

B) 22.Rab1 b6 23.Nxg5 Rg7 24.Nh3

B1) 24...e5 1.79/21 Chris Ward, MH: '?' Chris Ward,MH: '24... Rxg3 0.01' 25.dxe5 Chris Ward, MH: '!' Bxh3 2.91/21 *(25...Qc5+±* 1.53/20 *26.Kh2 Nxe5)* 26.Qxd5+ Chris Ward, MH: '+-' Qe6 4.07/22 *(⌓26...Be6* 2.76/22 *27.Qxc6 Rc8)* 27.Bxc4;

B2) 24...Rxg3 25.Bh5 Chris Ward,MH: '!' Rg7 Chris Ward,MH: ' Prevents Rf7' 26.Nf4 Qg5 Chris Ward,MH: ' Dodges Ng6' 27.Qe2 Kh8 28.Rbe1;

C) 22.Qe3 Raf8 23.Nxg5 Rxf1+ *(23...Rg7 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.Nh3)* 24.Bxf1 e5 25.dxe5 Qxe5 26.Qxe5 Nxe5 27.Be2 Bg4 28.Re1 Bxe2 29.Rxe2 Ng4 30.Re7 0.38/25 *(White should try 30.a4±* 0.82/23 *)* 30...Rf5 31.Nf3 Rf7 32.Re8+ Rf8 33.Re7 0.01/21 *(33.Re6!±* 1.01/25 Rg6+ would now be deadly. *Kf7 34.Re1)* 33...Rf7 Chris Ward,MH: '=' 34.Re8+ Rf8 35.Re7]

[16.Bd2 -1.20/16 Chris Ward,MH: '?' Chris Ward,MH: '16.Bc1 0.58']

16...Qg7

[16...Bd7 1/2-1/2 was Burrows,M (2147)-Hawkins,J (2511) Brighton 2013. 17.a4

A) 17...Rd8 18.Ba3 Bc8?;

B) 17...Qg7 18.Ba3 g5 left White under pressure in Prihodko,I (2048)-Sadykov,A (2267) Nabereznye Chelny 2010. I think that we can conclude that the most recent challenger to Magnus's crown isn't a studious follower of ChessPublishing or else he would have been aware of why 19.h3! is the only serious testing move here. Black was threatening to drop his queen in on f2 and indeed the black queen can menace White's kingside if White attempts to trade off all the rooks.. *(* Effectively guarding that a-pawn when *19.Bd6 Nf5 20.Be5 Qg6 21.h3 h5* would be fine for Black. *)*;

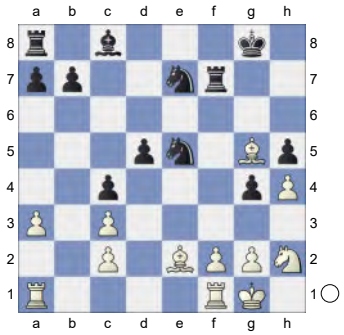
C) 17...Kh7 18.Ba3 Qb8]

17.h3 The queen returns to offer some defence on the queenside.

[17.Qd2

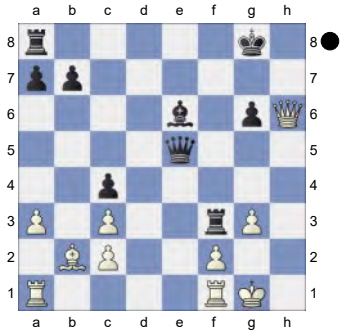
A) 17...g5 18.h4 g4 19.Nh2 Chris Ward,MH: '!' h5 20.Qg5

Qxg5 21.Bxg5 e5 0.93/21 demonstrates the sort of activity Black has for his pawn. After *(21...Nf5±* 0.37/17 *)* 22.dxe5 a draw was agreed in Pavillar,P (2163)-Simmelink,J (2297) Chessfriend.com 2005 although arguably Black is or at at least was a bit better. Chris Ward,MH: ' ±' Previously on the site we concluded Nxe5 Chris Ward,MH: '



' 23.Rfe1 Chris Ward,MH: '!';

B) 17...Nf5 18.h4 0.29/21 *(18.g4* 0.34/21 Chris Ward,MH: '18.a4 0.81' *Nd6* Chris Ward,MH: '!' *19.Qxh6 Qxh6 20.Bxh6 Ne4; 18.a4±* 0.67/20 *)* or 18...Bd7 Chris Ward,MH: '=' 19.Bb2 -0.01/20 *(19.Rb1* were worthy of consideration. With the queen on c5, Black is threatening to take on d3. *b6 20.a4 Qf6 21.Re1; 19.Bd1±* 0.40/22 *)* 19...Qf6 Chris Ward,MH: '=' 20.g3 e5 0.40/19 *(20...Re8=* -0.02/19 is more appropriate.*)* 21.dxe5 Chris Ward,MH: ' ±' Nxe5 22.Nxe5 Qxe5 23.Bf3 Chris Ward,MH: ' Hoping for Rae1!' Nxh4!? seriously scrutinising b3 looks rather tempting.. Chris Ward,MH: '!' White searches for a way to get his queen into the game but actually 24.Bxd5! might have made Black regret not getting that move in himself last turn. Note the tactic Be6?? -0.01/25 wouldn't have been on because of *(24...Nf3+±* 0.47/27 *25.Bxf3* Deflection *Rxf3 26.Qxd7 Rxg3+ 27.fxg3 Qxg3+ 28.Kh1 Qh4+ 29.Kg2 Qg5+ 30.Kh3 Qe3+ 31.Kg4 Qg5+ 32.Kf3 Rf8+ 33.Ke4 Qg2+ 34.Ke5 Qg5+ 35.Kd6 Rd8* Pin *)* 25.Bh1 Chris Ward,MH: '=' Chris Ward,MH: ' Rae1! is the strong threat.' Nf3+ 26.Bxf3 Rxf3 27.Rae1 *(* Shutting out the white queen but *27.Qxh6!?* -#6/14 ready to meet Chris Ward,MH: '27. Rae1 0.08



ready to meet' *Rxg3+?!* with Chris Ward,MH: '!' *28.fxg3!* was also very possible. Both *Qxg3+* and *29.Kh1 Bd5+)* And not 27...Qf6?? 28.Qxh6]

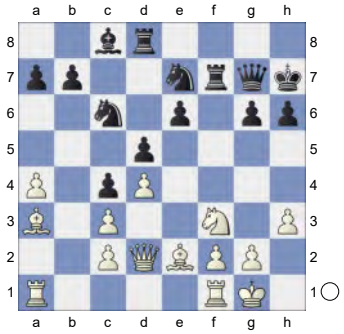
[17.a4 g5

A) 18.Ba3 Ng6 19.Bd6 g4 20.Ne1 *(20.Nd2!?)* 20...e5 21.dxe5 Nf4 22.g3 Nh3+ 23.Kg2 Be6 Chris Ward,MH: '!';

B) 18.h3 Bd7 19.Nh2 e5 1.24/20 *(⌓19...Ng6* 0.73/19 *)* 20.Bh5 Chris Ward,MH: ' ±' Rff8 1.42/20 is a draw! Perhaps Black was trying for more as instead he plans on advancing his pawns to challenge the white defensive shell. *(⌓20...Rf5* 0.83/18 *)* 21.dxe5??

allows Chris Ward,MH: ' ±??' Qxe5! 22.Qd2 Be8 23.Bg4 Bg6 24.Ba3 Qg7 1.93/20 *(24...Qf4± 1.17/19 25.Qe2 Kg7)* 25.Rae1 1.47/17 *(25.Rab1+- 1.93/20 b6 26.Rfe1)*]

17...Bd7 18.a4 Rd8 A nice flexible move preparing doubling of the rooks on the d-file as well as a swinger to a5 to net the a2-pawn. **19.Ba3 Bc8 20.Qd2 Kh7**



21.Rae1

[21.Nh2 e5 22.dxe5 and the players could shake hands. Nxe5? is just very good for Black i.e.]

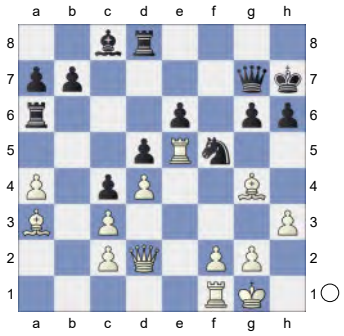
21...Nf5 22.Bd1 Rc7

[22...Nd6]

23.Ne5 Nxe5 Now there is serious pressure against both b3 and d3. **24.Rxe5 Rc6 25.Bg4** 0.24/21

[White should play 25.g4± 0.79/21 Rg8 26.f4 *(26.gxf5 gxf5+∓)*]

25...Ra6



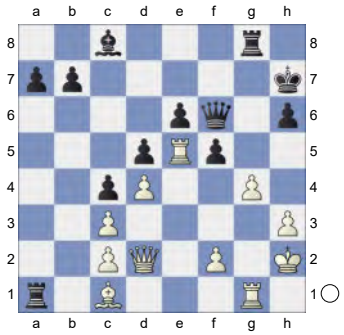
Chris Ward,MH: '=' **26.Bc1 Rxa4** 0.63/21

[26...Bd7= 0.01/21]

27.Bxf5 Chris Ward,MH: ' ±!' **27...gxf5 28.Kh2** -0.01/23 Chris Ward,MH: ' White is weak on the light squares'

[Better is 28.Re3!± 0.55/23]

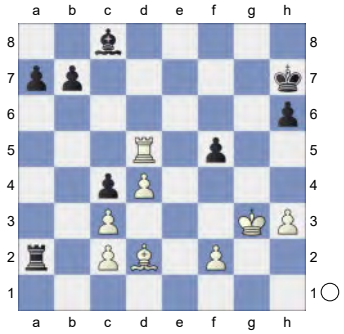
28...Rg8 Regaining the pawn. Now it should just be a draw but in this game with a time limit of 15 minutes each with a small increment, the World number 2 possibly in trying too hard to win, soon goes horribly wrong. **29.Rg1 Ra1 30.g4 Qf6**



31.Rg3 Qg5 0.88/23

[31...fxg4= -0.01/23 keeps the balance. 32.hxg4 Rxc1 33.Qxc1 Qxf2+ 34.Kh3 a5]

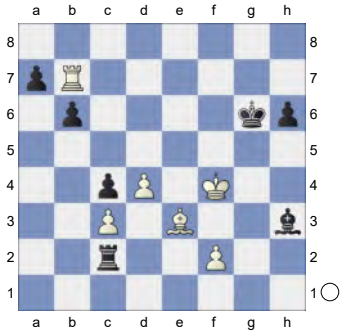
32.gxf5 Chris Ward,MH: ' ±' **32...Qxd2 33.Bxd2 Rxg3 34.Kxg3 exf5 35.Rxd5** Chris Ward,MH: 'Endgame. KRB-KRB' **35...Ra2**



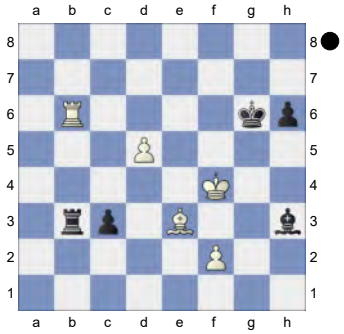
36.Rd8 0.48/22

[36.Rc5± 1.35/23 Rxc2 37.Be3 *(37.Rxc8 Rxd2 38.Rxc4 Kg6=)* 37...f4+ 38.Kxf4 Bxh3 39.Rc7+ *(39.Rxc4 a5+-)* 39...Kg8 40.Rxb7 *(40.Rxc4 a5±)*]

36...Rxc2 Chris Ward,MH: '±' **37.Be3**
[37.Rxc8 Rxd2 38.Rxc4 Kg6 Chris Ward,MH: '=' '=']
37...f4+ White's playing for a win has resulted in Black getting the upper hand. Chris Ward,MH: 'White's playing for a win has resulted in Black getting the upper hand. Deflection' **38.Kxf4?? Bxh3 39.Rb8** 0.01/24
[39.d5 Rxc3 40.Ke5 Rd3=]
[39.Ke5± 0.39/22 might be stronger.]
39...b6 0.39/23 The point is of course that White no longer has the a4-square for his king.
[39...Bg2= 0.01/24 is superior.]
40.Rb7+ Kg6



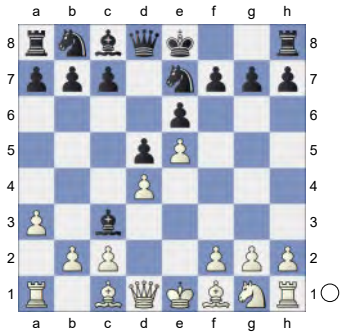
Now White may suffer a little but **41.Rxa7** should see White hold. Instead we see a total blunder. **41...Rxc3 42.Ra6 Rb3 43.d5 c3 44.Rxb6+**



and a draw by repetition would be normal but a disaster is brewing. Chris Ward,MH: 'and a draw by repetition would be normal but a disaster is brewing. Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise) . Loss on time!?'
0-1

32 **C18**
☐ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2822**
■ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2768**
Sinquefield Cup 6th (8) 26.08.2018
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Kitty Kat: 'C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
Moskalenko,V: 'Inf 64/(279)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

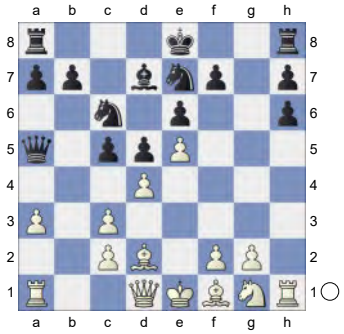


6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6
A) 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Ne2 *(10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.Nf3 Nc6 13.Ng5 Qd7 14.Rh3 Nge7 15.Rf3 Nf5 16.Rf4 Na5 17.f3 0-0-0 18.a4 Kb7 19.Qb5 c6 20.Qe2 Rde8 21.g4 f6 22.gxf5 fxg5 23.fxe6 Qxe6 24.hxg5 Nc4* Xiong,J (2659)-Kuzubov,Y (2605) Chess.com INT 2024 Mega2024 Update 16 [Kitty Kat] 0-1 (41)*)* 10...Qd7 *(10...Qc8 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bd3 c5 14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.0-0 Bc4*

16.a4 Nd7 17.a5 b5 18.Bc1 Kg8 19.Ba3 Qc6 20.Be7 Bxd3 21.cxd3 Rh6 22.d4 a6 23.Bg5 Rh8 24.f4 Nf8 25.f5 Keres,P-Matulovic,M Zürich 1961 French Nc3 [Myers] 1-0 (45) *)* 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 g6 13.Bd3 Qc6 14.Kd2 Kd7 15.Bg5 Kc8 16.Qf4 Qd7 17.Rh3 Kb7 18.Rf3 Rh7 19.Qe3 Nc6 20.Qe2 Bxd3 21.cxd3 Rhh8 Firouzja,A (2760)-Kuzubov,Y (2606) Chess.com INT 2024 Mega2024 Update 27 [Kitty Kat] 0-1 (58);

B) 7.Nh3 Ng6 8.Nf4 Nxf4 9.Bxf4 Ba6 10.Qg4 Rg8 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Bg5 Qd7 13.0-0 f5 14.Qh5+ g6 15.Qh3 Rg7 16.g4 fxg4 17.Qxg4 Qc6 18.Rad1 Kd7 19.Rd3 Re8 20.Rf3 Kc8 21.Rf6 Gligoric,S-Matulovic,M Zürich 1961 French Nc3 [Myers] 0-1 (37)]

7.h4 Nbc6 8.h5 Qa5 9.Bd2 Bd7 10.h6 gxh6

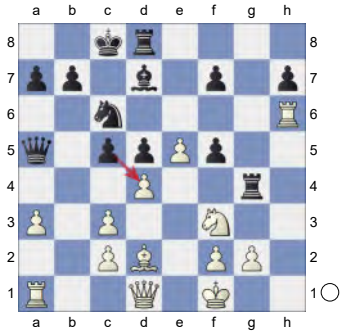


11.Nf3 0-0-0 12.Bd3 White is slightly better. **12...Rhg8 13.Kf1 Nf5 14.Bxf5** -0.03/19

[14.Rb1 0.30/16 deserves consideration.]

14...exf5= 15.Rxh6 Rg4

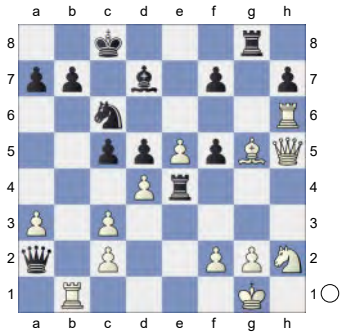
(Diagram)



16.Nh2 Qb5+ 17.Kg1 Re4 0.22/18

[⊼17...Rg7 -0.22/20]

18.Rb1 Qc4 19.Bg5 Rg8 20.Qh5 Qa2



21.Rf1 Rg6 1.02/21

[21...cxd4? 22.Qxf7! Rxg5 23.Nf3 Qxa3 24.Nxg5 Rxe5 25.Qg8+ *(25.Qxh7 Qf8+-)* 25...Kc7 26.Nf7+- *(26.Rxh7 Re7+-; 26.Qxh7 Qe7+-)*]

[21...Be6!= 0.01/21 remains equal.]

22.Rxh7± Be6 23.Nf3 0.24/19

[But not 23.dxc5?! Qxa3 24.Nf3 Qxc3=]

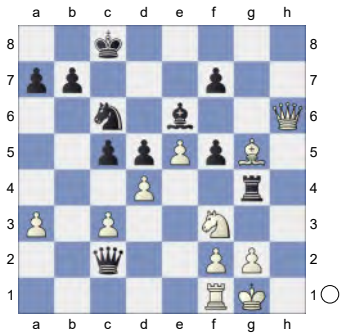
[23.Rh8+± 0.82/20 Kc7 24.Nf3 *(24.dxc5 Qxa3 25.Nf3 Qxc3=)*]

23...Rg4= 24.Rh6 Rxh6

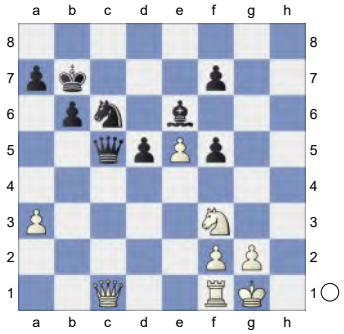
[24...Rg8 feels hotter. 25.Rxe6 fxe6 26.Qf7 R8xg5 27.Nxg5 Rxg5 28.Qxe6+ Kc7]

25.Qxh6 Qxc2

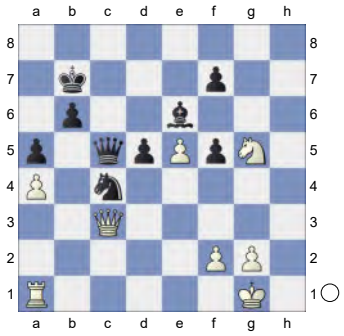
(Diagram)



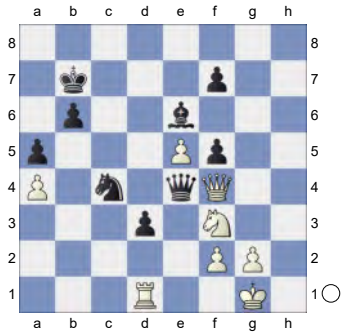
26.Nh2 And now Qf8+ would win. The board is on fire. **26...Rxg5 27.Qxg5 Qxc3 28.dxc5 Qxc5 29.Qc1 b6 30.Nf3 Kb7**



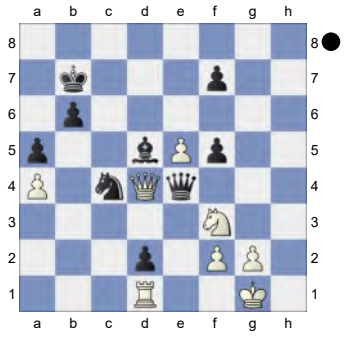
31.Qb2 Na5 32.a4 Nc4 33.Qc3 0.10/22
[33.Qb1± 0.80/20]
33...Bd7 0.93/20
[33...Na5!= 0.10/22 34.Qb2 Bd7]
34.Ra1 a5 35.Ng5 0.19/20
[35.Qc1± 0.85/21]
35...Be6 0.82/21
[35...d4!= 0.19/20 36.Qf3+ Ka7]



36.Rb1 0.32/22
[36.Rc1± 0.82/21]
36...d4 0.79/22
[36...Qc6⩲ 0.32/22]
37.Qf3+ 0.14/23
[37.Qc2± 0.79/22]
37...Qc6 0.57/22
[37...Ka7!= 0.14/23 38.Qg3 *(38.Nxe6 fxe6 39.Qh3 Nxe5⩲)* 38...Nxe5]
38.Qf4 0.01/20
[38.Qd1⩲ 0.57/22 Qd7 39.Nxe6 fxe6 40.Qb3]
38...Qd5? 2.55/25
[38...d3= 0.01/20]
39.Nf3? -0.49/22
[Better is 39.Rb5+- 2.55/25 Qc6 40.Nxe6 *(40.Qxd4 Na3⩲)* 40...fxe6 41.Qxd4]
39...d3∓ Black has compensation.
40.Rd1 -1.81/23
[White should play 40.Nd2∓ -0.68/21]
40...Qe4 -0.95/23
[40...Bd7-+ -1.81/23 41.Qd4 Qxd4 42.Nxd4 Nxe5]



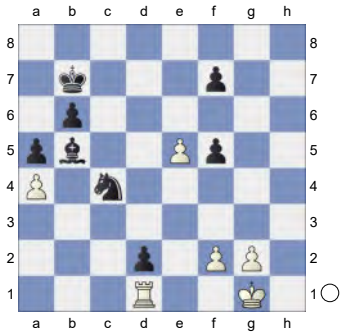
41.Qc1∓ Bd5 42.Qc3 d2 43.Qd4



Qxd4! **44.Nxd4** Endgame KRN-KBN **44...Bc6** **45.Nb5?** -3.96/25

[45.Nxc6∓ -1.58/22 was forced. Kxc6 46.f3]

45...Bxb5-+



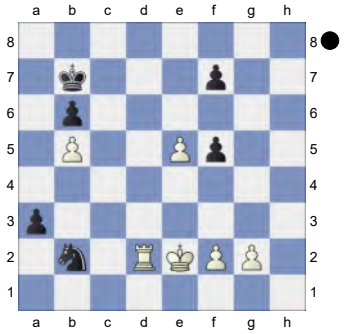
46.axb5 KR-KN **46...a4** Threatens to win with ...a3. **47.Kf1** **a3?** -1.34/23

[47...Kc7-+ -4.23/26 and Black stays clearly on top. White must now prevent ...Kd7. 48.Ke2 Kd7]

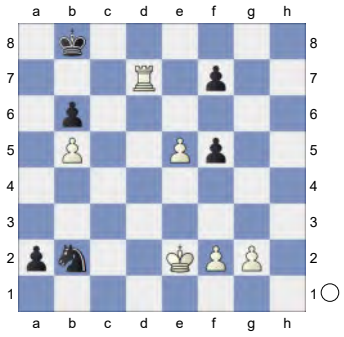
48.Ke2∓ Hoping for Ra1. **48...Nb2** -0.01/23

[Black should try 48...Kc8∓ -1.12/28]

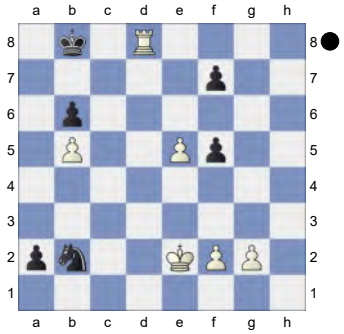
49.Rxd2=



The position is equal. **49...a2!** **50.Rd7+** **Kb8**



51.Rd8+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.37

½-½

33 **C01**

☐ **evg85** **2819**

■ **MYPOWER33** **2615**

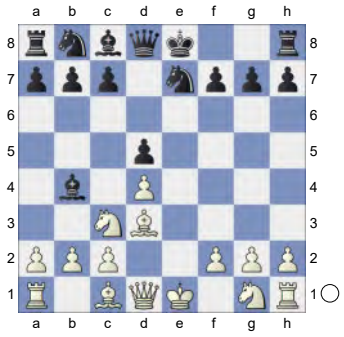
Blitz 31.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min

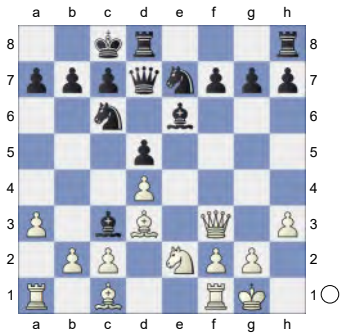
C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 **e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** **Bb4** **4.exd5** **exd5** **5.Bd3** **Ne7**

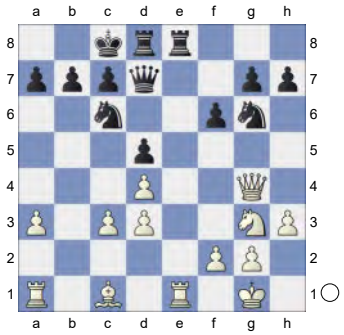


6.Qf3 **Nbc6** **7.Nge2** **Be6** **8.0-0** **Qd7** **9.h3** **0-0-0** **10.a3** **Bxc3**

(Diagram)

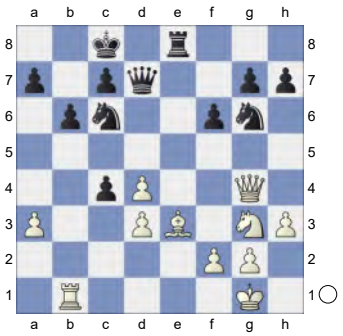


11.bxc3 Bf5N
[11...h5 12.Nf4 Bf5 13.Nxh5 Be4 14.Qg4 Nf5 15.Ng3 Nxg3 16.Qxd7+ Rxd7 17.fxg3 Re8 18.Bd2 Na5 19.Rae1 Rde7 20.g4 Nc4 21.Bc1 b5 22.g5 Kd8 23.Rf2 c6 24.h4 g6 25.Ref1 Nd6 26.Bf4 Owen,J (2552)-Bank Friis,C (2508) Reykjavik 2001 CBM 127 [FS-70/204] 1-0 (41)]
12.Ng3 Bxd3 13.cxd3 f6 White is slightly better. **14.Re1 Ng6 15.Qg4 Rhe8**

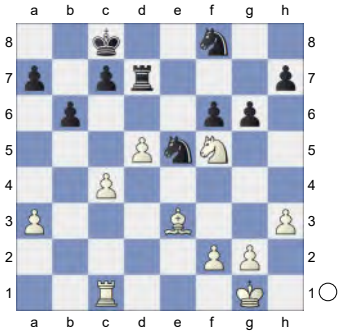


16.Bd2 Na5 17.Rab1 b6 18.Rxe8 Rxe8 19.c4 0.01/20
[19.Qf3± 0.45/18]
19...Nc6= Hoping for ...Qxg4. Pair of Knights! **20.Be3 dxc4**

(Diagram)

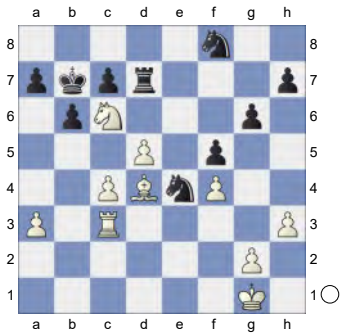


21.dxc4 Rd8 0.88/19
[21...Qxg4= 0.04/18 remains equal. 22.hxg4 Nf8]
22.Qxd7+ 0.01/21
[22.Nf5± 0.88/19]
22...Rxd7 23.Nf5 Nf8 0.46/20
[23...Na5= -0.01/21]
24.d5!± Ne5 25.Rc1 g6

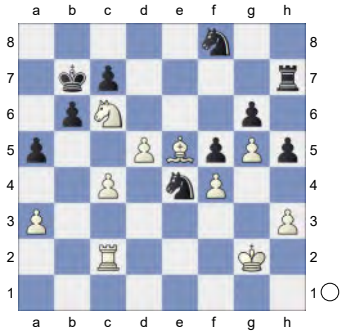


26.Nd4 f5 1.02/21
[Better is 26...g5± 0.35/20]
27.Rc3± Kb7 1.67/19
[27...Re7± 0.91/21 might work better.]
28.f4 1.17/21
[White should try 28.Bf4+- 1.67/19 c5 29.Bxe5 cxd4 30.Bxd4]
28...Nf7 29.Nc6 Inhibits Rd8. **29...Nd6 30.Bd4 Ne4**

(Diagram)

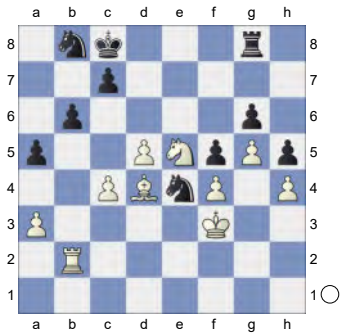


31.Rc2 Rd6 32.Be5 Rd7 1.37/21
[32...Rxc6± 0.56/22 33.dxc6+ Kxc6]
33.g4 0.37/19
[33.Rb2± 1.37/21]
33...a5 1.35/20
[Black should play 33...Ne6!± 0.37/19]
34.Kg2 h5 35.g5 Rh7

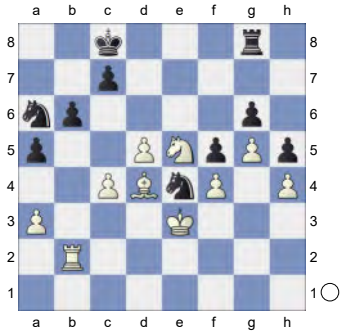


36.Bd4 0.96/23
0x0.0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces.
[⌓36.Rb2 1.38/20]
36...Nd7 1.30/22
[⌓36...Ne6 0.96/23]
37.h4 Nb8 1.50/22
[⌓37...Ka6 1.18/21]
38.Ne5 Rg7 39.Kf3 1.20/21
[39.Rb2!+- 1.89/22]
39...Rg8 2.18/21
[39...c5± 1.20/21]
40.Rb2+- Kc8

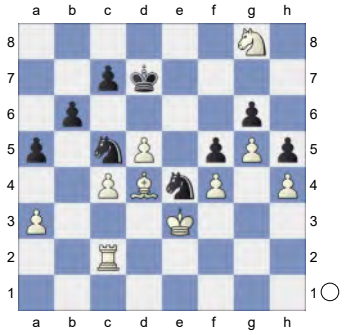
(Diagram)



41.Ke3 1.09/22
[41.Bxb6!+- 1.93/22 cxb6 42.Rxb6]
41...Na6? 2.70/22
[41...Nd7± 1.09/22]

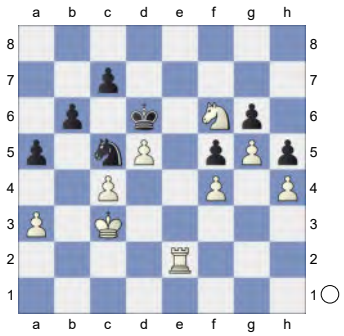


42.Nc6? 0.67/21
[42.Bxb6!+- 2.70/22 cxb6 *(42...Nc3 43.Rb3)* 43.Rxb6]
42...Nac5? 9.42/20
[42...Re8± 0.67/21]
43.Ne7+ Kd7 44.Nxg8 Na4 45.Rc2 Nac5

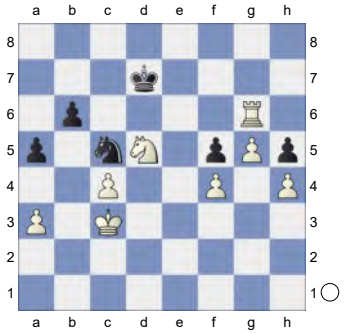


46.Nf6+ Ke7 47.Bxc5+ Nxc5 48.Kd4 Kd6 49.Re2 Nb3+ 50.Kc3 Intending Re6+ and mate. **50...Nc5**

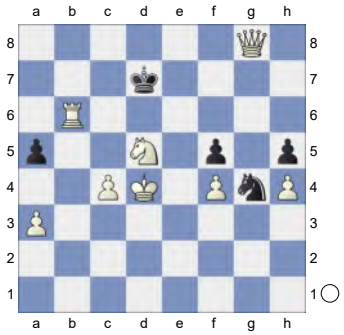
(Diagram)



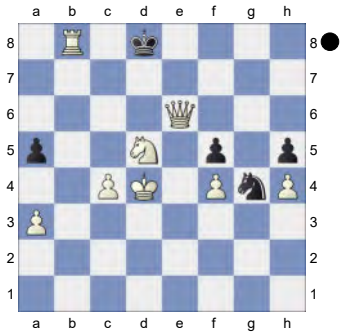
Against Re6+ **51.Re8 c6 52.dxc6 Kc7 53.Rg8 Kxc6 54.Rxg6** White threatens Nd5+ and mate. **54...Kd6 55.Nd5+** White mates. **55...Kd7**



56.Rxb6 Ne4+ 57.Kd4 Nf2 58.g6 Kc8 59.g7 Ng4 60.g8Q+ Kd7



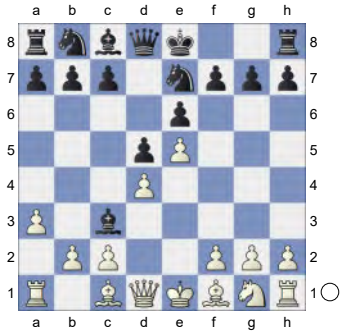
61.Qe6+ Kd8 62.Rb8#



Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.36
1-0

34	**C18**
☐ **Caruana,Fabiano**	**2818**
■ **Aronian,Levon**	**2765**
Saint Louis 141/111	2019
[Perunovic,Milos]	

Kitty Kat: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** Kitty Kat **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 c5 Kitty Kat: 'N'

[6...b6 Kitty Kat 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth,P (1739) Nuremberg Zabo op 23rd 2023 (1) *)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 *(8.a4 Qd7 9.Bb5 c6 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.Ba3 c5 12.dxc5 Qc7 13.Nf3 bxc5 14.0-0 Bxd3 15.cxd3 Nd7 16.d4 0-0* Burnazovic, E (2574)-Aschenberg,A (2603) 32/71 Polanica Zdroj 1981*)* 8...h5 9.Qg3 *(9.Qd1 Qd7 10.Bd3 Ne7 11.Ne2 Qc6 12.Bg5 Nf5 13.0-0 Ba6 14.Ng3 Bxd3 15.cxd3 Qxc3 16.Rc1 Qxd4 17.Nxf5 exf5 18.Rxc7 0-0 19.e6 Na6 20.exf7+ Rxf7 21.Rxf7 Kxf7 22.Re1 Qg4 23.Re7+ Kg6* 1-0 Burnazovic,E (2560)-

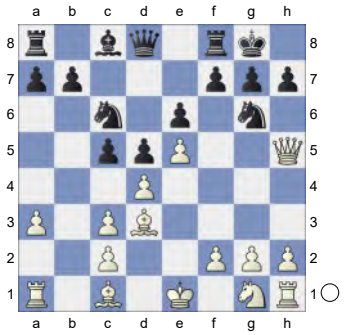
Shaposhnikov,Y (2509) 36/(116) London 1983) 9...Ba6 10.Ne2 Kf8 11.a4 Nc6 12.Nf4 Bxf1 13.Qxg6 fxg6 14.Nxe6+ Kg8 15.Nxd8 Bxg2 16.Rg1 Nxd8 17.Rxg2 Kh7 18.Be3 Nc6 19.Ke2 Rhe8 20.Rag1 Ne7 21.Kd3 1-0 7.♗b3 ♘c6 8.♘c3 b5_7152 (2464)-Pasanen,T (2371) Swiss Ch Pontresina 2000 (3)]

[6...Nd7 Kitty Kat 7.a4 a5 8.Qg4 Nf5 9.Bd3 h5 10.Qh3 Nf8 11.Nf3 Ng6 12.Bg5 f6 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Bc1 Kf7 15.g4 hxg4 16.Qxg4 Ngh4 17.Nxh4 Rxh4 18.Qf3 Qd6 19.Qg2 Qf8 20.Rg1 Qg7 21.Qxg7+ 1-0 Zheliandinov,V-Borisenko,G RSFSR-ch19 Voronezh 1959]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3!? Nbc6 9.Qh5

[9.dxc5 Kitty Kat Nxe5 10.Bxh7+ Kxh7∓]

9...Ng6 Diagram



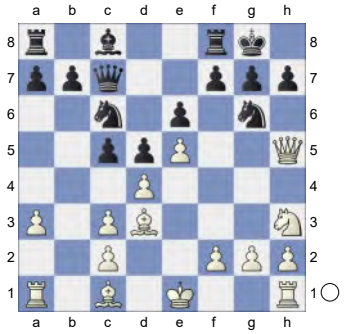
10.Nh3N

[10.Nf3 Qc7 11.Be3 c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Qf7 *(13...b5)* 14.Ng5 Qe8 15.h4 h6 16.Nh3 Ne7 17.Nf4]

[10.dxc5 Kitty Kat Ncxe5 *(10...Ngxe5 11.Qxh7#)* 11.Bxg6 Nxg6∓]

10...Qc7

(Diagram)



11.Be3

[11.0-0 c4 12.Be2 Qa5 *(12...f6 13.exf6 Rxf6 14.Bg5 Rf8 15.f4)*]

[11.dxc5 Kitty Kat Ncxe5 *(11...Ngxe5 12.Qxh7#)* 12.Be3 Nd7∓]

[11.Ng5!? Kitty Kat h6□ 12.Nxf7 Remove Defender Qxf7 13.Qxg6 Qxg6 14.Bxg6±]

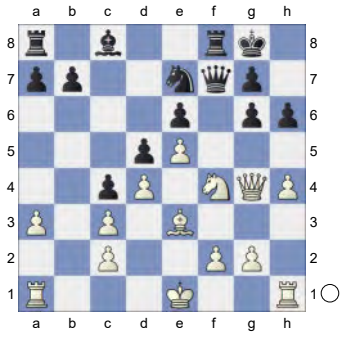
11...c4 Kitty Kat: ' ...Qa5 would now be deadly. The position is equal.' **12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Qf7** 0.42/19

[13...Rf5 -0.01/18 Kitty Kat: '=']

[13...b5]

[13...Qa5 14.Bd2 Qa4 15.Ra2 Bd7 16.Nf4 Rf5 17.h4 Raf8]

14.Nf4 Kitty Kat: '±' **14...Ne7 15.h4 h6**



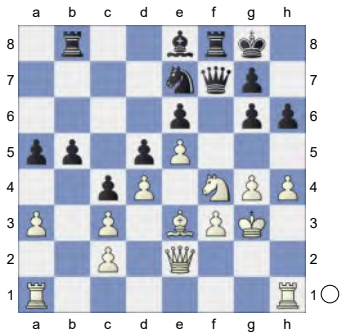
16.Qe2 Bd7 17.g4 b5

[17...Ba4 18.f3 b5 19.Kf2 a5 20.Kg3 Nc6 21.h5 g5 22.Ng6 Bxc2 23.Nxf8 Rxf8 24.Qxc2 Qxf3+ 25.Kh2 Qxe3 26.Rhf1 Rxf1 27.Rxf1 b4 28.axb4 axb4 29.Qg6]

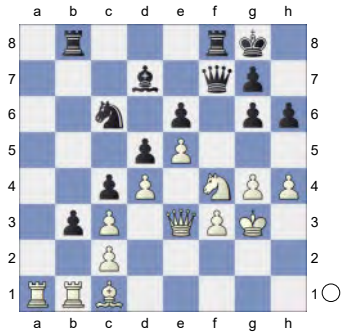
18.f3±

[18.Kf1 a5]

18...a5
[18...Qe8 19.Kf2 Rb8]
19.Kf2 Rab8 20.Kg3 Be8

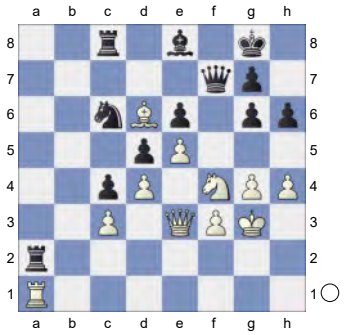


21.Bd2 b4
[21...Nc8± 22.h5 Ne7 23.hxg6 Nxg6 24.Nh5 Bc6 25.Rag1 Qb7 26.Kf2 *(26.Bxh6∞)* 26...Be8 27.g5 hxg5 28.Bxg5 Rf5 29.Nf6+ gxf6 30.Bxf6 Kf8 31.Qe3]
[21...Rb7 22.h5 *(22.Raf1 b4)* 22...g5 23.Nh3 Nc6 24.f4 gxf4+ 25.Nxf4 Qd7]
[21...Bc6
A) 22.a4 b4 *(22...bxa4 23.Bc1)* 23.Rhb1 *(23.cxb4 axb4 24.a5 Bb5)* 23...Bd7 *(23...b3 24.cxb3 cxb3 25.Nd3)* 24.Qe3 *(24.cxb4 axb4 25.a5 Bb5 26.Qe3 c3 27.Bc1 Nc6)* 24...Nc6 25.Rb2 Rb7 26.Rab1 Rfb8;
B) 22.Rhb1 Ra8± 23.Bc1
B1) 23...Rfb8 24.a4 bxa4 *(24...b4 25.Bd2 bxc3 26.Rxb8+ Rxb8 27.Bxc3 Ra8 28.Qd2 Rf8 29.Bxa5 g5 30.hxg5 hxg5 31.Nxe6 Qxe6 32.Qxg5 Ng6 33.Bb4 Rf7 34.a5)* 25.Ba3 Nc8 26.Bc5;
B2) 23...Be8;
B3) 23...Bd7 24.a4± b4!? 25.Qe3 *(25.Bd2 bxc3 26.Bxc3 Qxf4+; 25.cxb4 axb4 26.Rxb4 Nc6)* 25...Rab8 26.Bd2 Nc6 27.h5 gxh5± 28.Nxh5 - 133/126 Qg6 29.Rh1 Ne7]
22.axb4 axb4 23.Rhb1 Kitty Kat: ' Active counter play!'
[23.cxb4∞ c3 24.Be3 Nc6 25.Nd3 Nxb4 26.Nxb4 Rxb4]
23...Nc6 Kitty Kat: ' Strongly threatening ...bxc3.'
[23...b3
A) 24.cxb3 cxb3± 25.Qe3 *(25.Qd1?!; 25.Ra3 Bb5 26.Qe3∓ Bc4)* 25...Nc8 26.Qf2 Rb5 27.Ra3 Nb6 28.Raxb3 Rxb3 29.Rxb3 Nc4±;
B) 24.Ra7! Nf5+;
C) 24.Qe3 Bd7 *(24...Rb7 25.Bc1)* 25.Bc1 bxc2 26.Rxb8 Rxb8 27.Ra2± Nc6 28.Rxc2]
24.Qe3 b3
[24...bxc3 25.Rxb8 Nxb8 26.Bxc3 Nc6 27.Bd2 Qe7 28.Bc1± Bf7 29.Ba3 Qa7 30.Qc1 Ra8± 31.c3!? Qa5 32.Bb2 Qd8 33.Rxa8 Qxa8 34.Ba3=]
25.Bc1 Kitty Kat: '!'
[25.cxb3 Rxb3 *(25...cxb3* Kitty Kat *26.Bc1 Bd7=)* 26.Rxb3 cxb3 27.Bc1 Bd7= 28.Nd3 Rb8=]
25...Bd7
[25...bxc2 26.Rxb8+- Nxb8 27.Ba3]
[25...g5 Kitty Kat 26.hxg5 hxg5 27.Nh3±]

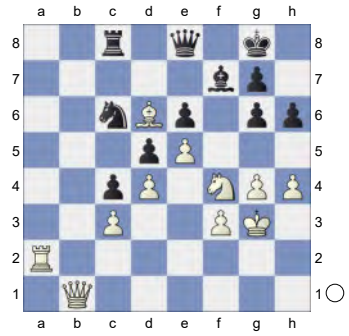


26.Ba3 Kitty Kat: '!' **26...bxc2 27.Rc1** Kitty Kat: ' Some like it hot' **27...Rfc8**

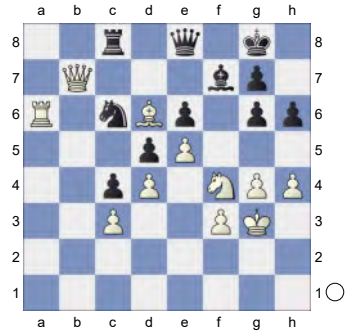
28.Rxc2 Ra8 1.10/22
[28...Rb3± 0.55/24 Kitty Kat]
29.Rca2 Kitty Kat: '±!' **29...Be8** 1.41/23
[29...Ra5 0.91/23 Kitty Kat: '⩲' 30.Bd6 Rca8 31.Rxa5 Rxa5± 32.Rb1? Ra2]
30.Bd6 Kitty Kat: '!' **30...Rxa2**



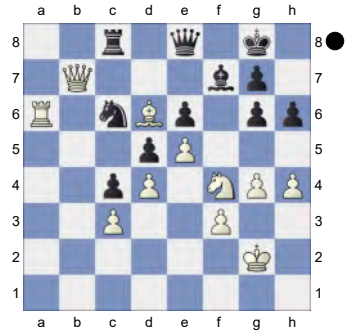
31.Rxa2 Qd7 1.66/24 Kitty Kat: ' Black is weak on the dark squares'
[31...Rd8 32.Qc1! Rd7
A) 33.Bc5 Rb7 34.Qa1 Rb8 35.Bd6 Rb7 36.Ra8 Ra7 37.Rxa7 Nxa7 38.h5 *(38.Nxe6 Qxe6 39.Qxa7 h5±)*;
B) 33.Rb2= Ra7 *(33...Rb7 34.Rxb7= Qxb7± 35.Nxe6)* 34.Qb1!=]
[31...Nd8± 1.26/23 Kitty Kat 32.Qc1 h5]
32.Qc1 Bf7 1.94/23
[32...Qf7 33.Qb1 Kh8 *(33...Rd8 34.Ra6)* 34.Ra6 Kg8 35.Bc5 Kh8= *(35...Rb8 36.Qxg6 Qxg6= 37.Nxg6!? Bxg6 38.Rxc6)* 36.Rb6 Rc7! 37.Bd6 Ra7= 38.Nxg6+ Qxg6 39.Qxg6 Bxg6 40.Rxc6]
[32...Nd8± 1.41/22 Kitty Kat 33.Qb1 Qf7]
33.Qb1 Kitty Kat: '+-' **33...Qe8** 3.44/23 Kitty Kat: '
[33...Ne7 2.09/23 Kitty Kat: ' keeps fighting.' 34.Rb2 *(34.Bxe7 Qxe7 35.Nxg6 Qe8 36.h5 Rb8 37.Qc2! Ra8; 34.Ra6* Kitty Kat *Nc6 35.Nxg6 Re8)* 34...Qe8 35.Bxe7 Qxe7 36.Nxg6= Qe8= *(36...Bxg6 37.Qxg6)* 37.h5]



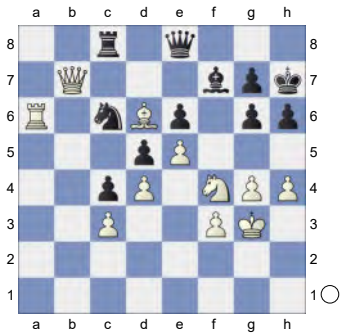
' **34.Qb7** Kitty Kat: '!' **34...Kh7**
[34...Rd8 35.Bc7! Rc8 36.Ra6]
35.Ra6 Kg8



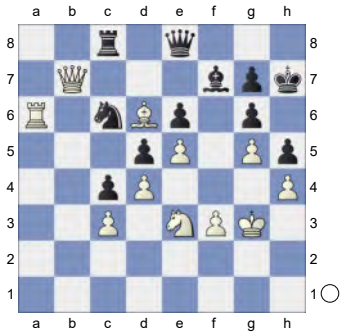
36.Bc7?! Ne7 37.Bd6 0.01/23 Kitty Kat: '?'
[37.Nxe6+- 3.21/23 Kitty Kat Qd7 38.Rd6]
37...Nc6 Kitty Kat: '=!' **38.Kg2** Diagram



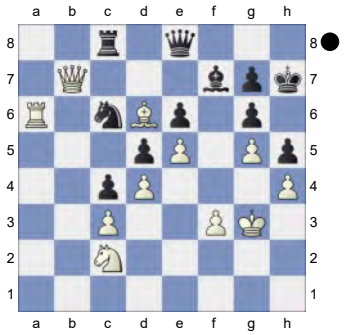
38...Kh7?! 39.Kh3 Kitty Kat: ' And now Kh2 would win.' **39...Kg8** 4.00/27
[⩲39...g5 2.67/23 Kitty Kat]
40.Kg3! Kh7



41.Nh3 Kg8 42.g5 h5 43.Nf4 Kh7 44.Ng2 Bg8 45.Ne3 Bf7?!



46.Nc2 Diagram



46...Bg8?? 47.Na3 Bf7 48.Kf2

[48.Nb5 Ne7 49.Bxe7± *(49.Na7 Nf5+; 49.Ra7* Kitty Kat *Nf5+ 50.Kf2 Bg8±; 49.Qxe7* Kitty Kat *Qxb5 50.Qa7 Qb2=)* 49...Rb8 Kitty Kat: '±' 50.Qc6± Qxc6! 51.Rxc6 Rxb5]

48...Bg8 49.Ke3+- 1.43/28 Kitty Kat: '?'

[49.Nb5 Kitty Kat Qf7 50.Qxf7 *(50.Qxc8 Qf4+-)* 50...Bxf7±]

[49.Nc2+- 4.94/25 (Kitty Kat) has better winning chances.]

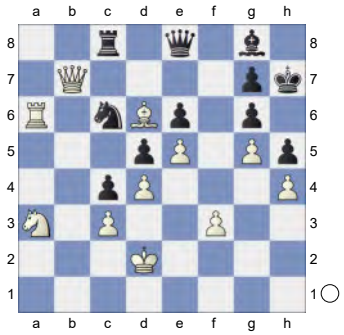
49...Bf7 5.69/29 Kitty Kat: '?' Kitty Kat: ' Loses the game.'

[49...Qf7 1.43/28 Kitty Kat: '±' Kitty Kat: ' is more resistant.' 50.Qxc8 *(50.Qxf7! Bxf7 51.Nb5 Be8)* 50...Qf5 Kitty Kat: ' ±' 51.Kf2 Qf4± 52.Ke2 Qf5 53.Nxc4 Qc2+ *(53...dxc4 54.Ra2 Qf4)* 54.Nd2 Nxd4+ 55.Ke3 Nf5+]

50.Kd2 Kitty Kat: 'White is clearly winning.'

[50.Nb5 Ne7 Kitty Kat: '±']

50...Bg8



51.Kc2 Bf7 52.Kc1

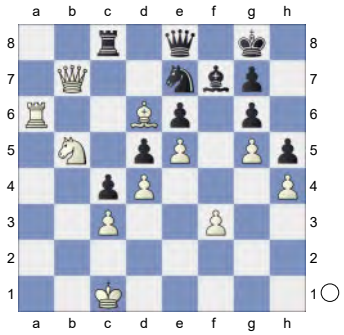
[52.Nb5 Bg8 53.Nc7 Qf7 54.Rxc6 Qxf3 55.Qxc8= Qe2+ 56.Kc1 *(56.Kb1 Qd1+ 57.Ka2± Qc2+)* 56...Qe1+ 57.Kb2 Qd2+± 58.Ka3 Qxc3+ 59.Ka4]

52...Kg8 7.37/26

[⌓52...Bg8 4.61/29 Kitty Kat 53.Nb5 Kh8]

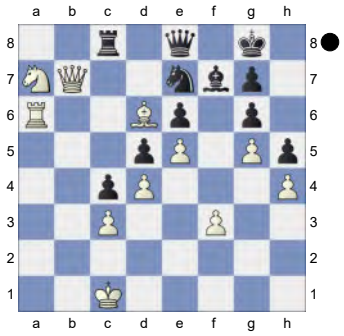
53.Nb5 Kitty Kat: '+-' **53...Ne7** Kitty Kat: '

[53...Kh7! 54.Nc7]



' **54.Na7**

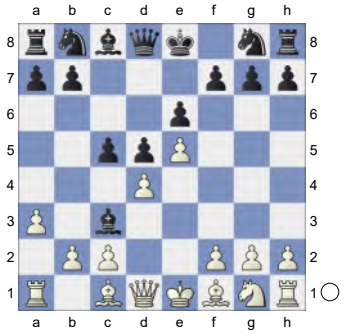
[Kitty Kat: ' Not' 54.Bxe7 Rb8 55.Qc6 Qxc6 Kitty Kat: ' Remove Defender' 56.Rxc6 Rxb5±]



Kitty Kat: '!' Kitty Kat: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.30'
1-0

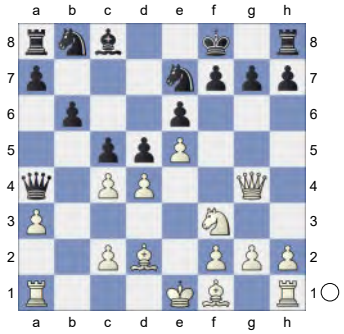
35 **C18**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2817**
■ **Naroditsky,Daniel** **2646**
U.S. Championship (8.3) 06.04.2017
[Kitty Kar]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

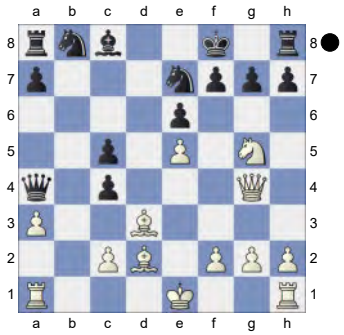


6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 Kf8 9.Nf3 b6 10.c4 Black must now prevent cxd5.
[10.Qf4 is more complex. Qxc2 11.dxc5 bxc5 12.Ng5]

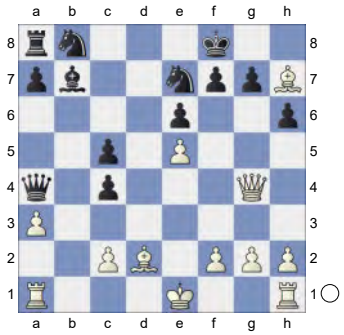
10...Ne7



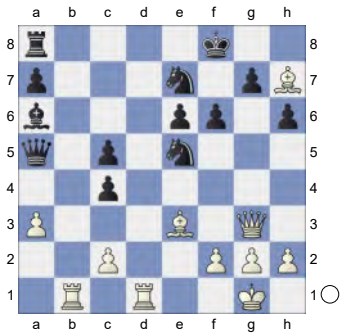
11.Bd3 White is slightly better. **11...dxc4 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.Ng5**



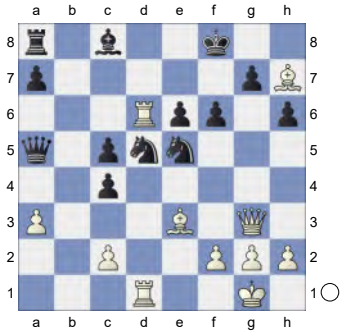
Qf3 is the strong threat. 0x0. 00188aebe9cadp-1022s more active pieces. **13...h6 14.Nh7+ Rxh7! 15.Bxh7 Bb7**



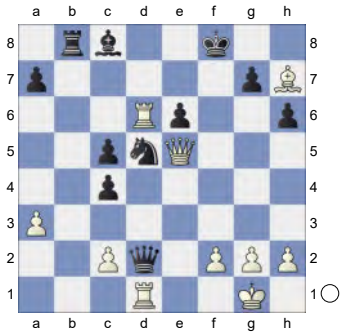
16.0-0→ Black needs to defend precisely. **16...Nbc6** 1.07/20
[16...Bd5± 0.59/18]
17.Rab1 Ba6 1.86/22
[17...Nd8± 1.05/21 might work better. 18.Be3 Rc8]
18.Be3+- Qa5 19.Rfd1 Nxe5 2.75/22
[19...Rc8± 1.42/20 20.Rd6 Qxa3]
20.Qg3 f6



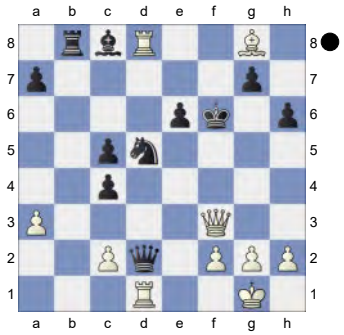
21.Rd6 Bc8 22.Rbd1 Nd5? 6.18/22
[22...Nf7 2.65/20 23.Be4 Rb8 24.Rxe6 Bxe6]



23.Bf4 Rb8 24.Bxe5 fxe5 25.Qxe5 Qd2



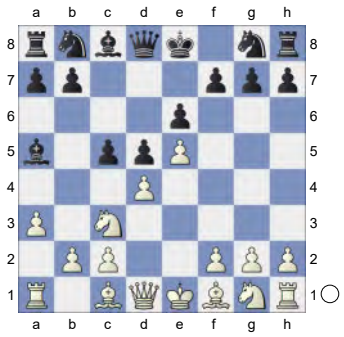
26.Rd8+
[26.Rxd2? Rb1+]
26...Kf7 27.Bg8+ 22.51/23
[27.Rxd2? Rb1+]
[⚠27.Qh5+ #8/18 Kf6 28.Qg6+ Ke7 29.Qe8+ *(29.Rxd2?* gets mated. *Rb1+)* 29...Kf6 30.Qf8+ *(30.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 30...Kg5 31.Qxg7+ *(31.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 31...Kh5 32.Qg6+ *(32.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 32...Kh4 33.Qg3+ *(33.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 33...Kh5 34.Bg6# *(34.Rxd2? Rb1+)*]
27...Kg6 28.Qe4+
[28.Rxd2? is a self mate. Rb1+]
28...Kf6 29.Qf3+
[29.Rxd2? leads to mate. Rb1+]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.79
1-0

36 **C18**
□ **Kasparov,Garry** **2817**
■ **Adams,Michael** **2731**
ARM-ROW m Moscow (4) 13.06.2004
[Stohl,Igor]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Ba5



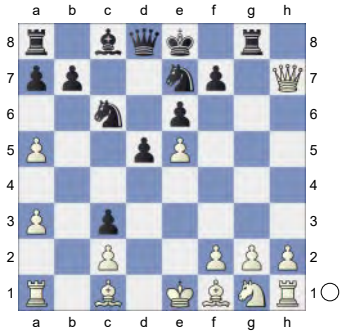
6.b4 cxd4 7.Qg4
[7.Nb5 are considered to be more ambitious for White. Bc7 8.f4]
7...Ne7 8.bxa5

[8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Bc7⇄ 10.Nb5!? is also playable a6 11.Nxc7+ *(11.Nxd4 Bxe5 12.Bb2 Qb6 13.Ngf3 Bf6 14.Qh6 Rg6 15.Qd2 e5=* Karpov-Ftacnik/ Thessaloniki olm/1988/ *16.Nb3?!* However, nowadays *Nbc6* or *)* 11...Qxc7 12.Bb2! Qxe5+ 13.Ne2 Nbc6 14.Qd3 Nf5 15.0-0-0 Qf6 16.Nxd4 Nfxd4 17.Bxd4 e5 18.Bb2 d4 *(18...Be6)* 19.Qd2 Bf5 20.g3 Be4 21.Rg1 Bf3]

8...dxc3 9.Qxg7 The English Hedgehog is a surprisingly rare guest in Kasparov's practice, in the early 1980s he played it in a few games with Black. The most important of those was his first one-on-one encounter with Karpov, in this game he chooses the same system as the World Champion did 23 years ago.

9...Rg8 Black continues with the Hedgehog set-up. As White intends to exchange his ♗ on f6 anyway, it doesn't make sense to kick it with **10.Qxh7** The immediate exchange allows White to develop pressure against the ♙d6, which in turn leads to the exchange of the ♗b7.

10...Nbc6



11.f4

[11.Nf3! Qc7 12.Bf4 Bd7 13.Bg3 0-0-0 14.Bd3 Qxa5 15.0-0= Tal,M-Vaganian,R/Moscow/1983/ Rh8 16.Qxf7 Rdf8 17.Qg7 Rhg8 18.Qh7? Rh8! is a trick Black must beware of 19.Qg7 Rhg8 20.Qh7 Qc5± Illescas Cordoba,M-Galego,L/Los Yebenes/1990/ ⌓21.Kh1⇄ Rh8!?= 22.Qg7? Rhg8± ×d6,d5 The other alternative is 23.Qh7 Rh8 24.Qg7 Rhg8 25.Qh7 Rh8]

11...Nd4

[11...Qc7 12.Nf3↑ ×d5 Bd7? 13.Rb1↑ Δ 0-0-0? 14.a6 b6 15.Ng5+- Adams prepares a5 and moves his ♕ away from the ♘b5 attack. Rxg5!? is similar, but gives Black a chance to play d5 earlier, after 16.fxg5 Qxe5+= White has nothing. 17.Be2 Nf5]

[11...Qxa5 12.Nf3 *(12.Rb1 Nd4=* Karpov,A-Kasparov,G/Moscow 4 teams/1981/ *13.Qd3 Nef5 14.Nf3 Nxf3+ 15.Qxf3 Bd7 16.Rxb7!? Bc6 17.Rb4 Qc5* ½,Pigusov,E-Ulibin,M/ Dubai op/2002/ *18.Qf2* Δ♕c7,♘a6-c5⇄ *d4 19.Rg1 a5 20.Rb1 0-0-0 21.Bd3 Kc7 22.g4 Ne3)* 12...Bd7 13.Rb1 0-0-0 14.Qd3 Nf5 *(14...a6 15.g3 Nf5 16.Bg2 Qc5 17.Rb3 d4 18.Ng5 Rxg5 19.fxg5 Qxe5+ 20.Kf2 Qc5 21.Re1 Nd6 22.Bf4 Nc4; 14...d4 15.g3 Kb8 16.Be2 Ka8±* ↑,Andersson,U-Seirawan,Y/London/ 1982/ *17.Kf2 Be8 18.Rd1 Nf5 19.Qc4 a6 20.a4 Rd5 21.Bd3 f6 22.Bxf5 exf5 23.Rb5)* 15.Rg1! Rg4 16.g3 Rh8 17.Kf2 Qc5+ 18.Be3 Qxa3 19.Rb3 Qa4 20.Rxc3= Pigusov,E-Aseev,K/Vilnius/1984/ A model example of White's plan in action is ≤d4 21.Bxd4 Nfxd4 22.Qxd4 Rxh2+ 23.Rg2 Qxd4+ 24.Nxd4 Rh1?! 25.Bb5]

12.Qd3 Nef5 13.Ne2

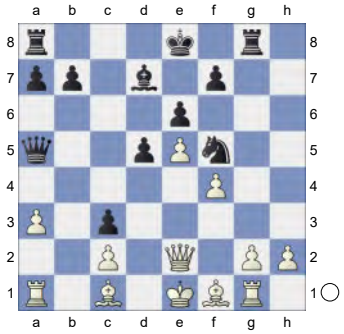
[13.a6 Qh4+± 14.Kd1 b6]

13...Nxe2□ 14.Qxe2 Bd7

[14...Qh4+ 15.Qf2 Δ♖1d2, ♕d1± Ng3

16.Bb5+ Bd7 17.Bxd7+ Kxd7 18.Rb1]

15.Rg1= /±,⧉ White relies on his somewhat more valuable ♗, as compared to its black counterpart. The point is it targets the ×c6, White's plan is to advance his ♙ and occupy this outpost with a minor piece. A riskless venture, but if Black defends alertly, he can neutralize White's edge. A surprisingly mild opening choice by Kasparov with White, we'll see Adams is up to his task. **15...Qxa5**



16.Qf2 Qa4

[16...Rh8 17.g4]

17.Rb1

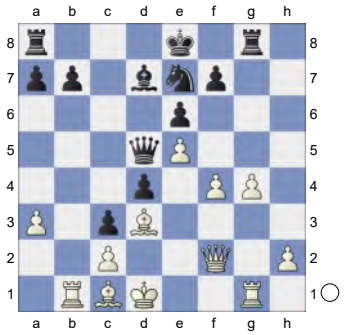
[17.Bd3 Bb5↑]

17...Qe4+

[17...b6 18.g4]

18.Kd1 d4! This is the important point of Black's previous moves - his ♘ doesn't have to guard c6 passively and can enter the game. **19.Bd3 Qd5 20.g4 Ne7**

[20...Nh6= ⩲21.h3!?]

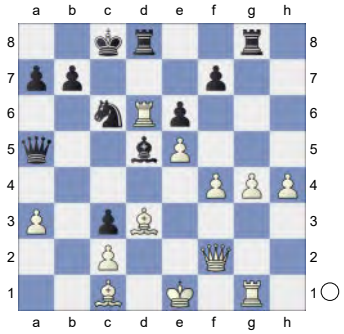


21.Rb4 0-0-0! White was already threatening to play b4. **22.Rxd4 Qa5 23.Ke1 Bc6 24.Rd6**

[24.h4 Rxd4! 25.Qxd4 Bf3= 26.Rg3 Bxg4= 27.Qg1]

24...Bd5 25.h4 Nc6

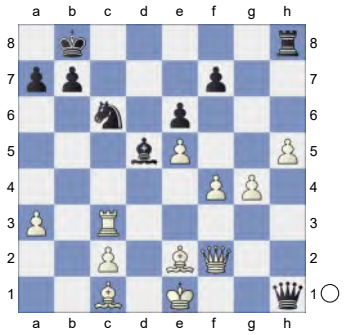
[25...Rxd6 26.exd6!? Nc6 27.h5]



26.h5 Rh8= 27.Rxd8+ White has come too late with the tripling on the d-file and his initiative peters out. **27...Qxd8 28.Rg3 Qh4**

[≤28...f6 29.exf6 Qxf6 30.g5 Δf4,⤱c5 immobilises Black's ♖ and gives White chances.]

29.Be2 Kb8 30.Rxc3 Qh1+



31.Qf1

[31.Bf1=]

31...Qh4+ 32.Qf2 Qh1+ 33.Bf1 Rg8

[33...Qe4+⇄ 34.Re3]

34.Rg3

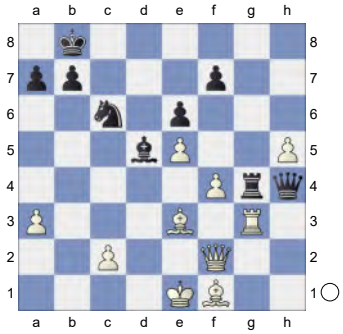
[34.Rh3 Qe4+ Δc5↑ 35.Qe2! Rxg4 36.h6 Rg8]

34...Qh4 35.Be3!?

[35.c4 Be4!± *(35...Bh1 36.Rh3)*

36.Re3 Qxf2+= /∞ 37.Kxf2!?]

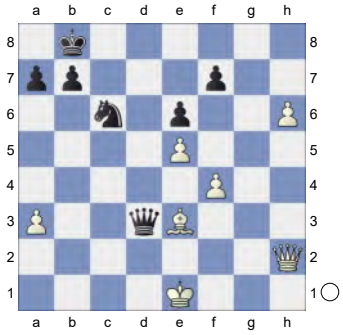
35...Rxg4



36.Rxg4 Qxg4 37.Qh2 Be4 38.h6 Qg6 39.Bd3

[39.Bg2 Ne7 *(39...Bxc2 40.Bxc6 bxc6 41.Qd2=)* 40.Bxe4± Qxe4=]

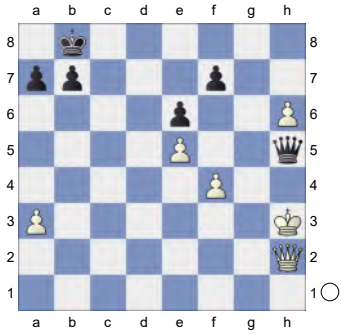
39...Bxd3 40.cxd3 Qxd3



41.Kf2

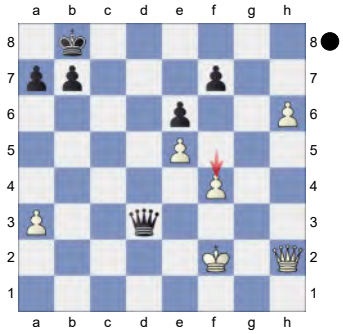
[41.Qd2]

41...Nd4 42.Bxd4 Qxd4+ 43.Kf1 Qd1+ 44.Kg2!? Qe2+ 45.Kh3 Qh5+



46.Kg3 Qg6+ 47.Kf3= Qd3+ 48.Kf2

(Diagram)



Δf4=

½-½

37 **C17**

□ **Aronian,Levon** **2816**

■ **Karjakin,Sergey** **2778**

Grand Slam Final 5th (1) 24.09.2012

[Kitty Kat]

C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines

Minic,Dragoljub: 'Minic,D: 'Chess Informant'' **1.Nc3 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e4 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.Qg4**

[5.a3]

5...c5N

[5...Nf5

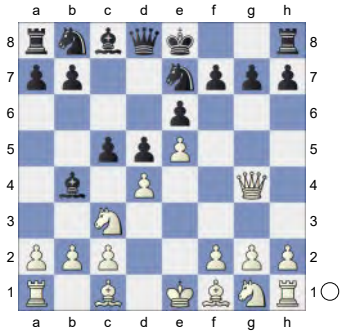
A) 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Bd3 *(7.Bb5 Bd7 8.Bg5 h5 9.Qxf5 exf5 10.Bxd8 Nxd8 11.Bd3 c6 12.h4 g6 13.a3 Be7 14.Ne2 Ne6* C 16/08 *)* 7...h5 8.Qf4 Nce7 9.Nh4 Nxh4 10.Qxh4 Nf5 11.Qxd8+ Kxd8 12.Bg5+ Ke8 13.a3 Ba5 14.Be3 c5 15.Bxf5 Bxc3+ 16.bxc3 cxd4 17.cxd4 exf5 18.Kd2 b6 19.a4 Ba6 20.h4 Kd7 Fressinet,L (2591)-Morozevich,A (2742) Cannes 2002 CBM 088 [Finkel,Alexander] 1-0 (44);

B) 6.Bd3 h5 7.Qf4 Nc6 8.a3 Be7 9.Bxf5 g5 10.Qd2 exf5 11.h4 gxh4 12.Nce2 Be6 13.b3 Rg8

14.Nf4 Qd7 15.Ngh3 0-0-0 16.Bb2 Rg7 17.0-0-0 Rh8 18.Kb1 Bd8 19.Qe2 Rg4 20.f3 Calvo Minguez,R-Karpov,A Madrid 1973 CI1-130 [Minic,Dragoljub] 0-1 (45)]

[5...Ng6 6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 b6 8.h4 h5 9.Qd1 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Bg5 Qd7 12.Ne2 Ne7 13.Nf4 g6 14.Bf6 Rg8 15.Qd3 Qa4 16.0-0 Rc8 17.Rfd1 c6 18.f3 Kd7 19.g4 hxg4 20.fxg4 Bosiocic,M (2605)-Kozul,Z (2611) Hrvatska (ch) 136/77 2018 [Paunovic,Tomislav] ½-½ (83)]

[5...0-0 6.Bd3 c5 7.dxc5 Nbc6 8.Nf3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Qh5 h6 11.0-0 Bxc5 12.Be3 Bb6 13.Bxb6 Qxb6 14.Qe8+ Rf8 15.Bh7+ Kxh7 16.Qxf8 Qxb2 17.Ne2 e5 18.Ng3 e4 19.Rab1 Qf6 20.Qxf6 Kuzmin,G-Kogan,E USSR 1978 French Nc3 [Myers] ½-½ (36)]



6.a3

[6.dxc5!]

6...Qa5 7.Nge2

[7.axb4 -1.01/19 7.Nge2 -0.08 Qxa1 8.Kd1 -1.59/19 *(⌓8.Qd1 -0.88/19)* 8...cxd4∓ , and White should win 9.Nb5 0-0!! Should White miss this blow, he would have to play 10.Nf3 Nbc6 11.Bd3 and then try to win this game for a second time. Bxh7+! is the strong threat. Ng6?]

[7.Bd2 with an inevitable perpetual check cxd4+- 8.axb4 -0.99/20 *(8.Nb1∓ -0.35/21 Bxd2+ 9.Nxd2)* 8...Qxa1+∓ 9.Nd1 Nbc6!+- ⌓10.Nf3 Bd7 0.87/22 *(10...0-0= -0.23/17* keeps the balance. *11.b5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 f6)* 11.Qxg7 -0.01/22 *(11.b5± 0.87/22)* 11...0-0-0± 0.59/20 *(11...Rg8!= -0.01/22 12.Qxh7 a6)* 12.b5?!± Nf5 13.Qf6! Na5 14.g4 Nc4 15.gxf5 *(15.Bxc4= ⌓dxc4! 16.gxf5 Bxb5±* aiming for ...c3! *⌓17.Nxd4!)* 15...Nxb2 16.Be2 Bxb5]

7...Nf5 0.20/19

[⌓7...cxd4 8.axb4 -1.46/20 *(8.Qxd4= -0.01/20 Nbc6 9.Qd3)* 8...Qxa1∓ 9.Nb5 0-0 10.Nc7 Na6 11.Nxa8 Bd7 -0.79/19 *(11...d3-+ -1.70/20 12.cxd3 Bd7)* 12.Qg5 Ng6! -0.42/22 *(12...d3!∓ -1.00/21 13.Nd4 Nxb4 14.Bxd3 Nxd3+ 15.cxd3 h6)* 13.Nxd4∓ Nxb4 14.Nc7 Rc8 Threatens to win with ...h6. 15.Kd1 -1.52/20 *(15.Be2∓ -0.48/20 h6 16.Qd2 Rxc7 17.0-0)* 15...a6 -0.97/18 *(⌓15...Ba4 -1.52/20 16.Bb5 Nxc2 17.Nxc2 Bxc2+ 18.Kxc2 h6)*]

[⌓7...Bxc3+ -0.13/21 8.Nxc3 cxd4]

8.dxc5 -0.28/20

[8.axb4 Qxa1 9.Qf4 Nc6 10.dxc5 a6∓]

[8.Bd2 0.20/19 is superior.]

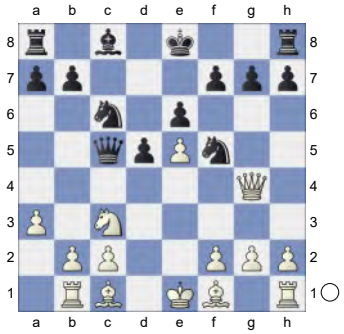
8...Nc6= 9.Rb1 Black has an edge.

9...Bxc3+

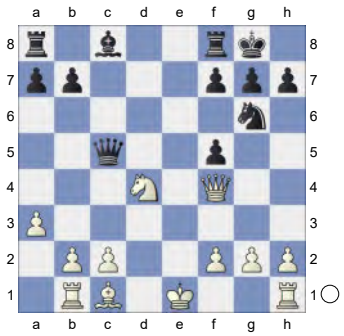
[9...Bxc5 10.b4 Bxf2+ 11.Kxf2±]

10.Nxc3 Qxc5

(Diagram)

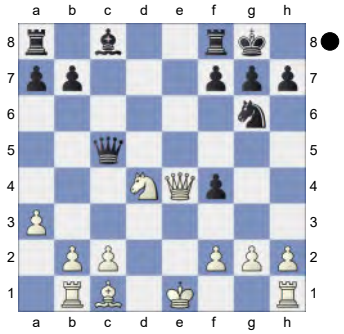


11.Qf4 -1.28/21
[11.Bf4∓ -0.47/17]
11...d4?!∓ 12.Nb5 -1.68/21
[12.Ne4∓ -1.28/20 was necessary. Qxc2 13.Nd2]
12...0-0 -1.01/20
[12...Qxe5+ 13.Qxe5 Nxe5 14.Nc7+ Ke7 15.Nxa8+-]
[12...Nxe5 13.c4 Ng6 14.Qc7∓]
[12...Qxc2-+ -1.68/21 13.Nc7+ Kd8 14.Nxa8 Qxb1]
13.Bd3 -2.45/22
[13.b4∓ -1.01/20 might work better. Qxc2 14.Rb2]
13...Nxe5-+ 14.Bxf5 exf5! Black must sacrifice the exchange. The weakness of the light squares in White's camp gives him decent compensation.
[14...Qxb5? 15.Be4]
15.Nxd4 Ng6

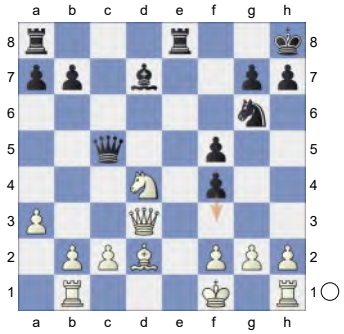


16.Qe3 f4! 17.Qe4

(Diagram)



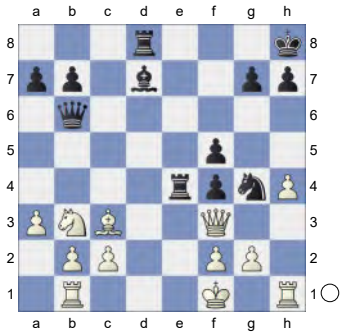
f5? -1.35/22
[17...Bf5!-+ -3.89/21 and Black stays clearly on top. 18.Qxf5 *(18.Nxf5? Rae8-+)* 18...Rfe8+ 19.Be3 Qxd4]
18.Qd3∓ Re8+ After the text move White can regain a pawn keeping an extra exchange. However, it is not easy to find the correct move order.
[Weaker is 18...Rd8 19.c3∓]
19.Kf1?! Kh8 -0.64/19
[Black should try 19...Re4∓ -1.36/19 20.Qb3+ Kh8]
20.Bd2 Bd7



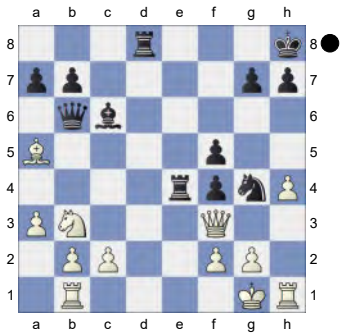
Of course, it is still very difficult for White to convert his material advantage.
21.h4?! -1.41/21
[21.Bc3∓ -0.58/19]
21...Rad8 -0.78/19
[⌓21...f3 -1.41/21 22.g3 Ne5]
22.Bc3 -1.45/21
[⌓22.Bb4 -0.78/19 Qb6 23.h5]
22...Ne5 23.Qh3 -3.78/23
[23.Qd2∓ -1.58/22 was called for.]
23...Ng4? Missing a brilliant tactical blow:. White must now prevent ...Bb5+.

[And not 23...Bc6 24.Nxc6 Qxc6 25.h5∓]

24.Qf3± White is now in full control of the position. **24...Re4?** This loses at once. **25.Nb3 Qb6**

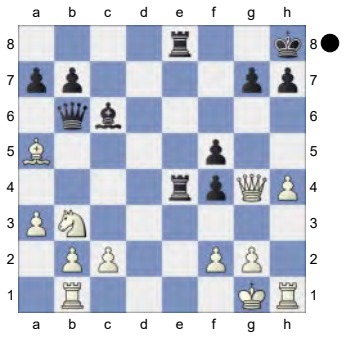


26.Kg1 Bc6 27.Ba5



Inhibits Re1+. **27...Rde8!** Both players overlook a study-like possibility in this seemingly hopeless position: **28.Qxg4?** -5.32/23

[28.h5 -2.70/23]



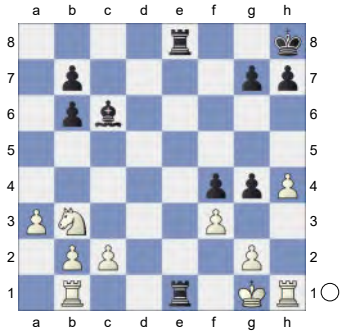
28...fxg4 -2.40/20

[⌓28...Re1+!! -5.32/23 29.Bxe1 *(29.Rxe1 Rxe1+)* 29...fxg4]

29.Bxb6-+ axb6 30.f3? -11.84/24

[30.Kh2 -1.97/22]

30...Re1+!!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.91/ Black=0.32. Loss on time!?

1-0

38 **C01**

□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2811**

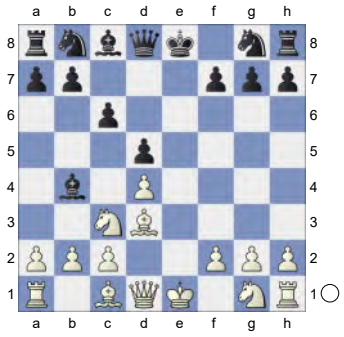
■ **Bellahcene,Bilel** **2475**

Corsican Circuit Final rapid (1.1)

[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 c6



6.Nf3

[6.Nge2 Ne7 7.Ng3 0-0 8.0-0 Ng6 9.Qh5 Nd7 10.Bg5 Nf6 11.Qf3 Be7 12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.Qxf5 Ne8 14.Be3 Nd6 15.Qh5 Re8 16.b3 Bf6 17.a4 Nf8 18.a5 g6 19.Qg4 Ne6 20.Ne2 Bg5 Mu,K (2672)-Salman,F (2676) Espana 89/276 2013 200 Traps In

The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 0-1 (74)]

6...Ne7

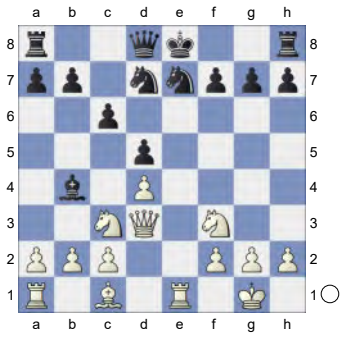
[6...Bg4 7.0-0 Ne7 8.Bf4 Bd6 9.Bg3 Bxg3 10.hxg3 Nd7 11.Re1 h5 12.Qd2 Bxf3 13.gxf3 h4 14.Qg5 Kf8 15.Re3 hxg3 16.fxg3 Ng8 17.Qf4 Qb8 18.Ne2 Ngf6 19.Re1 Qxf4 20.Nxf4 Rd8 21.Bf5 Michalik,P (2577)-Ponkratov,P (2580) chess.com INT 2023 1-0 (71)]

7.0-0 Bf5N

[7...0-0 8.Bf4 Bf5 9.a3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Bxc3 11.Qxc3 Ng6 12.Bg3 Nd7 13. Winawer Sidelines-4.exd5 (5. Bd3 6.Nf3)]

8.Bxf5 Nxf5 White is slightly better.

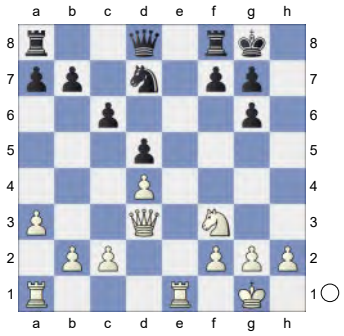
9.Re1+ Ne7 10.Qd3 Nd7



11.a3 Bd6

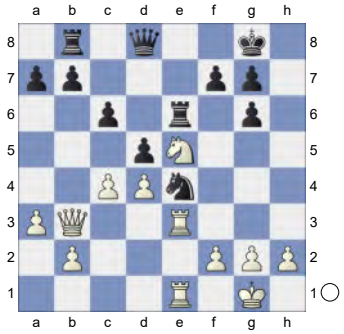
[Don't play 11...Bxc3 12.Qxc3 *(12.bxc3 0-0=)* 12...a5 13.Qb3±]

12.Ne2 0-0 13.Bf4 Bxf4 14.Nxf4 Ng6 15.Nxg6 hxg6



16.Re3 Nf6 17.Rae1 Ne4 18.Ne5 Re8 19.c4 Re6 20.Qb3 Rb8

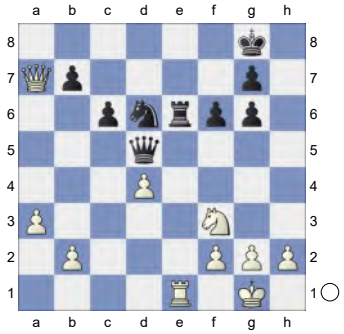
(Diagram)



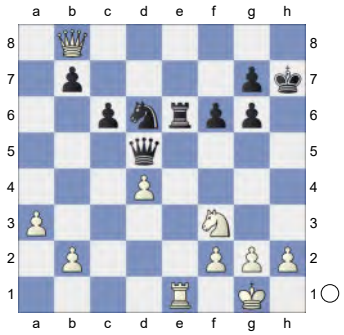
21.cxd5 Qxd5 22.Qa4 Nd6 23.Qxa7 Rbe8 24.Nf3 f6 0.44/21

[24...Rxe3= 0.01/24 25.Rxe3 Qf5 26.Rxe8+ Nxe8]

25.Rxe6± Rxe6



26.Qb8+ Kh7



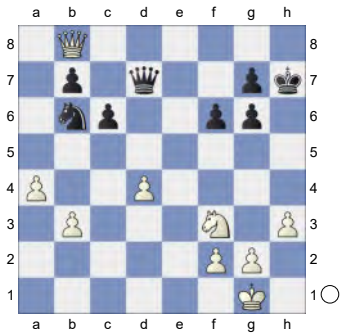
White must now prevent ...Rxe1+.

27.Rxe6 Qxe6 28.h3 Qd7 0.55/25 Prevents Qc7.

[28...b5= 0.13/24]

29.a4 Nc4 30.b3 Nb6

(Diagram)



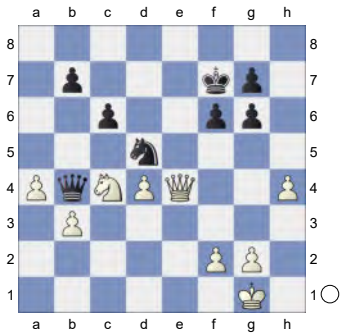
31.Qf4 Kg8 32.h4 Nd5 33.Qe4 Kf7 34.Nd2 0.01/21

[34.Kf1± 0.73/23]

34...Qd6 0.83/20

[34...Nc3= 0.01/21 35.Qd3 Qxd4]

35.Nc4± Qb4



36.g3 Ne7 37.Qf3 0.65/22 &Bianco is more active.

[37.a5± 1.26/22]

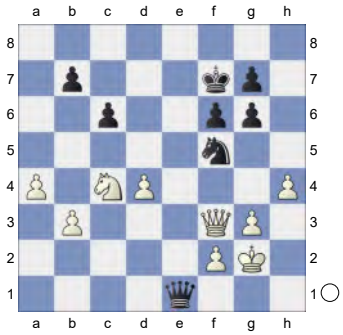
37...Qe1+ 0.99/21

[37...Kf8± 0.65/22]

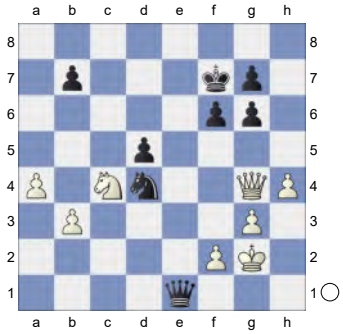
38.Kg2 Threatens to win with Nd6+.

38...Nf5 2.64/22

[38...Qe6± 0.94/21]



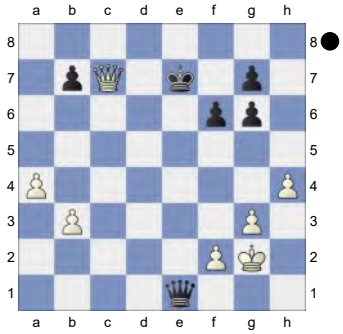
Inhibits Nd6+. Loses the game. **39.d5!+-** h5 is the strong threat. **39...Nd4 40.Qg4 cxd5**



41.Qxd4

[But not 41.Qd7+ Kf8+-]

41...dxc4 42.Qxc4+ Ke7 43.Qc7+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.26 (precise)

1-0

39 **C18**

☐ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2808**

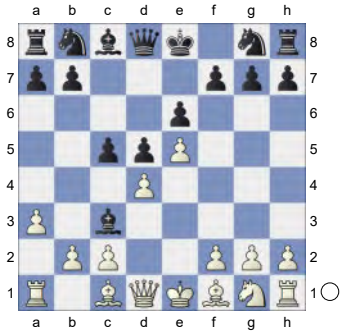
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2857**

Olympiad-42 Baku (9.1) 11.09.2016

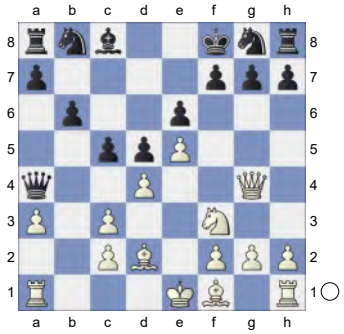
[Mekhitarian,Krikor Sevag]

Kitty Kat: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** Kitty Kat **1...e6** The world champion tries the Scandinavian for the 3rd time, according to the database, and all of them against the same opponent! **2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4** This is Sergey Tiviakov's pet line - he has played it 164 times, according to

my research! **4.e5 c5 5.a3** Moulthun Ly: 'Here Magnus has a choice between three major continuations. However, I tend to agree the one he chose in the game is the most solid option. White is finding the most difficulties in getting any clear advantage against this move.'
5...Bxc3+



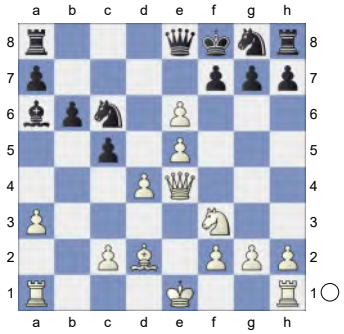
6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4!? A rare line, aiming to harass Black's knight on b6 (a standard idea).
[8.Qb1 c4 9.Nh3 Nc6 10.Nf4 Bd7 1-0 (51) Sercer,Z (2091)-Rimanic,L (1979) Rijeka 2012 11.Nh5 g6 12.Ng3 0-0-0 13.Be2 f6 14.f4 Rf8 15.0-0 Nge7 16.Qb2 h6 17.Nh1∞ Rhg8 18.exf6 Rxf6 19.Nf2 Rff8 20.Rae1!?± Qa5 21.Bc1 Nf5 22.Ng4]
8...Kf8!? Moulthun Ly: 'Magnus often likes to avoid going down the most commonly walked path and here tries a move I could only find being played once before. If it works, it is in Black's favour to trade an extra pair of minor pieces and relieve his space disadvantage.'
[8...g6]
9.Nf3
[9.Qd1±]
9...b6 Kitty Kat: '
[9...Ne7 with problems to defend f7 properly 10.h3 Kitty Kat Nd7 11.Bd3 c4 12.Be2 Qxc2 13.0-0 h6 14.Rfe1 Qe4 15.Qxe4 dxe4 16.Nh2 Nb6 17.a4 Bd7 18.a5 Nbd5 19.Reb1 Bc6 20.Bxc4 a6 21.Bb3 g5 22.Re1 Kg7 23.c4 Nf4 24.Bxf4 gxf4 1-0 Motylev,A (2660)-Kovalenko,I (2667) Poikovsky Karpov 17th 2016 (6)]
[9...Qxc2 10.Rc1!± threatening ♘xg6 or ♗xg6 Qg6 11.Qxg6 hxg6 12.c4± followed by ♖ad1 and c4 dxc4? *(12...Nc6 13.cxd5 exd5 14.Rxc5 Nge7)* 13.Rxc4 Ne7 14.Rxc5 threatening ♗b5+ Nbc6 15.Bd3
A) 15...b6 16.Rc2 Bb7 17.Bg5 0.09/21 *(17.0-0±* 0.61/20 Kitty Kat *)* 17...Nd5 Kitty Kat: '=' 18.Be4 Ke8;
B) 15...f6 16.0-0 b6 17.Rc2± and Black has some development issues. Kf7 leads to similar positions. 18.Rfc1 Bb7]
[9...Nc6]



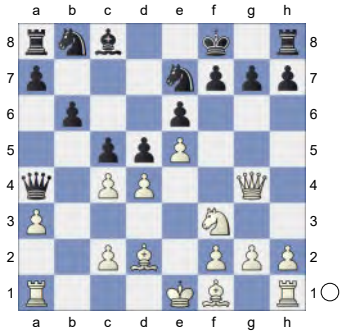
' **10.c4** Kitty Kat: '!' **10...Ne7**
[10...Ba6!⇄ 1.26/21 Kitty Kat: '10... Ng8-e7 0.50' looking bad for White already. 11.cxd5!? White has a good space advantage, and can always count on exploiting it with an idea like ♗g5 or h4-h5. Now if Black tries a standard development with ... ♗e6, White may sacrifice the exchange to achieve interesting play: *(11.Qf4?)*
A) 11...exd5?! 1.92/19 Kitty Kat:

'11...Ba6xf1 1.27' 12.Bxa6! Nxa6 13.0-0 Kitty Kat: ' c2-c4! would now be deadly.' Ne7 2.20/21 *(13...Nc7± 1.55/19* (Kitty Kat) was necessary. *14.c4 h6)* 14.e6→ it is not easy for Black to find a move here, ♘e5 is a strong threat;

B) 11...Bxf1 intending c5 12.dxe6!? Kitty Kat: ' Threatens to win with Qg4-f4.' not forced, but playable Ba6 1.83/20 *(12...Bc4± 1.33/20* Kitty Kat *)* 13.Qf5 Kitty Kat: '+-' Qe8 14.Qe4 Nc6 Kitty Kat: '



' 15.exf7 Kitty Kat: '!' Kxf7 16.Qf4+⩲ with interesting positional compensation. Ke7 2.52/20 *(⩲16...Nf6 1.61/21* Kitty Kat *)* 17.d5!?→]



Kitty Kat: ' Black is weak on the dark squares' **11.Bd3** Kitty Kat: 'White is slightly better.' **11...dxc4** 1.07/22 Kitty Kat: 'N'

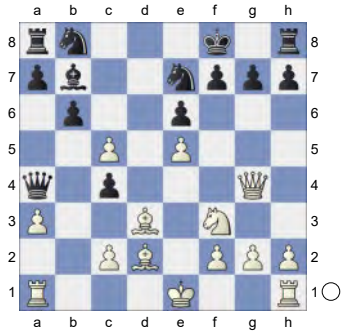
[Kitty Kat: ' Black should play' 11...Nbc6 0.88/21 Kitty Kat: '⩲' '11...Bc8-a6 0.47' 12.0-0= *(12.dxc5* Kitty Kat *Ba6 13.Qf4 h6 14.0-0 Bxc4 15.Be3 b5 16.Rfb1 Rb8 17.h4 Qa6 18.a4 b4 19.Rd1 Bxd3 20.cxd3 Nf5 21.g4 Nxe3 22.fxe3 Ke7 23.h5 b3 24.g5 hxg5 25.Qxg5+ Kf8 26.Rab1 Qxa4* 0-1 Sadhwani,R (2627)-Zierk,S (2488) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Jan Early blitz 2023 (9) *)* 12...Ba6!? 13.dxc5 Bxc4 14.cxb6 axb6 should be equal, but Black is starting to look very comfortable and could even create something on the queenside with ...b5, ...♖a2. 15.Rab1 b5 16.Bb4 Kitty Kat: '!']

12.dxc5 Kitty Kat: '±'

[12.Be4 Nbc6= 13.0-0 would be a calm way to play the position]

12...bxc5 1.34/22

[12...Bb7 1.17/21 Kitty Kat: '12...Nb8-d7 0.60



' 13.Ng5 Kitty Kat: '!' Kitty Kat: ' Black must now prevent Qg4-f4.' *(13.cxb6 axb6 14.Qxc4 Qxc4 15.Bxc4 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Nbc6)* 13...Nbc6 *(13...h6* 0.07/20 Kitty Kat: '13...Nb8-c6 0.79' *14.Nh7+* despite the dangerous c-pawn, Black is doing ok: *Kg8 15.Bxh6 Ng6 16.Bxg6 fxg6 17.Nf6+* Kitty Kat: '!' *Kf7 18.Ne4∓* followed by ...a5, Black is already thinking about getting an advantage. *Bxe4 19.Qxe4* Moulthun Ly: '=' and Black gets the

piece back, equalising: *Qc6)* 14.Bxh7= 0.34/20 wouldn't change the story of the game. *(14.Qf3±* 1.13/20 Kitty Kat *Nd8 15.Be4)* 14...Nf5 0.72/21 is no good once again *(14...Nxe5±* 0.34/20 (Kitty Kat) is more appropriate. *15.Qf4 f6 16.Nxe6+ Kf7 17.Ng5+ Ke8)* 15.Bxf5 Kitty Kat: ' ± ' *(15.0-0* 0.53/20 Kitty Kat: '15.Bh7xf5 1.19'*)* 15...Nxe5 16.Qg3 exf5]

[⌓12...Nd7 0.76/21 Kitty Kat]

13.Ng5 Kitty Kat: ' And now Qg4-f3 would win. White is much more active.'

[13.Be4 Nbc6 14.0-0=]

[13.Qxc4?! Kitty Kat Qxc4 14.Bxc4 Bb7±]

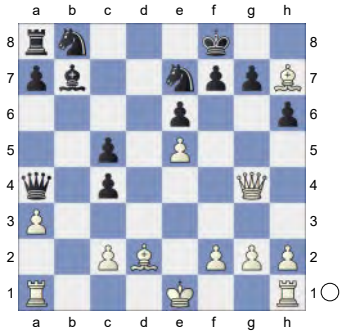
13...h6 14.Nh7+ Moulthun Ly: 'With the queen trade, White hopes to prevent e5 or c5 being a possibility in the future.' According to Caruana himself, he missed Black's next move, that solves all of his problems (15...♖d8!).

[14.Qxc4? Kitty Kat Qxc4 15.Bxc4 hxg5-+]

14...Rxh7

[14...Kg8 15.Bxh6]

15.Bxh7 Bb7!?



Threatening ...c5, Black finds a way to activate. **16.0-0** Kitty Kat: '→' Kitty Kat: ' White wants a kill.' **16...Nbc6** 2.12/20

[16...Bd5± 1.08/19 Kitty Kat]

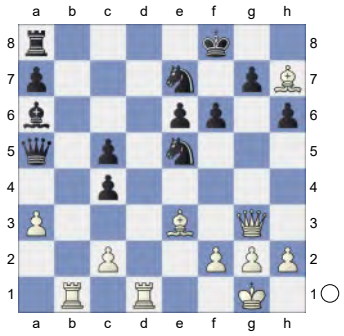
17.Rab1 Ba6!? 2.79/22 Moulthun Ly: 'is a nice idea but perhaps a little too soon to play.'

[17...Nd8 1.64/20 (Kitty Kat) is a better defense. 18.Be3 Qc6]

18.Be3 Kitty Kat: '+-' **18...Qa5** Moulthun Ly: 'This is the main idea.' Suddenly there's action! **19.Rfd1** Kitty Kat: ' Dodges Ra8-d8' **19...Nxe5** 4.09/22

[⌓19...Rc8 2.62/20 Kitty Kat 20.Rd6 Nd5 21.Bxh6 gxh6]

20.Qg3 f6



21.Rd6

[21.Bf4 Nf7 Kitty Kat: ' Inhibits Rd1-d6.' 22.Bd6 Nxd6= 23.Qxd6]

21...Bc8 22.Rbd1 Kitty Kat: ' Repels Ne7-d5' **22...Nd5** 6.14/24

[⌓22...Nf7 3.96/20 Kitty Kat 23.Be4 Nf5 24.Bxf5 exf5 25.Bxh6 Deflection Nxh6 26.Rd8+ Kf7]

23.Bf4

[23.f4 Nf7 24.R6xd5= exd5 25.Rxd5]

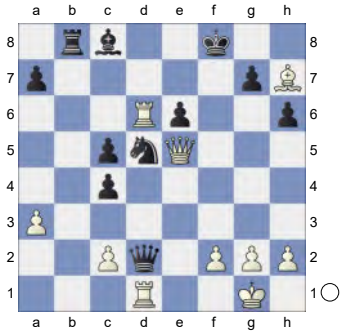
23...Rb8

[23...Qc3 24.R6xd5 Kitty Kat: ' White threatens Rd5-d8+ and mate.' Qxg3 25.Rd8+]

[23...Nxf4 24.Rd8+ Kf7 #3/8 *(24...Qxd8+-* 4.90/5 Kitty Kat *25.Rxd8+ Ke7 26.Qxg7+ Kxd8 27.Qxf6+ Kd7 28.Qxe5 Nd5)* 25.Bg8+]

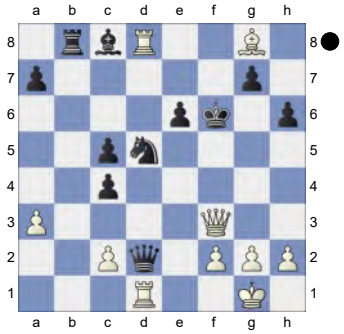
24.Bxe5 fxe5 25.Qxe5 Qd2

(Diagram)



26.Rd8+
[26.Rxd2? Kitty Kat Rb1+]
26...Kf7 27.Bg8+ 17.53/21
[27.Qh5+ would lead to simple equality after: Kf6 Kitty Kat 28.Qg6+ *(28.Rxd2 Rb1+ 29.Rd1 Rxd1+ 30.Qxd1 Ke7+-)* 28...Ke7 29.Qe8+ *(29.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 29...Kf6 30.Qf8+ Deflection, Double Attack *(30.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 30...Kg5 31.Qxg7+ *(31.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 31...Kh5 32.Qg6+ *(32.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 32...Kh4 33.Qg3+ Kh5 34.Bg6#]
[27.Rxd2? (Kitty Kat) gets mated. Rb1+]
27...Kg6 28.Qe4+
[28.Rxd2? (Kitty Kat) leads to mate. Rb1+]
28...Kf6 Moulthun Ly: 'I think this line with Qd6 and c6 is a solid try for Black. As of now 8.a4 is White's best option and he does get some pressure, but more tests are needed to prove an an edge.' **29.Qf3+**
[29.Rxd2? (Kitty Kat) is a self mate. Rb1+]

(Diagram)

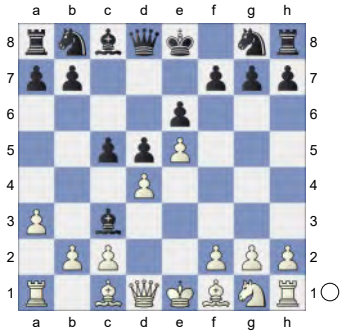


Kitty Kat: ' Black did not feel at home in the position after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.76. An unexpected result.'
½-½

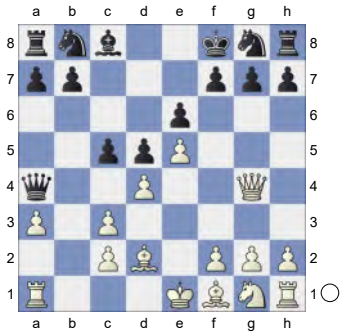
40 **C18**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2806**
■ **Xiong,Jeffery** **2710**
Saint Louis (blitz) 2021
[Foisor,Sabina Francesca]

Foisor,Sabina, MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' Diagram
Rook endgames have always been something I liked looking into because there are plenty of clear ideas to follow, yet they are always so complicated in essence. When you think you have finally mastered the main concerns, you come across one where that specific idea you focused on so much, is not working anymore. Please note that here I am only talking about myself and maybe other players find themselves in this remark too. I found this position to be the perfect example. Looking at this position, White has the better placed rook and the passed pawn, while Black has in return the active king that is ready to take over the weaknesses on

the kingside. Considering the time control of this game (blitz), Caruana's decision was to go for: **1.e4** Foisor,Sabina, MH Which may have seemed the right thing to do - support the passe a-pawn and free the rook, proved to be a wrong judgement as Black's Kf4 showed to be more menacing than it apeared at first! **1...e6 2.d4?** Following the same wrong plan. It is difficult to admit the idea might have not been good, once you made it, especially in endgames, where almost every tempo matters. **2...d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5?** Letting the win slip away for a moment... **5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 Kf8 Objectively speaking, this is the right thing to do, but not in this position! Going against the rules that the rook behind the pawns stops them is the actual way to a draw! Diagram



9.h4??

[9.Nf3]

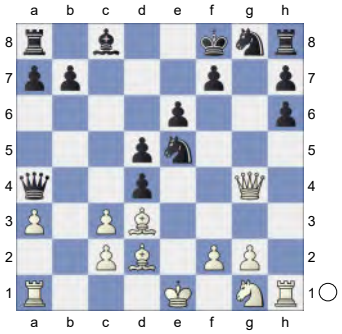
The difference is that now this is possible

9...Nc6! 10.h5 h6

[10...cxd4 0.87/20 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '10...Nxe5 0.26 10...h7-h6 0.50' 11.h6

A) 11...g6 1.89/20 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '11...gxh6 0.80 11...g7xh6 0.90' 12.Nf3 Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' Black must now prevent Bf1-d3.' Qxc2 2.19/21 *(12...f5±* 1.40/19 (Foisor,Sabina, MH) keeps fighting. *13.exf6 Qxc2)* 13.cxd4;

B) 11...gxh6 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '!' 12.Bd3 Nxe5= 1.12/21 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '*(12...b6±* 0.66/20 (Foisor,Sabina, MH) deserves consideration. *)*



' 13.Qg3 0.22/21 would not help Black to make progress as there is no way to achieve that. *(13.Qh5!±* 0.95/19 Foisor,Sabina, MH *Nxd3+ 14.cxd3)*

B1) 13...Nxd3+ 0.93/21 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '=' ' ⚊' Foisor, Sabina, MH: ' remains equal.' 14.cxd3 Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' Strongly threatening Ng1-f3.' Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' Hoping for cxd4.' Ne7 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '!' '!' *(14...Bd7* Foisor,Sabina, MH*)* 15.Nf3;

B2) 13...Nc4 1.09/18 14.Bc1]

[10...Nxe5 11.Qf4 0.17/19 *(11.Qh4±* 0.58/19 Foisor,Sabina, MH *Nc6 12.h6)* 11...Nc6 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '=!' 12.h6 0.01/21 *(12.Qd6+±* 0.42/18

Foisor,Sabina, MH *Ke8* *13.Qxc5 Qxc2 14.Rc1)*

A) 12...e5 0.83/21 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '12...Nxh6 0.01 12...Ng8xh6 0.20' 13.hxg7+ Kxg7 14.Qg3+ Kf8

A1) 15.dxe5± 1.04/20 Foisor,Sabina, MH Nge7 16.Qe3 0.72/16 *(⌓16.Bd3! 1.17/18)*;

A2) 15.Nf3 0.53/20;

B) 12...g6 13.Nf3 c4 14.Kd1;

C) 12...Nxh6= 13.Rxh6 had to be played and the endgame would probably finish in a draw as after: Foisor,Sabina, MH: 'had to be played and the endgame would probably finish in a draw as after:. And now Rh6-h4 would win.'

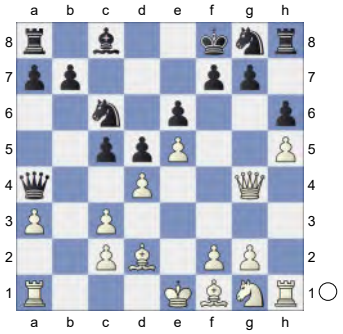
C1) 13...gxh6 1.28/18 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '13...e6-e5 0.82' 14.Qxh6+ Ke7 *(14...Ke8* 4.35/20 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '?' Foisor,Sabina, MH: '14...Ke7 0.64 14...Kf8-e7 1.26' *15.Qg7)* 15.Bg5+ Foisor,Sabina, MH: '!' Kd6 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '!' 16.Qf6 Rf8 17.dxc5+ Kxc5 *(17...Kd7* 3.07/22 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '?' Foisor,Sabina, MH: '17...Kxc5 0.71 17...Kd6xc5 1.09' *18.Nf3* Foisor,Sabina, MH: '!' *)* 18.Nf3;

C2) 13...e5 14.Qg5 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '!' Foisor, Sabina, MH: ' Hoping for Rh6xc6! Threatens to win with Rxc6!' gxh6 15.Qxh6+ Kg8 Black has sufficient activity on the kingside, but with his rook stuck on a8, there is no progress. Nothing can come from White's side either, as he has to protect the f3-pawn. 16.Bd3]

[10...Qxc2 0.80/21 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '10...Nc6xe5 0.41' 11.Rc1

A) 11...Qb2 1.04/19 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '11...Qc2-e4+ 0.62' 12.Nf3 0.55/19 *(Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' White should try' 12.Bd3* 1.00/20 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '±' *)*;

B) 11...Qe4+ 12.Qxe4 dxe4 13.Rh4]

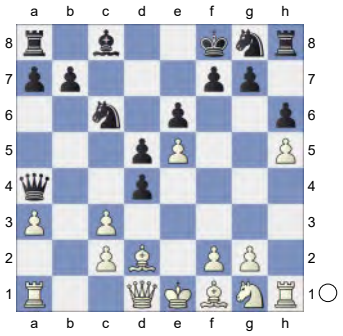


11.Qd1 Foisor,Sabina, MH: 'White is slightly better. White is slightly better.'

11...cxd4 0.68/21 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '

[11...b6 0.40/22 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '=!' ' ±!' '!' Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' deserves consideration.' 12.Nf3 Ba6 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '!' 13.Rh4 Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' aiming for d4xc5. And now dxc5 would win.' Bxf1 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '!' 14.Kxf1]

[11...Nge7 0.83/20 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '11...b6 0.35 11...b7-b6 0.41']



' **12.Nf3** Foisor,Sabina, MH: '±!'

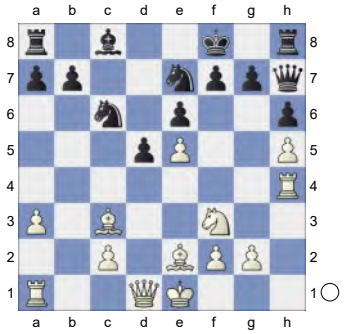
12...dxc3 1.26/21

[12...Nge7 0.36/22 Foisor,Sabina,

MH: '±!' 13.Rh4]

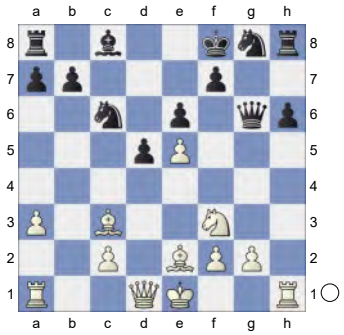
13.Bxc3 Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' ±' **13...g5** Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' Repels Rh1-h4. Prevents Rh4'

[13...Qe4+-+ 14.Be2 would have kept White's drawing chances alive. Foisor,Sabina, MH: 'would have kept White's drawing chances alive. Threatens to win with Rh1-h4. Black must now prevent Rh4.' Nge7 1.52/19 *(14...g5±* 1.25/21 (Foisor,Sabina, MH) was called for. Foisor,Sabina, MH: '⩲' *)* 15.Rh4 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '±' Qh7 Diagram



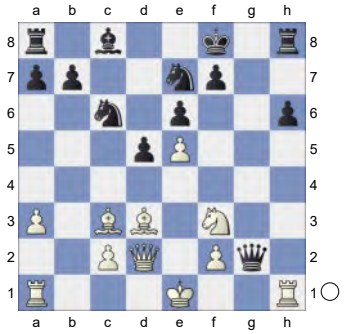
16.Bd3! This is a nice key move that puts Black somehow in a zugzwang and White is able to improve the position of his rook to the 6th rank to hold the game. Qg8 17.Rf4]

And the checks don't achieve the same effect as before, as now the g7-pawn is not under attack and Black can hide on the g-file. **14.hxg6** **Qe4+-+** **15.Be2!** **Qxg6**



and only now **16.Qd2!** Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' Black is weak on the dark squares' **16...Nge7** **17.Bd3** Foisor,Sabina, MH: '↑' Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' A strong pair of Bishops. Black is under strong pressure. This pair of bishops is nice.' **17...Qxg2** 2.62/24 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '

[17...Qg7 1.35/20 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '±' '±' 18.0-0-0]



' **18.Ke2** Foisor,Sabina, MH: '+-!'

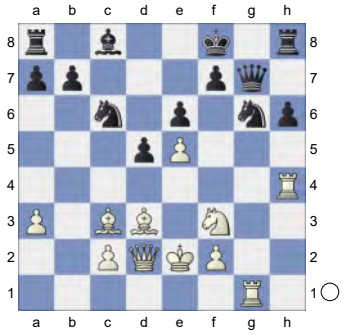
[18.Rxh6 1.42/24 (Foisor,Sabina, MH) 18.Ke2 2.77 Qg7 19.Rxh8+ Qxh8= Foisor,Sabina, MH: '±']

18...Qg4 **19.Rh4** Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' White has strong compensation.'

[19.Rxh6? 1.53/20 (Foisor,Sabina, MH) 19.Rh4 4.09 Rxh6 20.Qxh6+ Qg7±]

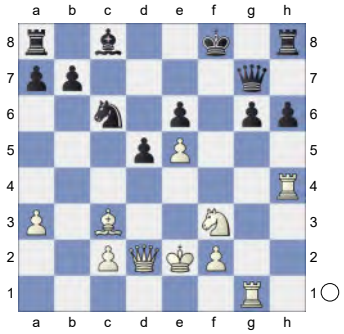
[19.Rag1 Foisor,Sabina, MH Qa4 20.Rxh6 Rxh6 21.Qxh6+ Ke8±]

19...Qg7 **20.Rg1=** **Ng6!**



21.Rf4

[21.Bxg6? 0.89/21 (Foisor,Sabina, MH) 21.Rf4 3.08 fxg6 (Diagram)



22.Rgh1! g5 *(22...h5±* Foisor,Sabina, MH *)* 23.Nxg5 aiming for Rf4+. d4? 3.62/21 *(23...b6±* 0.86/20 was called for. *)* 24.Bxd4+- b6+- *(24...Nxd4+?* 7.80/25 24...b6 3.58 *25.Rxd4* White wants to mate with Rd8+. *Qxe5+ 26.Kd1+-)*]

21...Nce7 8.36/22

[21...Nxf4+ 6.23/19 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '?' Foisor,Sabina, MH: '21...Ke7 2.64 21...Kf8-e7 2.46' 22.Qxf4]

[Don't go for 21...Ke8? Foisor,Sabina, MH 22.Rxf7 Kxf7 *(22...Qxf7?* loses. Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' too greedy. ' *23.Bxg6+-* Pin *)* 23.Rxg6 *(23.Bxg6+?* 0.21/23 23.Rxg6 6.47 *Ke7∓)* 23...Qxg6 24.Bxg6+ *(24.Qf4++-* Foisor,Sabina, MH*)* 24...Kxg6 25.Qf4+- Kg7+- Foisor,Sabina, MH]

[21...Ke7 2.67/22 Foisor,Sabina, MH 22.Rf6

A) 22...Kd8 2.80/21 23.Bxg6 fxg6 24.Rgxg6 *(24.Rfxg6* Foisor,Sabina, MH *Qe7+-)* 24...Qe7;

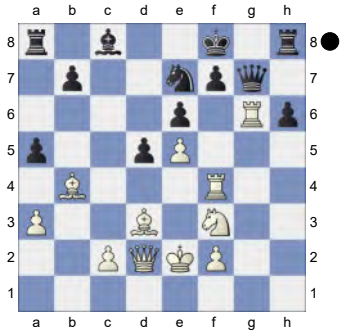
B) 22...Rg8? 5.61/23]

22.Bb4 Foisor,Sabina, MH: '+-' **22...a5** 6.67/20

[⊿22...Ke8 4.67/19 Foisor,Sabina, MH 23.Bxe7 Rg8]

23.Rxg6

(Diagram)



Foisor,Sabina, MH: ' Black did not feel at home in the position after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.58. Loss on time!? Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.28 (precise) '

0-1

41 **C16**

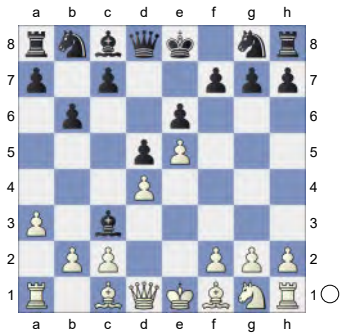
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2804**

■ **Piorun,K.** **2592**

Titled Tue 6th Feb Early blitz (10) 6.2.24

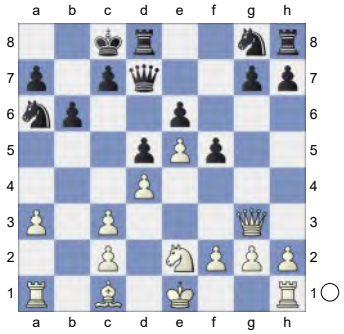
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bxc3+**



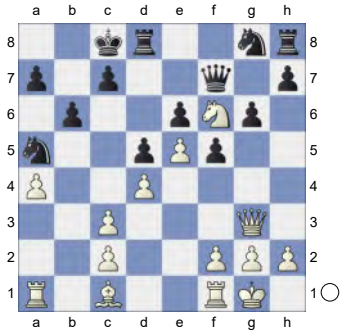
6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 0-0-0

(Diagram)

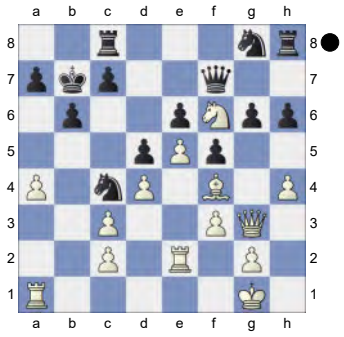


11.0-0 Nb8 12.Nf4 Nc6 13.a4
[13.Re1 Na5 14.Nh5 g6 15.Nf6 Qf7 16.h4 h6 17.Bf4 Nc4 18.a4 a5 19.f3 Kb7 20.Re2 Qg7 21.Rae1 Ne7 22.Rb1 Kc8 23.Kf2 Rdf8 24.Nh5 Qh7 25.Nf6 Qg7 26.Nh5 Qf7 27.Nf6 Qg7 ½-½ Hosmer,H (2673)-Chapter Part (2601) French under 20 Ch 1999 (8)]
13...Na5 14.Nh5N -0.66/22
[Better is 14.Ba3!= 0.16/19 Nc4 15.Bb4 *(15.Qd3 a5 16.Ne2 Nh6 17.Bc1 Nf7 18.f4 h6 19.g3 g5 20.Kf2 Rdg8 21.Be3 h5 22.Rg1 h4 23.Rg2 hxg3+ 24.hxg3 Nh6 25.Bc1 Ng4+ 26.Kf1 Rh1+ 27.Ng1 Qh7 28.fxg5 Qh3 29.Qe2 Rh8* 0-1 Hengst,H-Linqvist,G WT/M/408 corr ICCF 1987 *30.Ke1 Nce3 31.Qa6+ Kd8 32.Bxe3 Qxg2 33.Qe2 Rxg1+* 0-1 Hristodoulaki,A-Macs,O Paris Caissa Christmas 1965*)* 15...a5 16.Ba3 Qf7 17.h4 Nh6 18.f3 Rhe8 19.Kf2 g6 20.Qg5 Ng8 21.h5 gxh5 22.Rh1 Qd7 23.Bc1 Qc6 24.Ne2 h6 25.Qf4 Kb7 26.Rxh5 Ka7 27.Rh1 Rb8 28.Qh4 Re7 29.Qg3 ½-½ Austruy,D-8.a3 ♘c6 9.cd5 ♘d5_64100 Hradec Kralove 1984]
14...g6∓ 15.Nf6 -1.55/22
[White should play 15.Nf4 -0.72/22]
15...Qf7!∓

(Diagram)

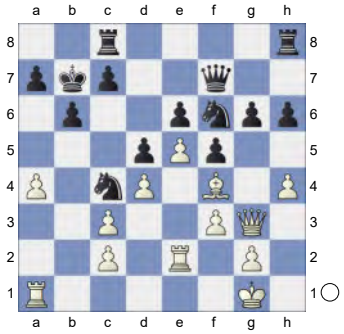


16.Bf4 Black is clearly better. **16...h6**
17.h4 Nc4 -1.48/20
[17...g5-+ -1.88/21 18.hxg5 hxg5 19.Qxg5 Rf8 20.Nxd5 Rh5 *(20...exd5? 21.Rfe1-+)*]
18.f3 -1.96/23
[18.a5∓ -1.48/20 was called for.]
18...Kb7 -1.55/20
[18...g5-+ -1.96/23 19.hxg5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 Nxf6 Remove Defender 21.exf6 Rh5]
19.Rfe1 -2.27/19
[19.a5∓ -1.55/20]
19...Rc8 20.Re2 -2.44/22
[20.a5∓ -1.43/20]

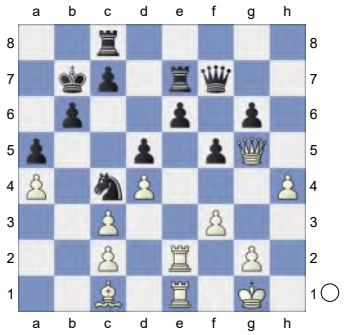


20...Nxf6 -1.35/17
[20...g5!-+ -2.44/22 21.hxg5 hxg5 22.Bxg5 Nxf6 23.exf6 Rcg8]

(Diagram)

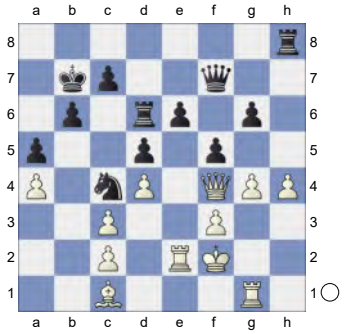


21.exf6 Qxf6 -0.91/26
[⌓21...g5 -1.27/20 22.Be5 a5 23.hxg5 Rcg8]
22.Rae1 Rhe8 -0.48/23
[22...g5 23.hxg5 hxg5 24.Qxg5 *(24.Bxg5 Qg7=)* 24...Qxg5 25.Bxg5=]
[22...Rce8∓ -1.16/24 Strongly threatening ...Qf6-f7. 23.Be5 *(23.Bxc7 Rhg8±)* 23...Nxe5 24.Qxe5 Qxh4]
23.Bxh6∓ a5 24.Bc1 Qf7 25.Qg5 Re7

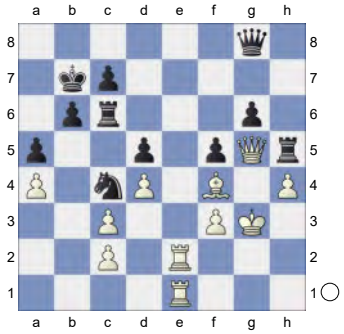


26.Kf2 Rce8 27.Qg3 Rd7 28.Qf4 Rd6 29.g4 -1.75/21
[29.Qg3∓ -0.96/27]
29...Rg8 -1.20/21
[Black should try 29...Rf8-+ -1.75/21 30.Qg3 Qe8 *(30...fxg4 31.Qxg4 Rh8 32.Bf4∓)*]
30.Rg1 -1.92/21
[30.g5∓ -1.20/21 keeps fighting.]
30...Rh8-+

(Diagram)



31.Qg5 Qh7 32.Bf4 Rc6
[32...Qxh4+ 33.Qxh4 Rxh4 34.Bxd6 Nxd6 35.Rxe6+-]
33.gxf5 -2.58/23
[⌓33.Rge1 -1.70/19 Qf7 *(33...Qxh4+ 34.Qxh4 Rxh4 35.Kg3∓)* 34.Rb1]
33...exf5 -1.16/23
[33...gxf5-+ -2.58/23 White must now prevent ...Nc4-b2! 34.Rge1 Nb2 *(34...Qxh4+? 35.Qxh4 Rxh4 36.Rxe6-+)*]
34.Kg3 -1.76/24
[34.Rh1∓ -1.16/23]
34...Qg8 -0.97/22
[34...Nd6-+ -1.76/24 And now ...Nd6-f7 would win. 35.Bxd6 Rxd6]
35.Rge1 -1.36/21
[⌓35.Kh3 -0.97/22]
35...Rh5



36.Qe7 Qh8? 0.70/23
[36...Rh7∓ -1.14/20 37.Qg5 Rh8]
37.Bg5 -1.68/22
[37.Re6± 0.70/23 keeps the upper hand. Rh7 38.Rxc6 Kxc6 39.Qe6+

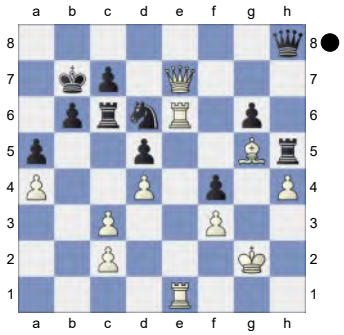
Nd6 40.Bg5 *(40.Qxg6? Rg7-+* Pin *)*]

37...Nd6 38.Re6 f4+

[38...Rh7 39.Qd8 Ne4+ *(39...Rxc3? 40.Re8+-)* 40.fxe4∓]

39.Kg2

[39.Kxf4? perishes. Rh7 40.Qd8 Rf7+ *(40...Rxc3 41.Qxh8 Rxh8 42.Rxg6±)* 41.Kg3 Nf5+ 42.Kg2 Qxd8 43.Bxd8 Rxc3 44.Rxg6 Nxd4-+ *(44...Rxc2+ 45.Kh3∓)*]



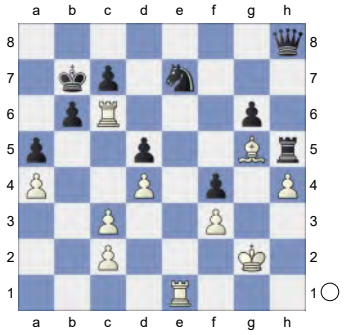
39...Nf5? 0.00/21

[39...Rh7!-+ -1.93/20 40.Qf6 Qxf6 *(40...Rxc3 41.Qxh8 Rxh8 42.Rxg6∓)* 41.Rxf6 Rxc3]

40.Rxc6? -6.05/24

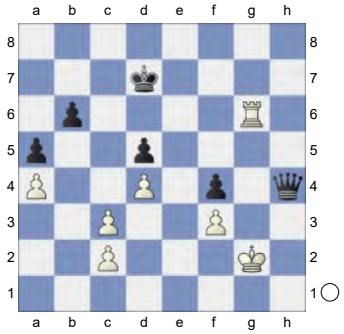
[40.Qd7= 0.00/21 Rxc3 41.Rxb6+ Decoy Kxb6 42.Qb5+ Ka7 43.Qxa5+ Kb8 44.Qb5+ Ka7 45.Qa5+ Kb7 46.Qb5+ Ka7 47.Qa5+]

40...Nxe7

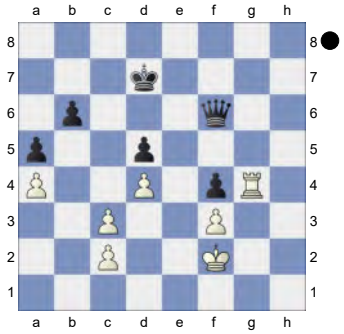


Black is clearly winning. **41.Rxc7+ Kxc7 42.Rxe7+ Kc6 43.Re6+ Kd7 44.Rxg6 Rxh4 45.Bxh4 Qxh4**

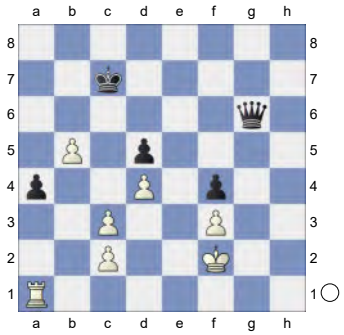
(Diagram)



Endgame. KQ-KR **46.Rg4 Qf6 47.Kf2**

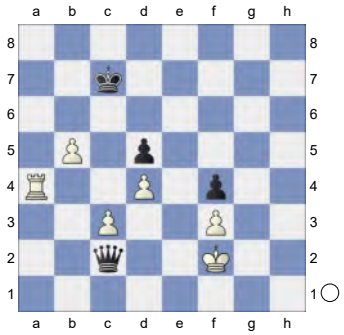


b5! 48.axb5 a4 49.Rg1 Kc7 50.Ra1 Qg6



...Qg6-g3+ would now be deadly.

51.Rxa4 Qxc2+



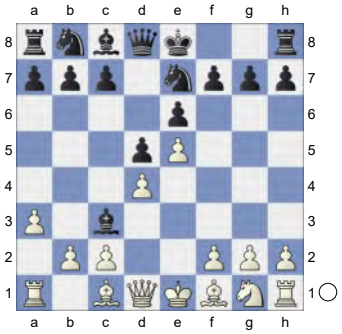
Weighted Error Value: White=0.76/

Black=0.39
0-1

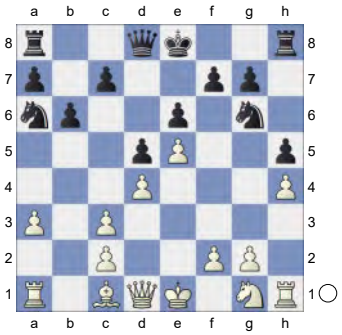
42 **C16**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2803**
■ **Fuentes,Agustin** **2375**
Titled Tue 7th Jan Late blitz (6) 07.01.25
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+

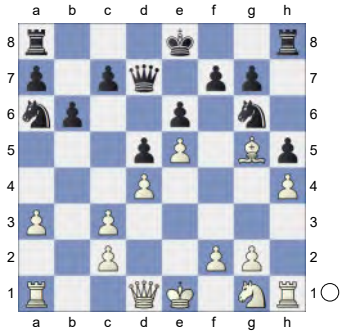


6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qd1 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6

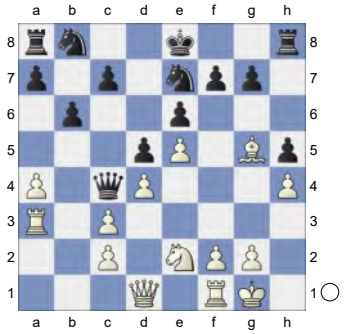


11.Bg5 Qd7

(Diagram)

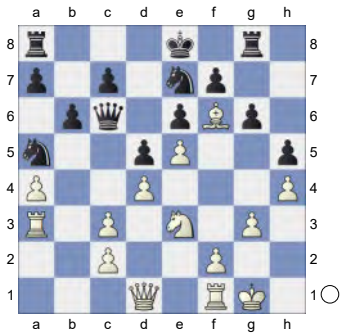


12.Ne2! Qc6 13.a4N 0.71/19
[White should play 13.f4 1.03/21]
[13.0-0 Kd7 *(13...Ne7 14.Qd3 Nb8 15.Ng3 Nd7 16.Qf3 g6 17.a4 a5 18.Rfd1 Nf5 19.Ra3 Ra7 20.Nf1 Nf8 21.Bc1 Nh7 22.g3 Kd7 23.Ne3 Kc8 24.c4 Nxe3 25.Bxe3 Qd7 26.cxd5 exd5 27.c4 Rd8 28.Rc1* Perrot,H (2592)-Vienna Variation,W (2523) corr ICCF 2005 CBM 205 Extra [Zaitsev,I] 1-0 (43)*)* 14.f4 Raf8 15.f5 exf5 16.Qd3 Nb8 17.Rxf5 Rusakov,Y-Bedouin,X Budapest HUN 1996 Inf 56 [Siaperas]]
13...Qc4± 14.0-0 White is slightly better.
14...Nb8 15.Ra3 0.39/19
[15.f4± 0.76/17]
15...Ne7



16.Nf4 g6 17.g3 Nbc6 18.Ng2 Na5 19.Ne3 Qc6 20.Bf6 0.19/20
[20.Bxe7± 0.66/22 Kxe7 21.Qf3]
20...Rg8=

(Diagram)



21.Bxe7 Kxe7 22.Qf3 c4! is the strong threat. **22...Raf8** 0.96/20

[22...Rad8= 0.26/18 remains equal.]

23.Rb1 0.01/20 &Bianco is more active.

[Reject 23.Qf4?! f6=]

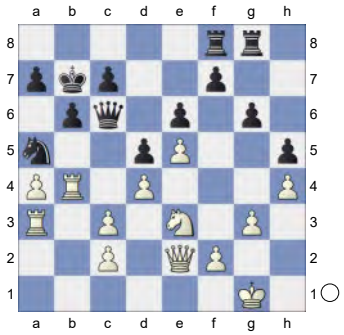
[23.c4!± 0.96/20]

23...Kd7 24.Rb4 Kc8 25.Qe2 -0.01/20

[25.Qf6± 0.35/18]

25...Kb7 0.43/21

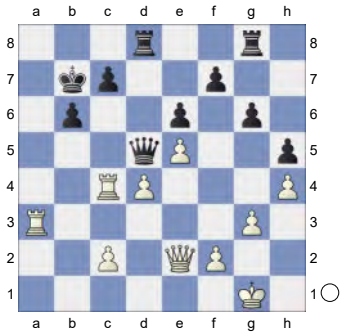
[25...g5= -0.01/20]



26.c4± dxc4 1.04/19

[26...f6!= 0.11/18]

27.Nxc4± Nxc4 28.Rxc4 Qd5 29.a5 Rd8 30.axb6 axb6



31.Rca4 0.50/20

[31.Rc5!!± 1.25/25 White threatens Qa6+ and mate. bxc5 32.Qa6+ Kb8 33.Ra5 cxd4 34.Qa7+ Kc8 35.Rxd5 exd5 36.Qa8+ Kd7 37.Qxd5+ Ke8 38.Qa5 *(38.Qc6+ Kf8±)*]

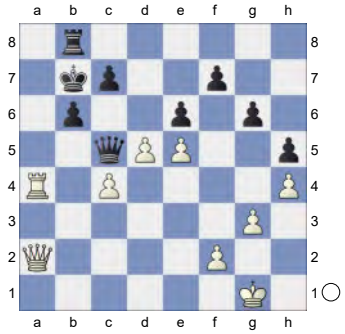
31...Ra8± Against Qa6+ **32.c4→** White attacks. **32...Qc6**

[32...Rxa4? 33.cxd5 *(33.Rxa4 Qc6±)* 33...Rxa3 34.Qe4+-]

33.Qa2 Rxa4 34.Rxa4= Endgame KQR-KQR **34...Rb8?** 10.28/27 A mistake that costs the game.

[34...Rd8= 0.28/21]

35.d5+- Qc5

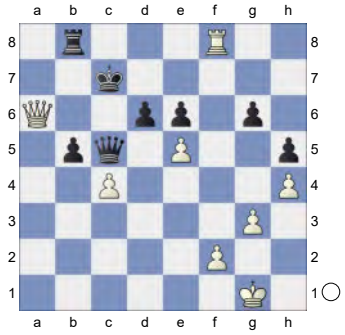


36.Ra7+ Kc8 37.d6 cxd6 38.Rxf7 Threatening mate with Qa7. **38...b5**

39.Qa6+ 13.50/5

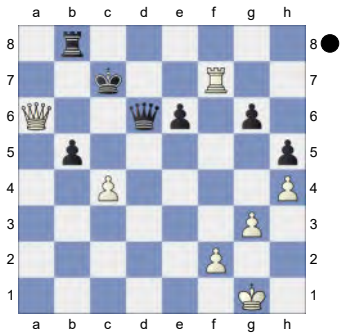
[⌓39.cxb5 #14/21 Qc1+ 40.Kg2 Qc7 41.Qxe6+ Kb7 42.Rxc7+ Kxc7 43.Qxd6+ Kc8 44.e6]

39...Kd8 40.Rf8+ White mates. **40...Kc7**



41.exd6+ Qxd6 42.Rf7+

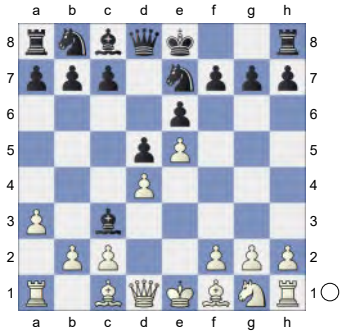
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.43
1-0

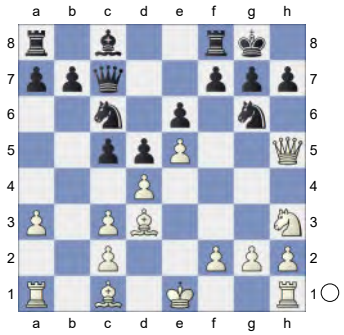
43 **C18**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2795**
■ **Shankland,Samuel L** **2656**
ch-USA 2016 Saint Louis USA (2.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Kitty Kat: 'C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
Moskalenko,V: 'Inf 64/(279)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



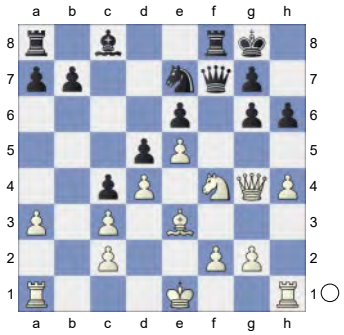
6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6
A) 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Ne2 *(10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.Nf3 Nc6 13.Ng5 Qd7 14.Rh3 Nge7 15.Rf3 Nf5 16.Rf4 Na5 17.f3 0-0-0 18.a4 Kb7 19.Qb5 c6 20.Qe2 Rde8 21.g4 f6 22.gxf5 fxg5 23.fxe6 Qxe6 24.hxg5 Nc4* Xiong,J (2659)-Kuzubov,Y (2605) Chess.com INT 2024 Mega2024 Update 16 [Kitty Kat] 0-1 (41)*)* 10...Qd7 *(10...Qc8 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bd3 c5 14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.0-0 Bc4 16.a4 Nd7 17.a5 b5 18.Bc1 Kg8 19.Ba3 Qc6 20.Be7 Bxd3 21.cxd3 Rh6 22.d4 a6 23.Bg5 Rh8 24.f4 Nf8 25.f5* Keres,P-Matulovic,M Zürich 1961 French Nc3 [Myers] 1-0 (45) *)* 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 g6 13.Bd3 Qc6 14.Kd2 Kd7 15.Bg5 Kc8 16.Qf4 Qd7 17.Rh3 Kb7 18.Rf3 Rh7 19.Qe3 Nc6 20.Qe2 Bxd3 21.cxd3 Rhh8 Firouzja,A (2760)-Kuzubov,Y (2606) Chess.com INT 2024 Mega2024 Update 27 [Kitty Kat] 0-1 (58);
B) 7.Nh3 Ng6 8.Nf4 Nxf4 9.Bxf4 Ba6 10.Qg4 Rg8 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Bg5 Qd7 13.0-0 f5 14.Qh5+ g6 15.Qh3 Rg7 16.g4 fxg4 17.Qxg4 Qc6 18.Rad1 Kd7 19.Rd3 Re8 20.Rf3 Kc8 21.Rf6 Gligoric,S-Matulovic,M Zürich 1961 French Nc3 [Myers] 0-1 (37)]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nh3 Ng5 is the strong threat.
10...Qc7

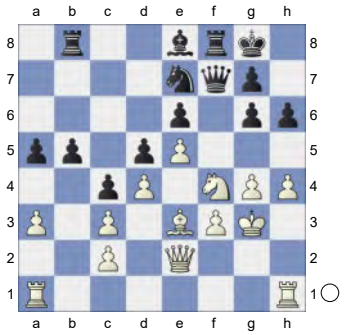


11.Be3 c4 The position is equal.

12.Bxg6
[12.Ng5 h6 13.Nxf7 cxd3 14.Nxh6+ gxh6∓]
12...fxg6 13.Qg4 Qf7 0.38/20
[13...Qa5= -0.01/18 14.Kd2 Bd7]
14.Nf4± Ne7 15.h4 h6

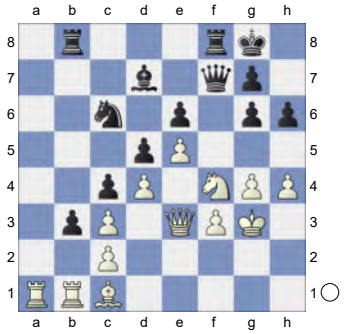


16.Qe2 0.02/19
[16.a4± 0.39/18 was preferrable.]
16...Bd7 17.g4 b5 18.f3 a5 19.Kf2 Rab8 20.Kg3 Be8

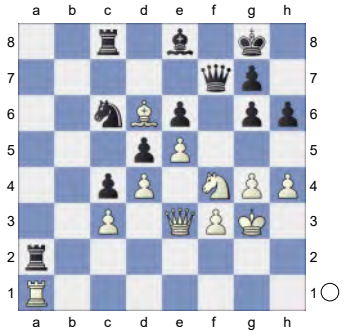


21.Bd2 b4 22.axb4 axb4 23.Rhb1 Active counter play! **23...Nc6** And now ...bxc3 would win.
[23...g5? 24.hxg5 h5 25.Nxh5± *(25.Rxb4 Rxb4 26.cxb4 hxg4±)*]
24.Qe3 b3
[24...g5? 25.hxg5 hxg5 26.Nh3+-]
25.Bc1 Bd7!
[25...bxc2? 26.Rxb8 Nxb8 27.Ba3+-]

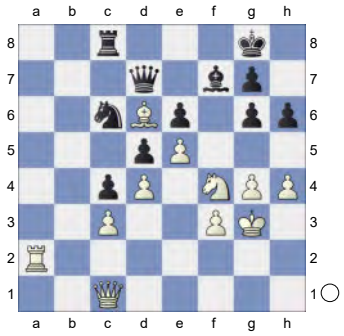
(Diagram)



26.Ba3! bxc2 27.Rc1 Rfc8
[27...g5? 28.hxg5 hxg5 29.Nh3+-]
28.Rxc2 Ra8 29.Rca2 White stays focused until the end. **29...Be8** 1.18/23
[⌓29...Ra7 0.71/21]
30.Bd6!± Rxa2

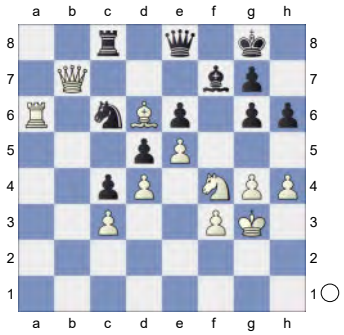


31.Rxa2 Qd7 1.57/23
[⌓31...Rd8 1.07/22]
32.Qc1 1.17/22
[⌓32.Qe1 1.57/23]
32...Bf7 2.44/22
[32...Nd8± 1.17/22 33.Qb1 Qf7]

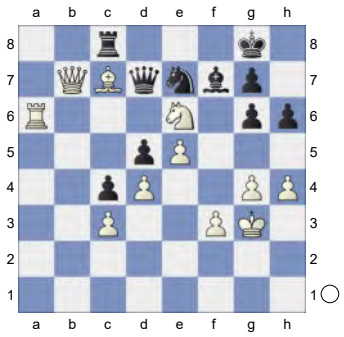


33.Qb1!+- Qe8? 3.59/21
[33...Ne7 2.05/20 34.Bxe7 Qxe7 35.Nxg6 Qc7]

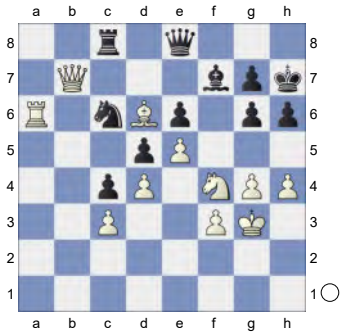
34.Qb7 Kh7 1.98/24
[34...Kh8 3.76/24 is a better defense. 35.Ra6 Bg8]
35.Ra6? 3.99/26
[35.Kh2 1.98/24]
35...Kg8



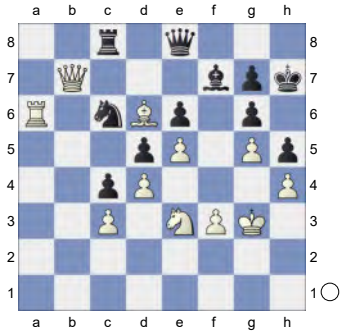
36.Bc7 Ne7 37.Bd6? 0.01/22
[37.Nxe6+- 3.63/22 Qd7



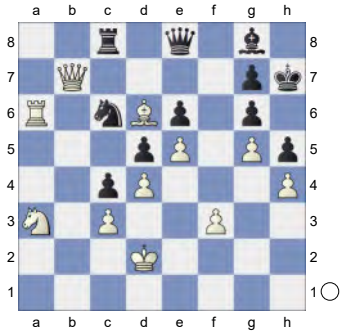
38.Rd6!]
37...Nc6= 38.Kg2 Kh7 39.Kh3? 1.21/21
[39.g5+- 3.10/24 and White stays clearly on top.]
39...Kg8? 3.33/28
[39...g5± 1.21/21 keeps fighting.]
40.Kg3+- Kh7



41.Nh3 Black must now prevent g5.
41...Kg8? 3.72/23
[41...Bg8 1.91/22 42.Nf4 Bf7]
42.g5 h5 43.Nf4 Kh7 44.Ng2 Bg8 45.Ne3 Bf7

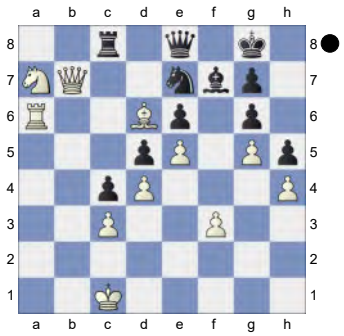


46.Nc2 Bg8 47.Na3 Bf7 48.Kf2 Bg8 49.Ke3? 1.33/23
[49.Kg2+- 5.47/25 has better winning chances.]
49...Bf7? 5.27/29
[49...Qf7± 1.33/23 is tougher. 50.Qxf7 *(50.Qxc8 Qf5=)* 50...Bxf7]
50.Kd2 White is clearly winning.
50...Bg8



51.Kc2 Bf7 52.Kc1 Kg8 53.Nb5 Ne7 54.Na7
[Less strong is 54.Bxe7 Rb8 55.Qa7 Qxb5±]
[Not 54.Qxe7 Qxb5 55.Ra7 Qe8+-]

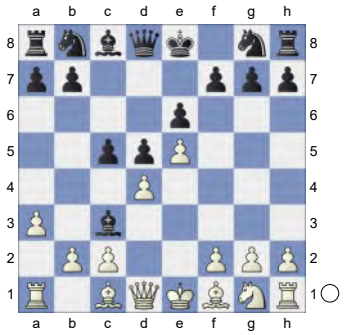
(Diagram)



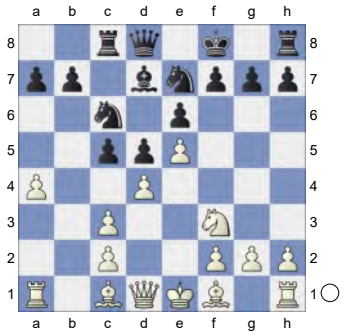
Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.32
1-0

44 **C18**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2795**
■ **Oll,Lembit** **2650**
EU-Cup 14th final (1) 11.01.1999
[Kitty Kat]

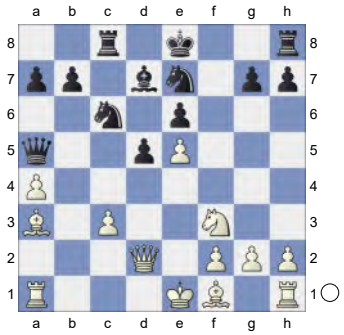
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Kf8 8.a4 Nbc6
[8...Qc7 9.Nf3 cxd4 10.Qxd4 Nbc6 11.Qc5 *(11.Qe3 Nf5 12.Qf4 g5 13.Qxg5 Nxe5 14.Qf6 Nxf3+ 15.gxf3 Rg8 16.Ba3+ Ke8 17.0-0-0 Qd8 18.Bb5+ Bd7 19.Bxd7+ Kxd7 20.Qxf7+ Ne7 21.Rhe1 Rg6 22.Rxe6* Rusakov,Y-Peltonen,U Budapest 2012 The Week in Chess 401 [Gajcin,Marina]*)* 11...f6 12.exf6 gxf6 13.Be2 e5 14.Nh4 Be6 15.0-0 b6 16.Qe3 Ng6 17.Qf3 Qf7 18.Nf5 h5 19.Nd6 Qg7 20.Bb5 Nce7 21.Bg5 Ng8 22.c4 N6e7 23.Bd2 Areshchenko,A (2335)-Drozdovskij,Y (2462) Evpatoria 2001 CBM 184 [Moskalenko,Viktor] 0-1 (42)]
9.Qd1N 0.10/16
[9.Nf3± 0.49/17 was preferrable. Qa5 10.Bd2 c4 11.h4 b5 12.h5 h6 13.Be2 bxa4 14.0-0 Rb8 15.Ra2 Ba6 16.Rfa1 Bb5 17.Nh4 24. French Defense (1...e6) W-3...Bb4 (6...Nc6)]
9...Bd7 0.44/17
[9...f6= 0.10/16]
10.Nf3± Rc8

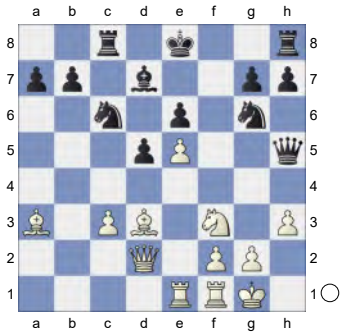


White is slightly better. **11.Ba3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Qa5+ 13.Qd2 f6** 0.98/19
[13...h6± 0.57/20]
14.c3!± fxe5 15.dxe5 Ke8 1.35/21
[⌓15...Kg8 0.95/18]

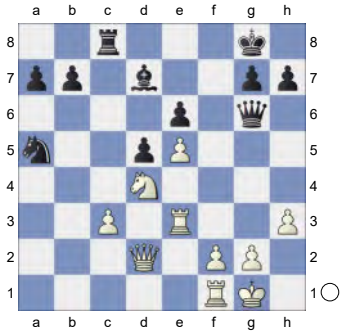


16.Be2 Qxa4 17.0-0 Qe4 18.Rae1

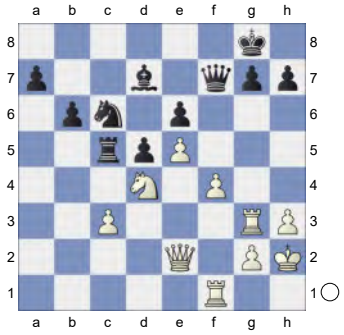
1.09/17
[Better is 18.Rfb1+- 1.64/17]
18...Ng6 1.91/20
[18...Rf8± 1.09/17 was worth a try.]
19.Bd3!+- Qg4 20.h3 Qh5



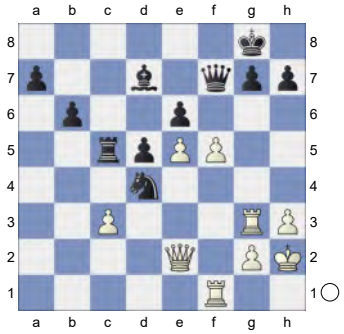
21.Bd6 1.39/17
[21.c4+- 1.96/19 Threatens to win with cxd5. Qh6 22.Bxg6+ hxg6 23.Ng5 *(23.cxd5 Qxd2 24.Nxd2 Nd4±)*]
21...Rf8 2.11/19
[21...Nge7± 1.39/17 is a better defense. 22.c4 Qh6]
22.Bxg6+ Qxg6 23.Bxf8 &Bianco is more active. **23...Kxf8 24.Nd4 Kg8 25.Re3 Na5** 1.60/22
[⌓25...b6 1.29/19]



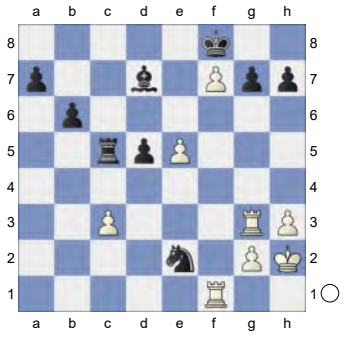
26.Rg3 Qh5 2.31/21
[26...Qf7± 1.58/21 27.Qa2 b6]
27.Qa2 b6 28.f4 Qf7 Against f5
29.Kh2 Rc5? 4.30/22 This costs Black the game.
[29...Re8± 1.45/19 30.h4 Bc8]
30.Qe2 f5! is the strong threat. **30...Nc6** 4.16/20
[⌓30...Rc6 2.95/23 31.Nxc6 Nxc6]



31.f5! Nxd4

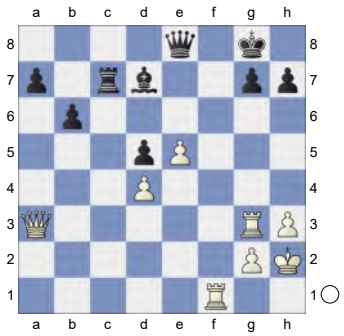


32.fxe6! White is clearly winning.
32...Qxe6
[32...Nxe2 is a self mate. 33.exf7+ Kf8



34.Rxg7!!]
33.cxd4 Rc8 34.Qa6 Strongly threatening Rf6. **34...Rc7** 7.56/25
[⌓34...Kh8 4.73/21 35.Qxa7 b5]
35.Qa3 Qe8

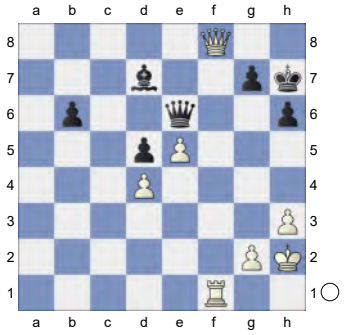
(Diagram)



Prevents Rf8+. **36.Rgf3** White threatens Rf8+ and mate. **36...Rc8** **37.Qxa7** 5.25/21

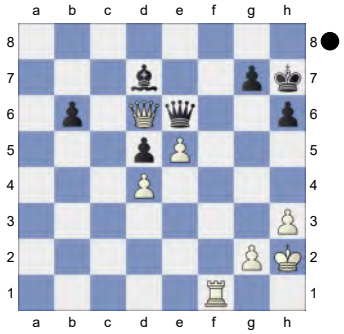
[⧍37.Qd6 13.62/22 Bxh3 38.gxh3]

37...Qe6 **38.Qa3** Threatening mate with Rf8+. **38...h6** **39.Rf8+** **Rxf8** **40.Qxf8+** **Kh7**



41.Qd6 6.12/24

[⧍41.Rf7 17.99/25 Qxf7 42.Qxf7]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.36

1-0

45 **C16**

☐ **Kasparov,Garry** **2795**

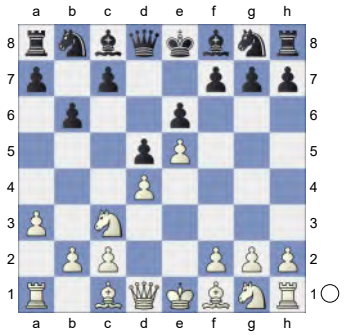
■ **Ivanchuk,Vassily** **2740**

CS Masters Horgen SUI (6) 26.10.1995

[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5

1.e4 **e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** **Bb4** **4.e5** **b6** **5.a3** **Bf8**

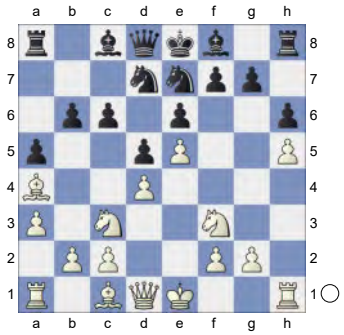


6.Nf3 **Ne7** **7.h4** **h6** **8.h5** **a5** 0.79/17

[8...c5⩲ 0.47/17 might be stronger.]

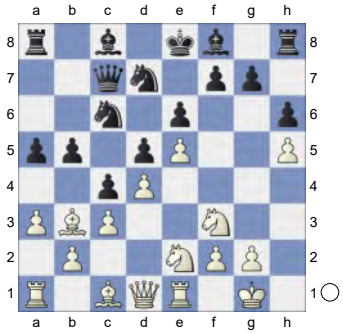
9.Bb5+ **c6** White is slightly better.

10.Ba4 **Nd7**



11.Ne2 **b5** **12.Bb3** **c5** **13.c3** **Nc6** **14.0-0** **Qc7** **15.Re1N** **c4**

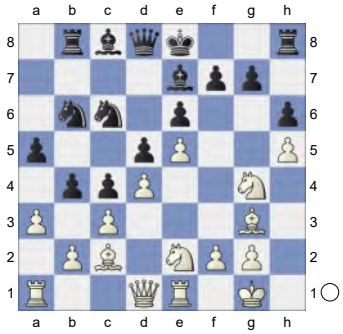
(Diagram)



16.Bc2 Nb6 17.Bf4 Be7 18.Bg3 0.01/20

[18.Qd2± 0.33/18]

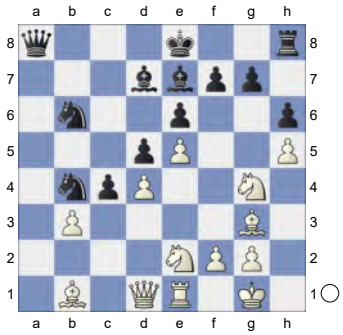
18...Rb8 19.Nh2 Qd8 20.Ng4 b4



21.axb4 axb4 22.cxb4 Nxb4 23.Bb1 Bd7 24.b3 -0.59/19

[White should try 24.Nf4= 0.11/17]

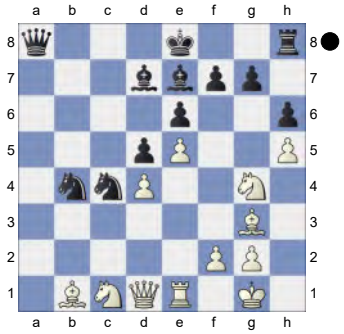
24...Ra8∓ 25.Rxa8 Qxa8



26.bxc4 Nxc4 27.Nc1 -1.50/20

[27.Bf4∓ -0.42/20]

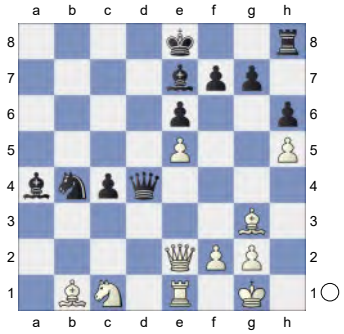
(Diagram)



27...Ba4!∓ 28.Qe2 Qa7↑ Black is on the roll. **29.Ne3 Qxd4** &Nero is more active. **30.Nxc4** -1.97/22

[30.Nd3∓ -1.54/22 was worth a try.]

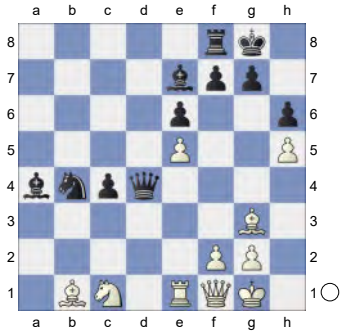
30...dxc4-+



31.Qf1 -3.42/23

[31.Qf3 -1.98/21 was necessary. Bc6 32.Ne2 Bxf3 33.Nxd4]

31...0-0



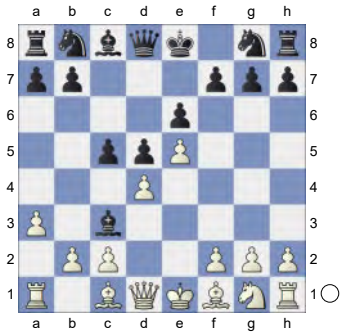
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.06 (flawless)

0-1

46 **C19**
□ **Kramnik,Vladimir** **2788**
■ **Shirov,Alexei** **2741**
Moscow Tal Memorial 3rd (1) 18.08.2008
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

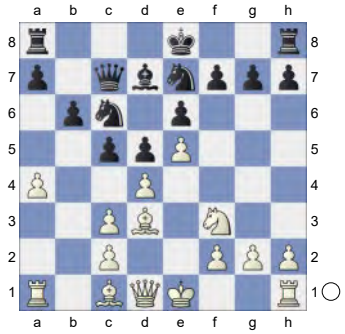


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.a4N

[7.Bd2 Bd7 8.f4 Ba4 9.Rb1 Qc7 10.Bb5+ Bxb5 11.Rxb5 Nd7 12.Qb1 b6 13.Nf3 Nc6 14.Be3 cxd4 15.Nxd4 Na5 16.Rb3 0-0 17.Nb5 Qc6 18.Rb4 a6 19.Nd6 Qxc3+ 20.Kf2 f6 21.Bxb6 Nxb6 Jatovsky,D (1600)-Townsend,W (1873) Parsippany 2001 EXT 2002 [ChessBase II] 0-1 (50)]

[7.Qg4 Qc7 *(7...0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7 11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Qa5 13.Bd2 Nbc6 14.Nf3 c4 15.Be2 Nf5 16.Ng5 Re7 17.f4 Bd7 18.0-0 Nd8 19.Qe1 h6 20.Nf3 Nf7 21.Ne5 Kg7 22.Bf3* Salgado Lopez,I (2584)-Moreno Ruiz, J (2437) Espana (ch) 145/95 2020 Chess Informant 145 [Perunovic, Milos] 1-0 (46)*; 7...Kf8 8.h4 Qc7 9.Qd1 cxd4 10.cxd4 Qc3+ 11.Bd2 Qxd4 12.Nf3 Qe4+ 13.Be2 b6 14.0-0 Ba6 15.c4 Nbc6 16.Ng5 Qxe5 17.Re1 Qf6 18.Bh5 g6 19.cxd5 exd5 20.Bg4 h6 21.Ne6+ fxe6 22.Rxe6* Rusakov,Y-Baumhus,R Budapest 2012 The Week in Chess 401 [Gajcin,Marina]*)* 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 Bd7 12.Qd3 dxc3 13.Rb1 *(13.Nxc3 a6 14.Rb1 Na5 15.Bd2 Nc4 16.Ne4 Nxd2 17.Nf6+ Kd8 18.Qxd2 Rh8 19.c4 Bc6 20.Be2 Kc8 21.Bh5 Rxh5 22.Nxh5 dxc4 23.0-0 b5 24.Nf6 Kb7 25.a4 Rd8 26.Qf2 Nd5 27.axb5 axb5* Schleinitz,J-David,R corr ICCF 1991 UltraCorr3a [RK] 1-0*)* 13...0-0-0 14.Nxc3 Na5 15.g3 Kb8 16.Ne2 Ba4 17.c3 Nf5 18.Bh3 d4 19.Bd2 Nb3 20.Bxf5 dxc3 21.Qxc3 Nxd2 Wohl,R (2713)-Kavakul,M (2714) Espana 1999 Inf 46 [Santos/ Pereira] 0-1 (39)]

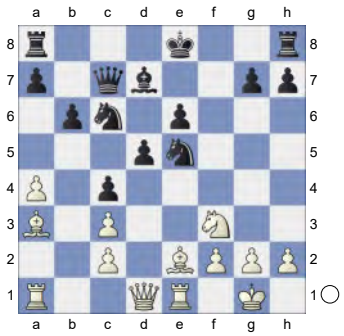
7...Qc7 8.Nf3 b6 9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.Bd3 Nbc6



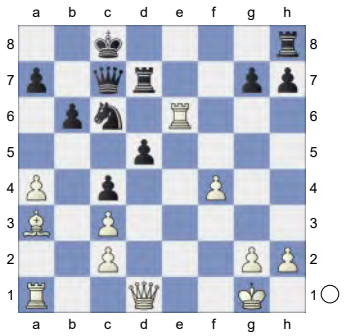
11.0-0 c4 12.Be2 f6 13.Ba3 fxe5 14.dxe5 White is slightly better.
14...Nxe5 15.Re1 aiming for Nxe5.
15...N7c6 1.30/23

[Black should play 15...N5c6!⩲ 0.33/21]

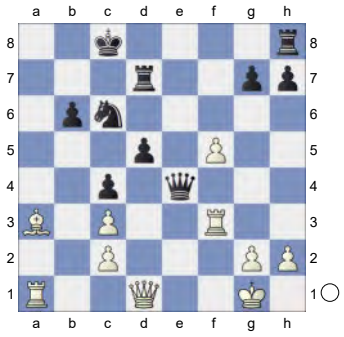
(Diagram)



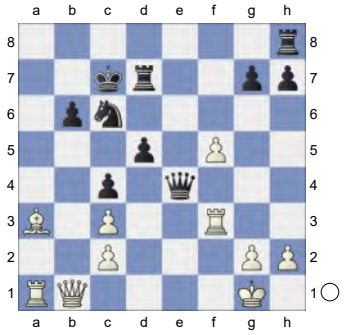
16.Nxe5± Nxe5 17.f4 0.76/23
[⌓17.Bh5+ 1.21/21 g6 18.Qd4 gxh5 19.Rxe5]
17...Nc6 18.Bg4 A strong pair of Bishops. **18...0-0-0 19.Bxe6 Bxe6 20.Rxe6 Rd7**



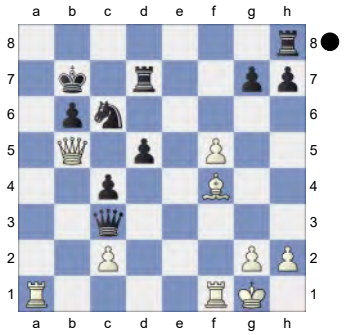
21.f5 Nd8 1.34/21
[⌓21...Rhd8 0.95/22]
22.Re3 0.40/20 &Bianco is more active.
[22.Qf3± 1.34/21]
22...Qf4!⩲ 23.Rf3 Qe4 0.82/21
[23...Qe5⩲ 0.43/21 was preferrable.]
24.a5!± And now axb6 would win.
24...Nc6 1.49/21
[Black should try 24...b5⩲ 0.70/21]
25.axb6 axb6



26.Qb1! Kc7 2.72/20
[⌓26...Rb7 1.74/21 27.Bd6 Rd8]



27.Bc1!+- Black must now prevent Bf4+.
27...Qe1+ 28.Rf1 Qxc3 29.Bf4+ Kb7? 9.57/22
[29...Ne5? 30.Qb5 Rb8 31.Ra7+ Rb7 32.Bxe5+ Qxe5 33.Rxb7+ Kxb7 34.Qxd7++-]
[29...Rd6 3.81/24 30.Rd1 *(30.Bxd6+ Kxd6 31.Qxb6 Rb8±)* 30...g5]
30.Qb5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.33
1-0

47 **C18**
□ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2787**
■ **Akobian,Varuzhan** **2647**
ch-USA 2018 Saint Louis USA (10.5)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4

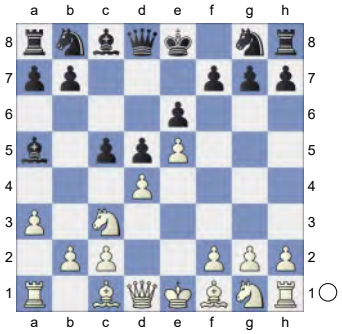
and 7 Qg4
Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356'' Chandler,Murray G: 'Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**

[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4* Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62)*; 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½ (45) *)* 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]

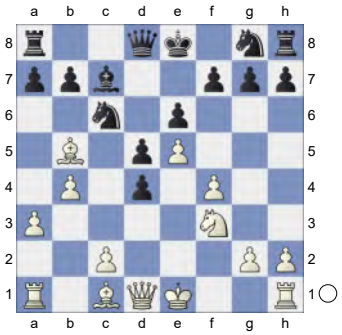
[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray G] 1-0]

5.a3 Ba5

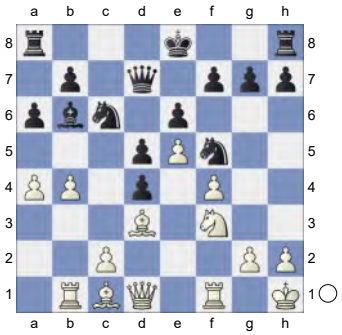
(Diagram)



6.b4 cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.f4 Bd7 9.Nf3 Bxb5 10.Bxb5+ Nc6



11.Bd3 White has compensation. **11...Nge7** The position is equal. **12.0-0 Bb6 13.Kh1 Qd7 14.Rb1 Nf5 15.a4 a6**

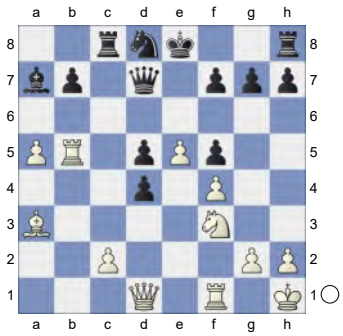


16.a5 Ba7 17.Bxf5 exf5 18.Ba3! Rc8 0.89/22

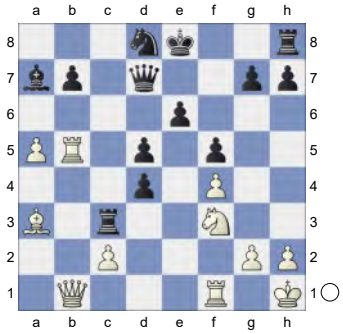
[18...b5⩲ 0.58/22]

19.b5 axb5 20.Rxb5 Hoping for Qb1. **20...Nd8**

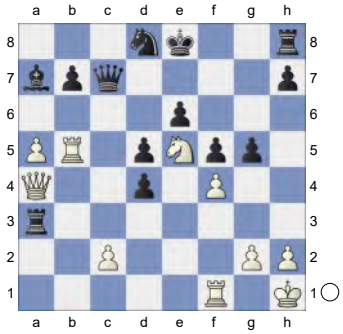
(Diagram)



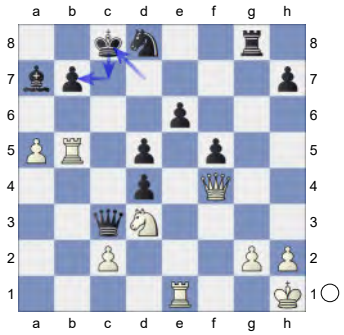
21.Qb1 Rc3
[21...Rxc2? 22.Rxb7 Nxb7 23.Qxc2+-]
22.e6 fxe6



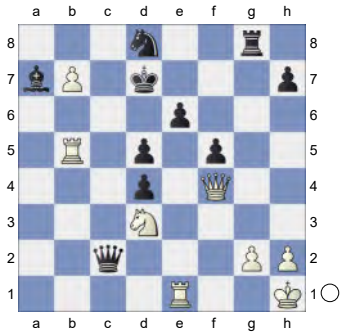
23.Ne5! Qc7 24.Qb4 g5
[24...Rxc2? 25.Qa4 Rc4 26.Rb4+ Rc6 27.a6+- *(27.Nxc6 Qxc6 28.a6 Qxa4=)*]
25.Qa4! Rxb7+ would kill now. **25...Rxa3**



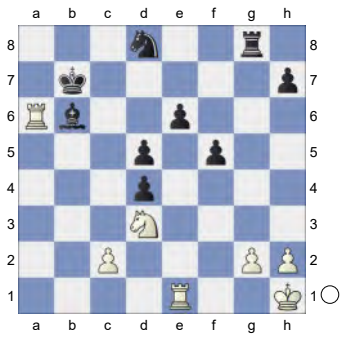
26.Qxa3 gxf4 27.Re1 &Bianco is much more active. The black rooks are badly placed. **27...Qc3 28.Qc1 Rg8 29.Nd3 Kd7** 0.98/22
[29...Rg4± 0.64/21 feels stronger.]
30.Qxf4± Qh6 is the strong threat.
30...Kc8
[30...Qxc2? 31.Rxd5+!! exd5 32.Qxf5+ Kd6 33.Qe5+ Kd7 34.Qe7+ Kc8 35.Rc1 Qxc1+ 36.Nxc1+-]



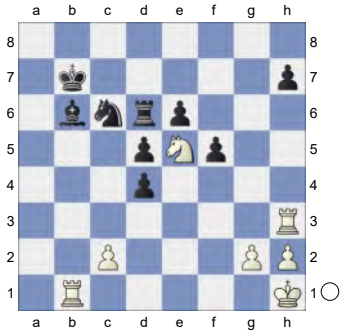
31.a6 0.73/23
[⌓31.Qh6 1.10/21]
31...bxa6
[31...Qxc2 32.axb7+ Kd7



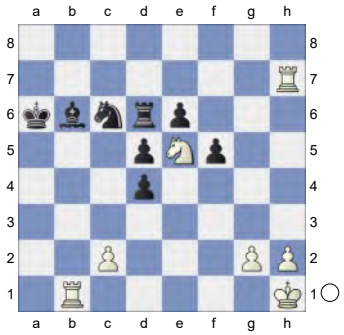
33.Rxd5+!! exd5 34.Qxf5+ Ne6 35.Qf7+ Kc6 36.Nb4+ Kb5 37.Nxc2]
32.Rb3 Chess con chili. **32...Qc7**
[32...Qxc2? 33.Rc1 Qc4 34.Qd6 Qxc1+ 35.Nxc1+-]
33.Qxc7+ Kxc7 34.Ra3 Bb6 35.Rxa6 Strongly threatening Rb1. **35...Kb7!**



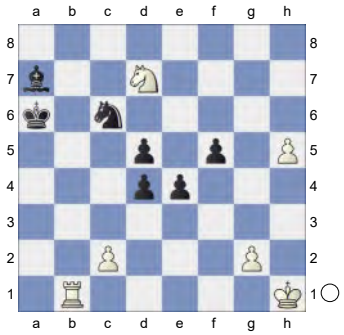
36.Ra3 aiming for Rb1. **36...Rg7** 1.36/24
[Better is 36...Kc6!± 0.63/23]
37.Rb3 Rc7? 3.92/24 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[37...Kc6± 1.46/23]
38.Reb1+- Rc6 39.Ne5 Prevents Nf7.
39...Rd6 40.Rh3 Nc6? 7.00/27
[40...h5 3.61/24 41.Rxh5 Kc8]



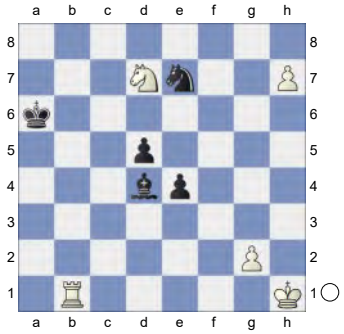
41.Rxh7+ White is clearly winning.
41...Ka6



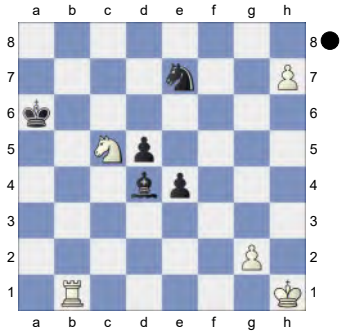
42.Rd7! Rxd7 43.Nxd7 Endgame KRN-KBN **43...Ba7 44.h4 e5 45.h5 e4**



46.h6 Threatening mate with h7. **46...d3**
47.cxd3 Bd4 48.dxe4 fxe4 49.h7 Ne7
(Diagram)



50.Nc5+!

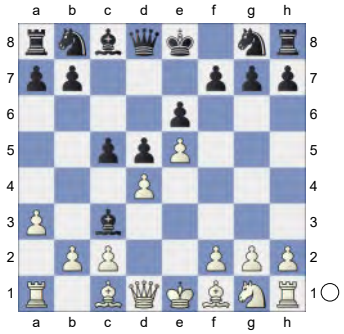


Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.26 (precise)
1-0

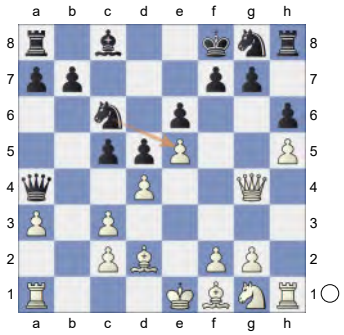
48 **C18**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2787**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2750**
20190 London 2015
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



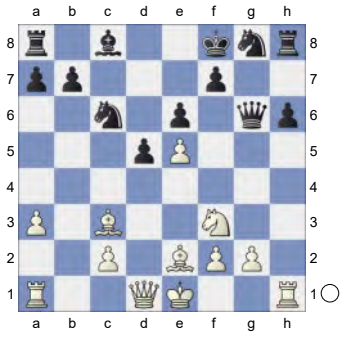
6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 Kf8 9.h4 Nc6 10.h5 h6



11.Qd1 The position is equal. **11...cxd4 12.Nf3 dxc3 13.Bxc3 g5** 1.06/21 Inhibits Rh4.

[13...Nd8± 0.68/19]

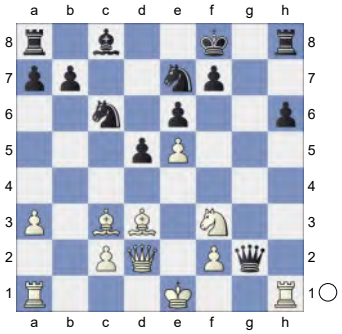
14.hxg6!± Qe4+ 15.Be2 aiming for gxf7. **15...Qxg6**



16.Qd2 Nge7 17.Bd3 This bishop pair is nice. **17...Qxg2** 2.24/23

[17...Qg7± 0.99/19]

(Diagram)



18.Ke2!+- Active counter play!

[18.Rxh6 Rxh6 19.Qxh6+ Qg7±]

18...Qg4 19.Rh4

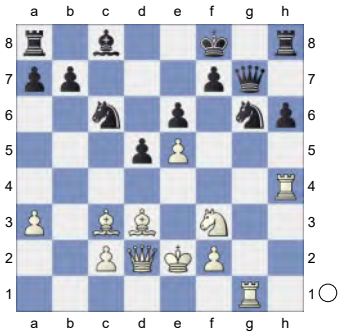
[Weaker is 19.Rag1 Qa4±]

19...Qg7

[19...Qg2? 20.Rg1 Qxg1 21.Nxg1+-]

20.Rg1 White has strong compensation.

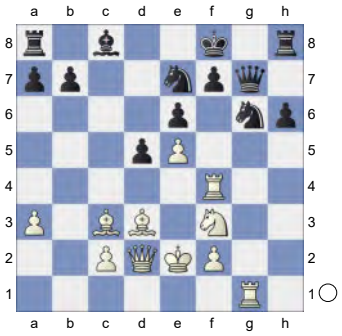
20...Ng6



21.Rf4 Nce7 7.02/22

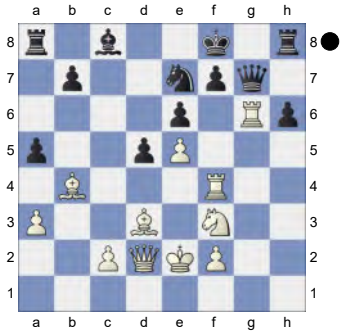
[21...Nxf4+? 22.Qxf4 Qxg1 23.Nxg1+-]

[21...Ke7 2.22/21]



22.Bb4 a5 23.Rxg6

(Diagram)

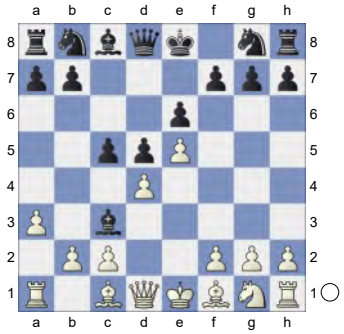


Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.17 (very precise) . An unexpected result.
½-½

49 **C19**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2786**
■ **Topalov,Veselin** **2769**
Bucharest Kings 6th (4) 11.11.2012
[Stohl,Igor]

1.e4 Stohl, Igor Collins, Sam **1...e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** Anand had his problems with this line in Sao Paulo/Bilbao; this undoubtedly inspired Caruana to use it against another world-class GM. **3...Bb4** This could have been expected, as Topalov had played it in the past, notably only a few weeks ago against Bologan - see the notes to this game in CBM 151. **4.e5** **c5** **5.a3!?** A paradoxical retreat, which started appearing mainly in 2012. White values his bishop higher than the extra tempi, by preparing its transfer to c2 he aims for a Closed Ruy Lopez type of position. **5...Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 **Ne7** This branch is relatively unexplored and both sides are still searching for the best setup. **7.Nf3**
[7.Qg4 Qc7 *(7...0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6=* Okhotnik,V (2446)-Kavcic,Z (2273)/ Feffernitz/2012/ *9.Qh5!?±* ○ *Ng6* was too passive: *10.Nh3 Qc7 11.Be3 c4* was too passive: *12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Qf7 14.Nf4 Ne7 15.h4 h6 16.Qe2 Bd7 17.g4)* 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 dxc3 12.Nxc3 Nd4 13.Bb2 Bd7 14.0-0-0]
7...Nbc6 transposes back into the game.
8.Bd3 **Bd7**
[8...Qa5 9.Qd2 b6]
[8...c4 9.Bf1 0-0 10.g3 f6 *(10...h6 11.a4* Keeping the centre closed is more logical than *Qa5 12.Bd2 Bd7* which allows the active development *13.Bg2* However, Black got counterplay after *f6)* 11.exf6 Rxf6 12.Bg2= is again a typical Ruy Lopez position, in which Black has reaonable counterplay against e4. Qa5?! 13.Qd2 Bd7 14.0-0 Be8 15.Ne5 Nxe5 16.dxe5↑ Chudinovskih, A (2379)-Lajthajm,B (2502)/EU-ch Budva/2009/ Rf7 Collins, Sam]
9.0-0!?N A new idea, connected with a well prepared strategy. **9...Qc7**
[9...c4 Collins, Sam: 'led to Ruy Lopez style play where Black has saved several tempi on getting his

bishop to g7 (the normal route is f8-e7-f8-g7) and his knight to d7 (which, in the Breyer, goes b8-c6-b8-d7) in A. Chudinovskih (2379) - B.Lajthajm (2502), Budva 2009 (1-0 in 23). Here Black has several good options, including']

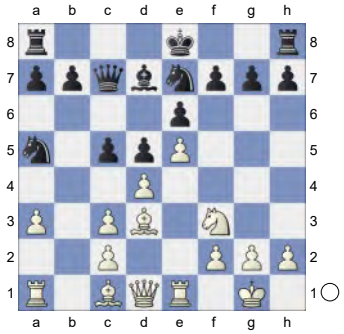
10.Re1! The point of White's idea - after preventing b5 he closes the centre, aiming for Benoni-like positions.

[10.a4 Collins, Sam: 'with a repetition in M.Bartel (2653) - I.Cheparinov (2650), Porto Carras 2011 (1/2-1/2 in 25).' cxd4 11.cxd4 Nb4 12.Ba3 Nxd3 13.Qxd3 ½,Bartel,M (2653)-Cheparinov,I (2650)/EU-chT Porto Carras/2011/ Topalov undoubtedly knew this game and Caruana could have reasonably expected him to use a setup employed by his second. Innocuous, Qc4 is more ambitious 14.Qd2]

[10.dxc5 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Qxe5 12.Rb1]

10...Na5

[10...c4 11.Bf1 0-0 *(11...0-0-0)*]



11.Ng5

[11.dxc5 Qxc5 12.Rb1 *(12.Ng5)*]

[11.a4 c4]

11...Ng6 Afterwards Topalov suggested

[Caruana hardly considered 11...h6 12.Qh5 Rf8 13.Nh7!?∞ Rh8 as a possible improvement. However, although Black's pieces are better placed than in Bartel-Lu Shanglei above, White still has more space and a pleasant position after 14.Qg4± *(14.dxc5 Nc4 15.Rb1 Bc6 16.Nf6+ gxf6 17.exf6 Ng6 18.Bxg6 fxg6 19.Qxg6+ Qf7 20.Rxe6+ Kf8 21.Bxh6+)* Collins, Sam: 'This position was already tested against the Topalov/Cheparinov team.' 14...Rg8 15.a4]

12.Re3 A natural move.

[12.Qg4 Nc6 but I would prefer White with his bishop pair (including a powerful dark-squared bishop which can threaten the black king) and potentially mobile kingside pawns. ≤13.Nxh7? Rxh7 14.Bxg6 Rh8↑ Even the symmetrical 15.Bd3 promises White a slight edge, but Caruana has higher ambitions. In the resulting Modern Benoni position Black has some extra moves (b6, ♕c7), but they are not too relevant and he must fight for equality.]

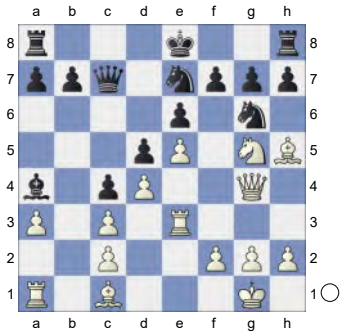
12...c4 13.Be2

[Collins, Sam: 'The typical Benoni move' 13.Bxg6 Collins, Sam: ', intending ...b5, doesn't quite work in view of' hxg6 Collins, Sam: 'when' is not too effective, as the advanced pawn is vulnerable: 14.Qg4? runs into *(14.a4)* Collins, Sam: 'can't be played in view of' 14...Ba4 Collins, Sam: 'when Ra7 will be devastating.' 15.Rf3 Rf8 *(15...Bxc2* , but after *16.Rxf7 Qb6 17.Rxg7* his dark-squared bishop is exchanged. The position appears playable after *Bf5 18.Qd1 0-0-0 19.a4)* 16.Nxe6 fxe6± 17.Qxe6+ Qe7+- Black should opt for slower play with 18.Qxg6+ (Collins, Sam) but his queenside

setup looks artificial Black can sharply change the character of the game with Kd7 Collins, Sam 19.Bg5]

13...Nc6 **14.Bh5** Collins, Sam: 'The pawn structure is now characteristic of a Modern Benoni (an old favourite of Topalov). It is hard to judge which player benefits more from the changes compared to the main line of that opening - White has wasted time with his c-pawn and his light-squared bishop, but Black has played the slightly passive move ...Qc7 (...b6 followed by ...b5 is still efficient since it prevents the queenside being blocked by a5 after ... Rb8).' A useful move, which limits both ♗c8 and ♘f6. **14...Nce7** **15.Qg4!** White doesn't mind the X-ray, it's more important to stop b5. **15...Ba4**

[15...Nf5 16.Rh3 Nh6 17.Qe2⇄]



16.Ra2

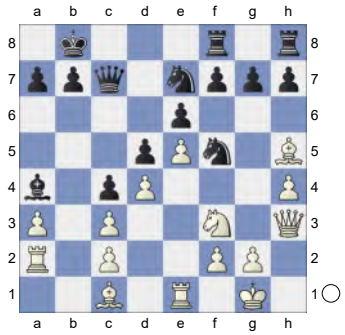
[16.Bxg6 hxg6 *(16...Nxg6± 17.Rf3)* 17.Rh3 Rg8 18.Qf3 Nf5 19.g4 Nh6 20.Nh7 0-0-0 *(20...Bxc2!↑* Black's forces are uncoordinated. *21.Bxh6)* 21.Bg5]

[16.Rf3 Nf5 *(16...0-0 17.Bxg6 Nxg6 18.Nxh7!)* 17.Qh3± Qe7 18.Nxe6!?± I would prefer Qxe6 (Collins, Sam) . The a6-pawn is immune for the moment because of the pressure on e4. This looks level to me. 19.Rxf5 Bxc2± /± gives White a permanent edge. White doesn't need complications after 20.Bxg6 Qxg6∞ *(20...fxg6 21.Rf8+ Ke7? 22.Bg5++-)* 21.Rg5!? Qh6 22.Qg3⩲ Qe6 23.Rxg7!± Δ 0-0-0?! 24.a4]

16...Nf5 Collins, Sam: 'The exchange of a pair of knights has eased the cramp in Black's position, but has also freed the way for White's primary plan of f4 and e5. ' **17.Re1**

[17.Rh3 also doesn't fully solve Black's problems after 0-0-0]

17...0-0-0 **18.Nf3** Collins, Sam: 'Pointing out that Black has potential weaknesses on the queenside, and reducing the possibility of ...b5.' **18...Kb8** Collins, Sam: 'Black has to connect his rooks somehow, but the bishop is poorly placed here.' **19.h4±** White is better, as he has stopped both c4 and b5. **19...Rdf8** **20.Qh3** Collins, Sam: 'Starting another logical mini-plan, aiming to trade the dark-squared bishops.' **20...Nge7?!**



Black lacks a clear plan. **21.Qh2** **h6** **22.Bg4** **g5** Collins, Sam: '!?' Collins, Sam: 'The most strategically ambitious move, keeping Black's strongest piece, but at the cost of danger to the black king for the foreseeable future (Black can only remove the attacker by ...Bg7, which would hardly be consistent).' **23.h5!** Once again controls b5.

[23.hxg5 hxg5 24.Bh5 g4 25.Ng5±

not Ng7 Collins, Sam]

[23.g3 gxh4± 24.Nxh4 (Collins, Sam) might also be a more useful move than Caruana's. Qa5 25.Bxf5 *(25.Bd2!? ⩲Nxd4±)* 25...Qxc3 26.Rd1 Nxf5 27.Nxf5↑ and without the ♗g7, Black's queenside play is ineffective and his kingside is vulnerable. ⩲exf5]

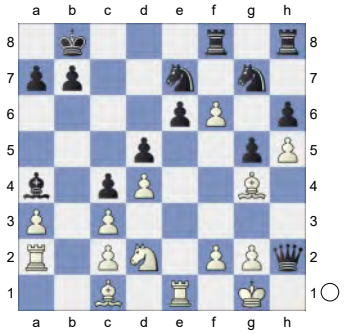
23...Ng7 24.Nd2

[24.Bd2]

[24.Qh3]

[24.Be3]

24...f5 25.exf6 Qxh2+



26.Kxh2 Rxf6 27.Bf3 Collins, Sam: 'After some manoeuvring, bringing his queen to the kingside, Caruana decides it is time to set the kingside pawns in motion.'

[27.Nf3 Be8 28.Ne5 Kc7 29.a4+- Nxh5? *(29...Rxf2 30.Nf3* Collins, Sam: '!' *Bxh5 31.Bxh5 Nxh5 32.Kg1 Rxf3 33.gxf3⩲ /± /±* Collins, Sam: 'with a pawn, two fantastic bishops and a safer king - note in particular how the b7-bishop has been transformed into a great piece.' *Ng7!?)* 30.Ba3∓ ⩲Nc8!? activates the ♗, chasing it away would disrupt White's setup. Collins, Sam: 'Houdini suggests the direct' Black would probably welcome 31.Kg1 a5 32.Bf3?! Collins, Sam: '. However, a player with Topalov's attitude to exchange sacrifices would happily play' Ng7]

27...Rhf8 28.Nf1↑ Caruana patiently improves his position, while Black has nothing constructive to do. **28...Nef5**

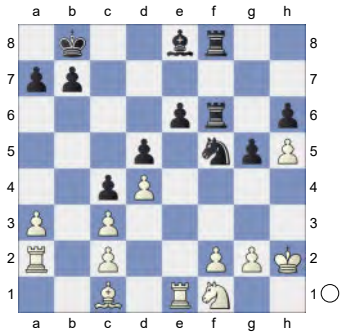
[28...Rxf3 29.gxf3± Rxf3 Collins, Sam 30.Kg1 Nef5 31.Ne3 Nh4+- 32.Ng4 Rxc3 33.Re3 Rxe3 34.Bxe3 Ngf5 35.c3 Bd1! Δ 36.Nf6 Kc7+-]

29.Bg4 Be8 30.Bxf5

[30.Kg1 Nd6 31.f3+- Bxh5!?± Collins, Sam: 'wins' is maybe even more convincing 32.Bxh5 Collins, Sam: 'doesn't work in view of' Nxh5]

30...Nxf5

[30...exf5 Collins, Sam: '!' Collins, Sam: 'would have led to a winning position:' 31.a4 Collins, Sam: 'is better, but then the simple' Bf7 32.Ba3 Re8 33.Rxe8+ Nxe8 34.Be7 Re6 35.Bf8 f4 36.g4!?± Although Black is still fighting here, White retains excellent winning chances. fxg3+ 37.Nxg3 is less incisive Rf6 38.Kg1 Be6]



31.Ne3! No hurry. **31...Nxe3**

[31...Nd6 32.Ng4-+]

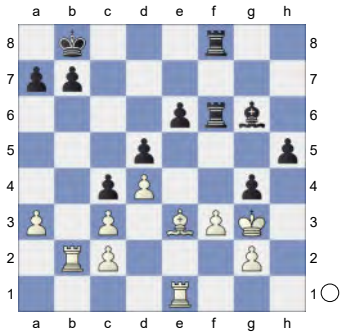
32.Bxe3 Bxh5?! Collins, Sam: '?' Collins, Sam: 'Topalov is sick of waiting and decides to make a bid for counterplay, but this isn't justified by the position.' Lashing out. This liberating attempt leads to tactical complications, but objectively it's insufficient. **33.Kg3**

Bg6 34.Rb2! □ 34...h5 35.f3?⊕ Collins, Sam: '?!' Collins, Sam: 'Very strong, but missing a simpler continuation.'

[35.Bxg5 Rxf2 36.Rxe6 Be4 37.Re8+ Rxe8 38.Kxf2 Rf8+ 39.Kg3 *(39.Kg1 Kc8∞ Δ 40.Bh4? Rg8 41.g3 Rf8)* 39...Rf1 40.Ra2 Kc7 41.a4 a5 42.Kh4 Rh1+ 43.Kg3! Rg1 44.Kh4± gives Black chances to create a fortress. Rxg2 45.Kxh5 Rxc2 46.Rxc2∞ ⌓Bxc2!]

35...g4?!⊕

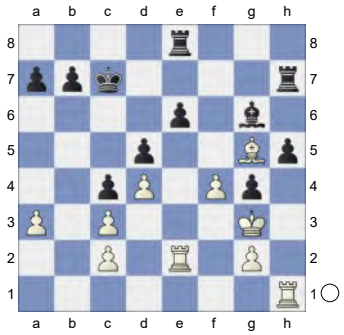
[35...Rf5 36.Bd2 -37...f5 White has a strong attack here, but Black can at least fight on. R8f6 Collins, Sam: '+-' Collins, Sam: 'forces concessions to avoid Nf6+.']



Topalov repays the favour. **36.Bg5 Rf5 37.f4!** Collins, Sam: 'White retains a serious advantage after Caruana's continuation. Topalov now seeks to upset the trend with a characteristic exchange sacrifice.' Topalov underestimated this strong move.

[37.Be7 Re8+- 38.fxg4 Rf7 Collins, Sam: '!' 39.Bd6+ Kc8→ -37...f5 Collins, Sam: 'gives White a very strong attack.' White has a strong attack here, but Black can at least fight on. 40.g5 Rg8!?]

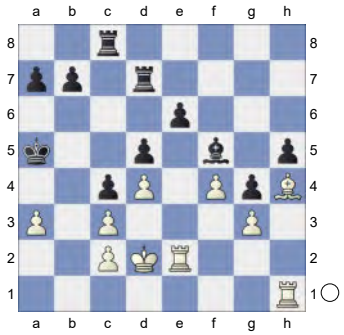
37...Re8? This should have lost by force. **38.Re2 Kc7 39.Rb1 Rf7 40.Rh1** Collins, Sam: '+-' Collins, Sam: 'While the material balance is okay for Black, the difference in piece activity gives White a winning advantage. The rest is not important for our purposes.' **40...Rh7**



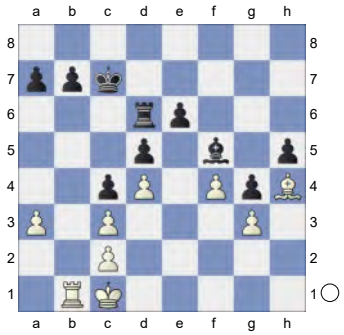
41.Kf2 Kb6 42.g3!+- This powerful move costs Black material. **42...Ka5 43.Ke3 Bf5**

[43...Ka4 44.Rb1 Kxa3 45.Rb4 Rc8 46.Re1 Ka2 47.Kd2+- Rc6+- 48.Rbb1]

44.Kd2!? Rc8 45.Bh4 Rd7



46.Rb1 Rc6 47.Ree1 Rb6 48.Rxb6 Kxb6 49.Rb1+ Kc7 50.Kc1 Rd6

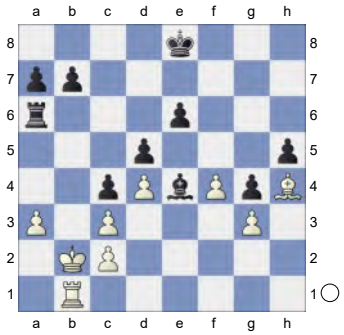


The final phase of the game is notable for Topalov's valiant defence, in a

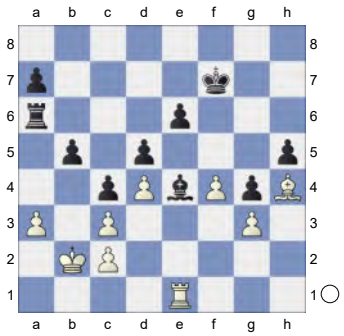
hopeless situation he continues to create problems and is finally rewarded for his resourcefulness. **51.Kb2 Rb6+ 52.Kc1 Ra6**

[52...Rxb1+ 53.Kxb1]

53.Kb2 Be4 54.Bg5! Kd7 55.Bh4 Ke8



56.Ka2 b6 57.Kb2 Kf7 58.Re1 b5!? 59.Rb1 Kg6 60.Re1 Kf7



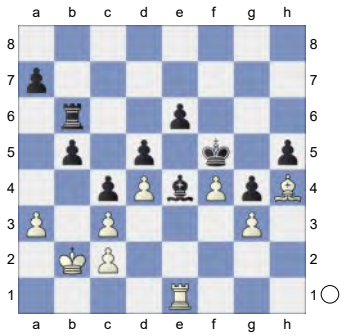
61.Ra1 Rb6 62.Rb1 Kg6 63.Kc1 Ra6 64.Kb2? The first serious error.

[The rook can't join in: 64.Rxb5 Rxa3 it must return to protect f7. 65.Kb2 Ra6 66.Rc5 Rb6+!? is similar to the game. 67.Kc1 Rb8 68.Rc6 Bf5 69.Ra6 Ra8 is less convincing. 70.Bg5 Kf7!?]

64...Kf5! 65.Re1?! Losing control.

65...Rb6!

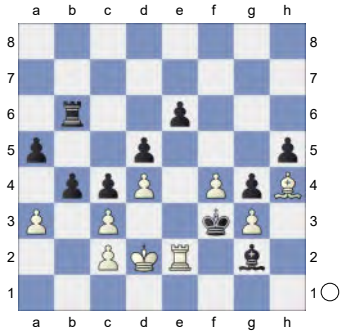
(Diagram)



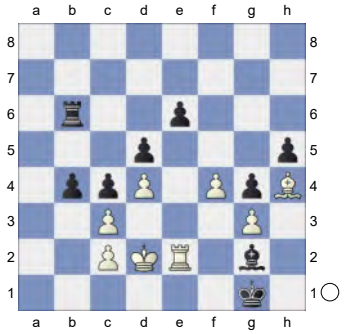
☐ **66.Rb1 a5 67.Kc1?!** Squanders the last opportunity.

[67.Re1 b4 68.cxb4 axb4 69.axb4+- Rxb4+ 70.Kc3+- Ra4 71.Kb2+- Ra7 72.Re3+-]

67...Bg2= 68.Kd2 Ke4 69.Re1+ Kf3 70.Re2 b4



71.axb4 axb4 72.Re3+ Kf2 73.Re2+ Kf3 74.Re3+ Kf2 75.Re2+ Kg1



76.Re1+ Kh2 77.cxb4 Rxb4 78.Rxe6 Be4 79.Rxe4

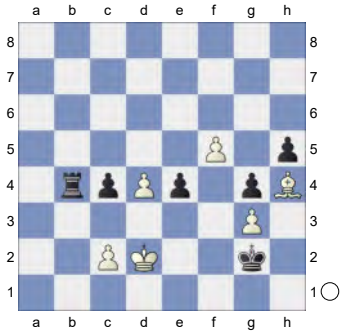
[79.Kc1 c3 80.Rc6]

79...dxe4 80.f5 Kg2

[80...Rb2!+- 81.f6 Kg2 82.f7 *(82.Kc3 Rb7 83.Kxc4 e3; 82.Ke3 Rxc2+-* should win, the pawns are too

strong. *83.Kxe4 Re2+)* 82...Rb8 83.Be7± /+- still gives White excellent winning chances. Kf3? 84.f8Q+ Rxf8 85.Bxf8 h4 86.gxh4 g3 87.Bd6= g2 88.Bh2 Kf2]

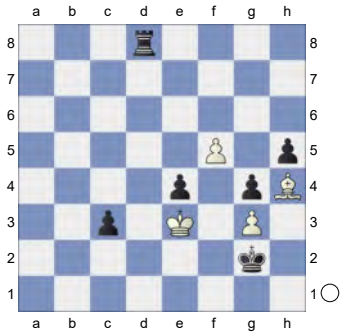
[80...Rb1 81.f6+- Even better was Kg2! , now contrary to the game 82.Ke3 Re1+ 83.Kf4 fails to e3! 84.Ke4 Rc1 85.Kxe3 Rxc2 86.d5 c3 87.Kd3 Rd2+ - here White's king controls the h4-square. 88.Kxc3 Rxd5 89.Kc2 Rd7 90.Kc3 Kf3+- and there is no perpetual. 91.Kc4 Ke4 92.Kc3 Rd3+ 93.Kc2 Kd4 *(93...Rf3 94.Kd2 Ke5+-* is the computer recommendation, but a human player prefers to avoid a king walk. *95.Ke2 Rxf6! 96.Bxf6+ Kxf6 97.Ke3 Ke5+-* The simplest solution was *98.Kd3)* 94.Kb2 *(94.Kc1 Kc3+-)* 94...Rc3 95.Kb1 Ke5 96.Kb2 Rf3+- 97.Kc2 Rxf6!]



81.Ke3 Rb2 Collins, Sam: '5.Bd3 is hardly a refutation of the Sicilian, but simply gets a playable position with interesting prospects for both sides.' White's king is too exposed for any winning attempts.

[81...Rb1 82.Kxe4 Rc1 83.d5 Rxc2 84.d6 Re2+ 85.Kd5 Rd2+ *(85...c3)* 86.Ke6 Re2+= /± gives only practical chances - according to the Tablebases the endgame is a draw. 87.Kf6 Rd2= 88.Ke6? c3 89.Bg5 Re2+ 90.Kd5 Rf2 91.Ke6 Re2++- 92.Kf7 Rd2]

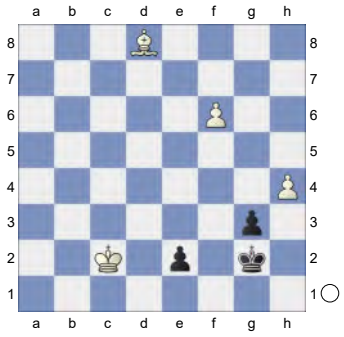
82.d5 Rxc2= 83.d6? c3 84.d7 Rd2 85.d8Q Rxd8-+



86.Bxd8 h4 87.gxh4=

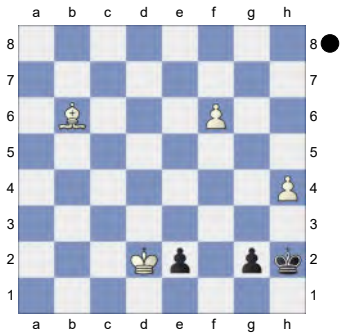
[⌓87.Bxh4! c2 88.Kd2 Collins, Sam: 'wins, according to Houdini - no 8-piece tablebases yet unfortunately.' e3+± /± and although White's king must now retreat to the 2nd rank, he still has winning chances. 89.Kxc2? e2 90.Kd2 Kf1+-]

87...g3 88.f6 c2 89.Kd2 e3+ 90.Kxc2 and White can avoid an immediate perpetual only at the cost of a rook: **90...e2**



91.Ba5 Kh2 92.Kd2 g2 93.Bb6=

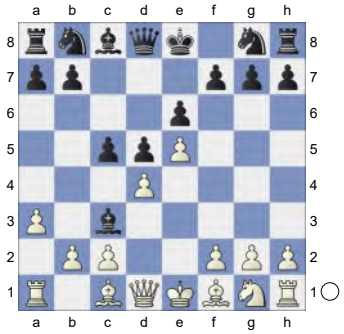
(Diagram)



½-½

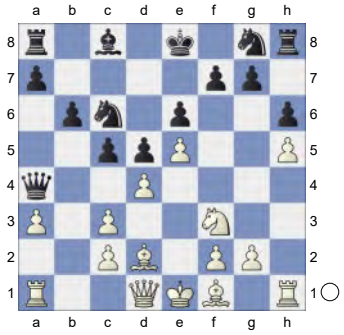
50 **C18**
□ **Caruana,F.** **2783**
■ **Zierk,S.** **2501**
Titled Tue 11th Mar Late blitz (3) 11.3.25
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

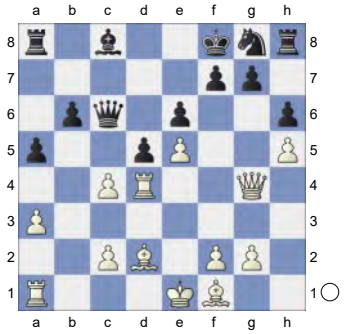


6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.h4 Nc6 9.Nf3 b6
[9...Nge7 10.h5 h6 11.Rb1 c4 12.g3 b6 13.Bh3 Bd7 14.0-0 0-0-0 15.Nh4 Rdg8 16.Ng2 Kb8 17.Re1 Bc8 18.Kh2 Ka8 19.Bf4 Rf8 20.Qc1 Rhg8 21.Re2 Rh8 22.Re1 Rh7 23.Bd2 Rhh8 24.Re2 10.Ba3 b6 11. ba5 Nh5 (2779)-Nd7 D4 (2726) Tilburg 2016 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] ½-½ (33)]

10.h5 White is slightly better. **10...h6** 0.88/22
[10...Ba6± 0.35/18]

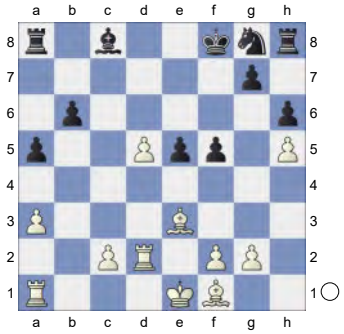


11.Rh4!± cxd4N 1.81/22
[11...c4± 0.88/20 12.Rg4 Rh7 13.Be2 Nge7 14.Nh4 Bd7 15.Kf1 0-0-0 16.Kg1 Rg8 17.Rg3 Nf5 18.Rh3 Nxh4 19.Rxh4 Ne7 20.Bg4 Nf5 21.Rh3 Kb7 22.Bf3 Ne7 23.g3 Rgh8 24.Ra2 Re8 25.Bg2 f5 26.Rh4 Rg8 8.♗a3 (2043)-Russo,G (1953) Romania 2023 CT-1266 [John Watson] ½-½ 27.Qc1]
12.Nxd4+-
[12.cxd4 Ba6=]
12...Nxd4 13.Rxd4 Qc6 14.Qg4 Kf8 15.c4 0x0.0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces. **15...a5**

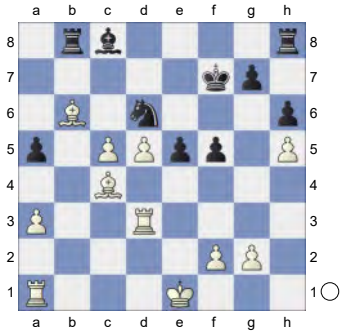


Inhibits Bb4+. **16.Qf3 Qc7 17.cxd5 Qxe5+ 18.Qe3** 0.73/19
[Better is 18.Be3 1.46/20 And now dxe6 would win. Bb7 19.Qf4 Qxf4 20.Bxf4 *(20.Rxf4 Bxd5 21.Rb1 e5±)*]

18...Qxe3+ 2.05/21 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[18...Qxh5± 0.73/19 19.g4 Qg5]
19.Bxe3
[19.fxe3?! Nf6±]
19...e5 20.Rd2
[Much less strong is 20.Re4?! Nf6 21.Rxe5 Ng4±]
20...f5

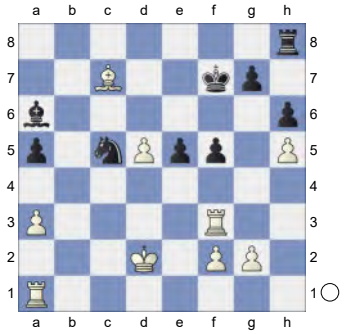


21.Bxb6 Nf6 22.c4 Kf7 23.c5 Rb8 24.Bc4 Ne4 25.Rd3 aiming for d6+.
25...Nd6? 6.93/18
[25...Bd7 3.97/19 26.Rb3 Ba4]

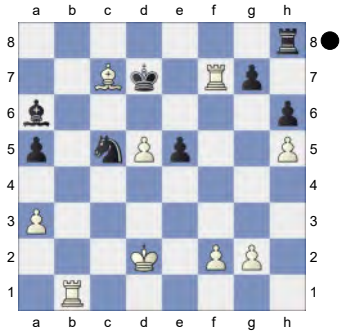


26.Bc7! White is clearly winning.
26...Nxc4 27.Bxb8 Ba6 28.Bc7 Nb2 29.Rf3 Nd3+ 30.Kd2 Nxc5

(Diagram)



31.Rxf5+ Ke7 32.Rb1 Kd7 33.Rf7+

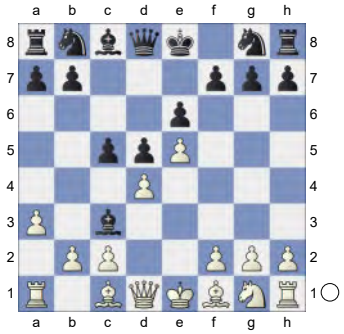


Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.53
1-0

51 **C18**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2783**
■ **Yilmaz,Mustafa Enes** **2634**
(ol) 153/91 Chennai 2022
[Arsovic,Goran]

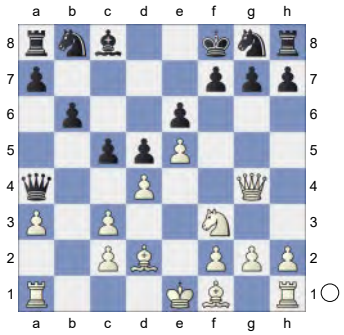
Kitty Kat: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** Kitty Kat
1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 Kf8 9.Nf3 b6 Kitty Kat: '

[9...Ne7 10.h3 Kitty Kat Nd7 11.Bd3 c4 12.Be2 Qxc2 13.0-0 h6 14.Rfe1 Qe4 15.Qxe4 dxe4 16.Nh2 Nb6 17.a4 Bd7 18.a5 Nbd5 19.Reb1 Bc6 20.Bxc4 a6 21.Bb3 g5 22.Re1 Kg7 23.c4 Nf4 24.Bxf4 1-0 Motylev, A (2660)-Kovalenko,I (2667) Poikovsky Karpov 17th 2016 (6)]



' **10.c4** Kitty Kat: '!' Kitty Kat: ' Black must now prevent c4xd5.'

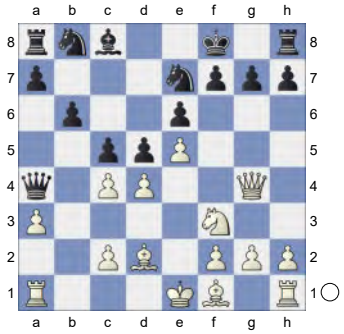
[10.Qf4 h6 *(10...Qxc2 11.Ng5 Qf5 12.Qxf5 exf5 13.dxc5 bxc5 14.Be3 c4 15.0-0-0 Be6 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Rd8+ Ke7 18.Rhd1 Bd7 19.R1xd7+ Nxd7 20.Rxa8; 10...c4 11.Ng5 Qe8; 10...Ne7 11.dxc5 Qxc2)* 11.dxc5 Qxf4 12.Bxf4 bxc5 13.Be3 c4 14.Bc5+ Ke8 15.Nd4 Na6 16.Bd6]

10...Ne7

[10...Nc6]

[10...cxd4 11.Bb4+ Ne7 12.cxd5]

[10...dxc4 11.dxc5]



Kitty Kat: ' Black is weak on the dark squares' **11.Bd3** Kitty Kat: 'White is slightly better.'

[11.cxd5 exd5 12.Qf4 Nbc6 13.c3 h6 14.Be2 Nd8 *(14...Kg8 15.0-0 Bf5)* 15.0-0 Ne6 16.Qe3 Ba6]

[11.dxc5 b5 12.Qf4 bxc4 13.Ng5 Qe8]

11...dxc4 0.88/20 Kitty Kat: 'N'

[11...Ba6 0.46/19 Kitty Kat: '±'

A) 12.dxc5 Bxc4= 13.0-0

A1) 13...bxc5 14.Ng5 *(14.Bxc4 Nd7 15.Rab1)* 14...h6 15.Qh5 g6 16.Nxe6+∓ fxe6?! 17.Bxg6 Nxg6 *(17...Kg7 18.Qh4)* 18.Qxg6 Bxf1 19.Qf6+! Kg8 20.Qxe6+ Kf8 21.Qf6+ Kg8 22.Qg6+ Kf8 23.Bxh6+∓;

A2) 13...Nbc6;

B) 12.0-0∓ Bxc4 - 151/91;

C) 12.cxd5 Bxd3∞ 13.cxd3 Nxd5]

[11...Nbc6 12.0-0 *(12.dxc5* Kitty Kat *Ba6 13.Qf4 h6 14.0-0 Bxc4 15.Be3 b5 16.Rfb1 Rb8 17.h4 Qa6 18.a4 b4 19.Rd1 Bxd3 20.cxd3 Nf5 21.g4 Nxe3 22.fxe3 Ke7 23.h5 b3 24.g5 hxg5 25.Qxg5+ Kf8 26.Rab1* 0-1 Sadhwani,R (2627)-Zierk,S (2488) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Jan Early blitz 2023 (9)*)* 12...Ba6 13.dxc5 Bxc4 *(13...bxc5 14.Bb4 dxc4 15.Bxc5)* 14.cxb6 *(14.Ng5 h6*

15.Qh5 g6 16.Nxe6+ fxe6 17.Bxg6 Kg7) 14...axb6 15.Rab1 b5 16.Bb4]

12.dxc5

[12.Be4 Nbc6 13.0-0]

12...bxc5 1.48/23

[12...Nd7

A) 13.cxb6 axb6 *(13...Nxb6 14.Be4 c3 15.Bg5 Ng6 16.Nd4 Qxd4 17.Rd1 f5 18.exf6! Qe5 19.fxg7+ Kxg7 20.Be3)* 14.Qxc4 *(14.Be4 c3 15.Bxc3∞ Nd5? 16.Bd4 Ba6 17.Bxd5!∓ Qa5+!? 18.Nd2 Qxd5)* 14...Qxc4 15.Bxc4∞ Bb7 16.Be2 Bxf3 17.Bxf3 Rc8 18.0-0-0 Nxe5 19.Be2;

B) 13.Be4± c3 14.Bxc3 Bb7 15.Ng5 Bxe4 16.Nxe4 Ng6 *(16...Nxc5 17.Bb4)* 17.0-0 Ndxe5 18.Bxe5= Nxe5 19.Qf4]

[12...Bb7± 0.59/20 Kitty Kat]

13.Ng5 Kitty Kat: ' Threatens to win with Qg4-f3. White has more active pieces.'

[13.Be4 Nbc6 14.0-0]

[13.Qxc4?! Kitty Kat Qxc4 14.Bxc4 Bb7±]

13...h6

[13...Nf5 14.Qf3⩲ Nc6? 15.Bxf5+- exf5 16.Qd5 Be6 17.Qd6+± Ne7 18.Nxe6+ fxe6 19.Bg5 Qe8 *(19...Re8 20.Rb1)* 20.Qxe6 Ng6 21.Qxf5+ Qf7 22.Qh3]

14.Nh7+

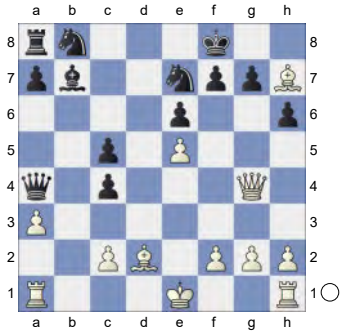
[14.Qxc4? Kitty Kat Qxc4 15.Bxc4 hxg5-+]

14...Rxh7

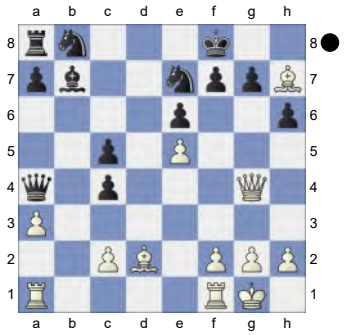
[14...Kg8 15.Bxh6 Ng6 16.Bxg6 fxg6 17.Nf6+ Kf7 18.Qf3]

15.Bxh7 Bb7

(Diagram)



Kitty Kat: ' Inhibits Qg4-e4.' **16.0-0** Diagram



Kitty Kat: ' → ' Kitty Kat: ' White has strong attack.' **16...Nbc6N** 1.68/21

[16...Bd5 1.21/22 Kitty Kat: '±' Kitty Kat: ' was worth a try.']

17.Rab1 Ba6 2.77/21

[17...Nd8 1.70/20 Kitty Kat: '⩲' 18.Be3 Rc8 *(18...Qc6 Kitty Kat)* 19.Rfd1 Bd5+- 20.Be4 c3± 21.f3 Bxe4 22.Qxe4]

18.Be3 Kitty Kat: '+-' **18...Qa5?!**

19.Rfd1 Kitty Kat: ' Prevents Ra8-d8.'

19...Nxe5

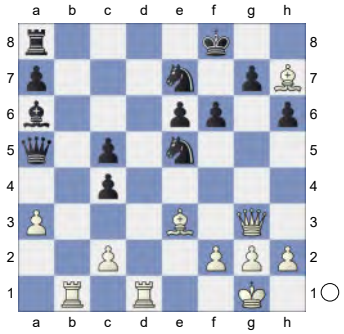
[19...Nd5 20.Bxh6]

20.Qg3 f6 Diagram

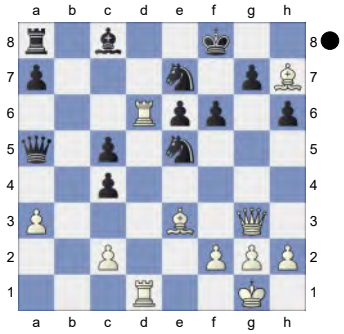
[20...N7c6 21.Bxh6 *(21.f4)*]

[20...N5c6± 21.Rd7]

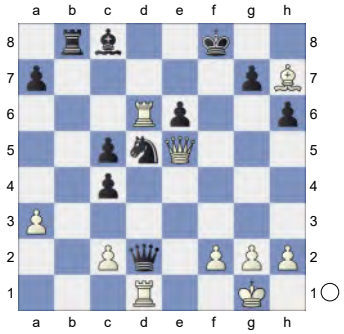
(Diagram)



21.Rd6! Bc8 22.Rbd1 Kitty Kat: '

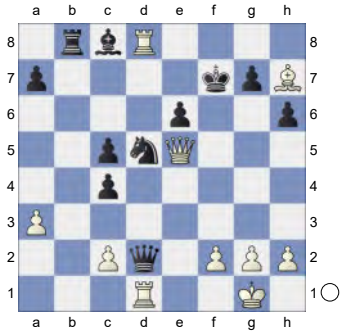


aiming for Be3xh6!' **22...Nd5**
[22...Nf7 23.Be4 e5 24.Bxh6 *(24.Bxa8 Nxd6)* 24...gxh6 25.Rxf6]
23.Bf4 Rb8
[23...Nxf4 24.Rd8++-]
[23...Nf7 24.R6xd5 exd5 25.Bd6+]
24.Bxe5 fxe5 25.Qxe5+- Kitty Kat: ' Strongly threatening Rd6xd5.' **25...Qd2**

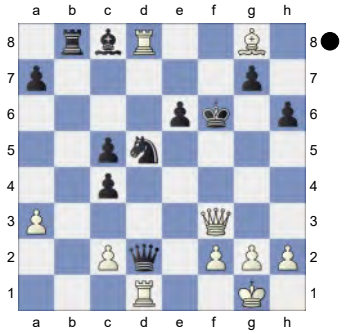


26.Rd8+
[26.Rxd2? Kitty Kat Rb1+]
26...Kf7 Diagram

(Diagram)



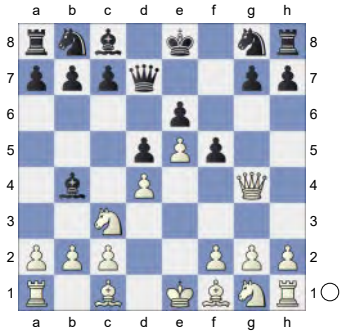
27.Bg8+! 17.26/19
[27.Rxd2? (Kitty Kat) gets mated. Rb1+]
[⌓27.Qh5+ #8/19 Kitty Kat Kf6 28.Qg6+ *(28.Rxd2 Rb1+ 29.Rd1 Rxd1+ 30.Qxd1 Ke7+-)* 28...Ke7 29.Qe8+ *(29.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 29...Kf6 30.Qf8+ Deflection, Double Attack *(30.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 30...Kg5 31.Qxg7+ *(31.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 31...Kh5 32.Qg6+ *(32.Rxd2? Rb1+)* 32...Kh4 33.Qg3+ Kh5 34.Bg6#]
27...Kg6 28.Qe4+
[28.Rxd2? Kitty Kat Rb1+]
28...Kf6 29.Qf3+
[29.Rxd2? (Kitty Kat) is a self mate. Rb1+]



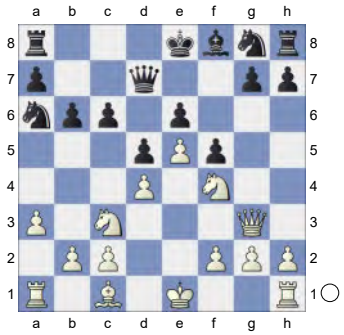
Kitty Kat: ' Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.66'
1-0

52 **C16**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2782**
■ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2744**
Zagreb SuperUnited Rapid (7) 07.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

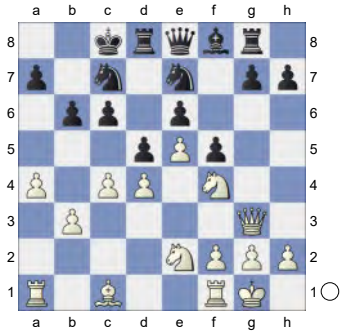
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.Qg4**
[5.a3 Bf8 *(5...Bxc3+* ½-½ Liang,J (2530)-Chandra,A (2468) Saint Louis Spring-B 2023 (7) *6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3)* 6.Nf3 b6 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4]
5...f5



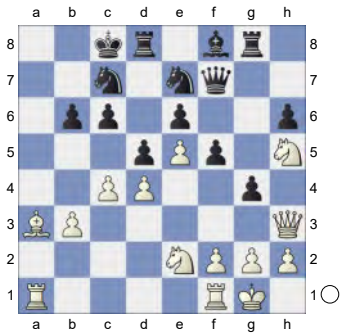
6.Qg3
[6.exf6 Nxf6]
6...b6 7.Nh3! outshines the older 7.Bb3. erfolgreicher als das alte 7.Lb3. **7...Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Nf4 Bf8**
[9...0-0-0 10.h4 g6 11.Bd2 Ne7 12.0-0-0 c5 13.Nce2 Bxd2+ 14.Rxd2 c4 15.h5 Kb7 16.Rdd1 Nc7 17.hxg6 hxg6 18.Qg5 Nc6 19.Rxh8 Rxh8 20.Qxg6 b5 21.Qf6 Qe8 22.Kd2 b4 23.Ke3 Rh7 24.g3 1-0 Uyanga,B (2640)-2...a6 (2525) (ch) 48/807 United States 1989]
10.a3N
[10.Bd2 Nh6 11.a3 c6 12.Nce2 g6 13.Qd3 Nc7 14.Rc1 Nf7 15.0-0 Be7 16.c4 Rc8 17.cxd5 Nxd5 18.Nxd5 cxd5 19.Rxc8+ Qxc8 20.Rc1 Qd7 21.Qc2 Qb7 22.Qc7 Qa8 23.Nf4 Bg5 24.Nxg6 Bd8 1-0 Bujan,H-Ruhle, E EU-Cup 18th Chalkidiki 2002]
10...c6 1.42/22
[Black should play 10...c5 1.04/19]



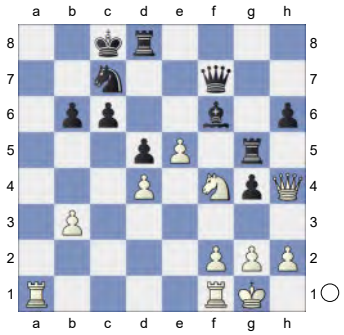
11.Nce2± White is clearly better.
11...Nc7 12.b3 0-0-0 1.74/18
[12...c5± 1.31/20 13.dxc5 bxc5]
13.c4 1.15/22
[13.Nd3+- 1.74/18]
13...Ne7 14.0-0 Rg8 15.a4 1.04/20
[⊼15.c5 1.56/21]
15...Qe8



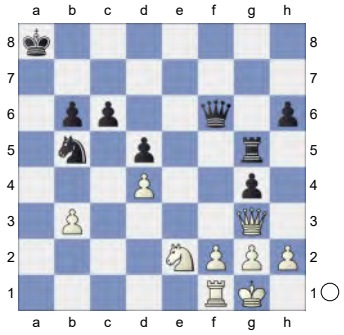
16.Qh3 White is much more active.
16...h6N 2.03/23
[16...g5± 0.90/21 was necessary.]
17.a5+- Qf7? 3.78/19 Black is weak on the dark squares
[17...g5 1.91/20 was called for.]
18.axb6 axb6 19.Ba3
[19.c5 bxc5 20.Bd2 *(20.dxc5 g5±; 20.Nd3 f4+-)* 20...g5+-]
19...g5 20.Nh5 g4
(Diagram)



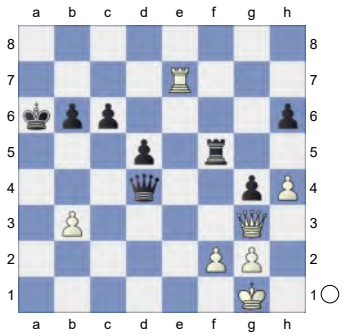
21.Qh4 1.00/20
[21.Qc3+- 3.80/20]
21...f4± **22.Nexf4** Strongly threatening Ba3-d6. **22...Rg5** **23.Bxe7** 0.63/21
[23.Bd6+- 1.89/22 Nf5 24.Bxc7 Remove Defender Qxc7 *(24...Nxh4 25.Bxd8 Qb7 26.Nxe6+-* Pin *)* 25.Nxe6 *(25.Ra8+? Kb7-+)* 25...Nxh4 26.Nxc7 Kxc7 *(26...Rxh5? 27.Ne6+-)* 27.Nf4]
23...Bxe7± **24.cxd5!** **exd5** **25.Nf6** **Bxf6**



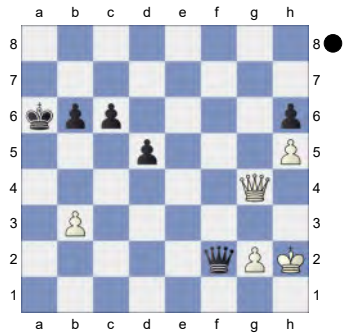
26.exf6 **Qxf6** **27.Ne2** -0.76/22
[27.Nd3!± 0.38/20]
27...Kb7 -0.33/24
[27...Rf8!∓ -0.76/22]
28.Qg3 **Nb5** 0.84/22 Prevents Ra1-a7+
[28...Rg7∓ -0.57/20 keeps the upper hand.]
29.Ra2 -0.36/22
[29.Nc3!± 0.84/22 Black must now prevent Nc3xb5. Nxc3 *(29...Qxd4 30.Nxb5 cxb5 31.Rfd1±* Decoy; *29...Nxd4 30.Ra7+* Decoy *Kxa7 31.Qc7+ Ka8 32.Ra1#)* 30.Qxc3]
29...Ra8 0.00/25
[29...Nxd4? 30.Nxd4 Qxd4 31.Rfa1+-]
[29...h5∓ -0.36/22]
30.Rxa8= **Kxa8**



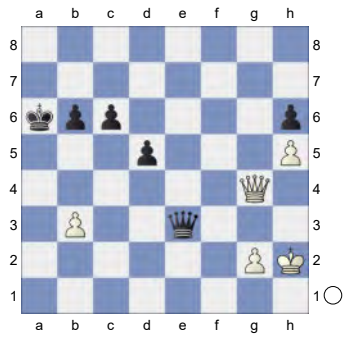
31.Re1 -0.66/25
[Better is 31.Nc3= 0.00/25 Nxd4 32.Qd3]
31...Kb7!↑ Black has strong initiative.
[31...Nxd4? 32.Nxd4 Qxd4 33.Qc7+-]
32.h3 **Nxd4** -0.29/23
[32...gxh3!∓ -1.02/23 33.Qxh3 Rg7]
33.Nxd4= **Qxd4∓** Endgame. KQR-KQR
34.Re7+? -2.96/21 This costs White the game.
[34.hxg4!∓ -0.40/20 Rxg4 *(34...Qxg4 35.Re7+ Ka8 36.Qxg4±)* 35.Qd6]
34...Ka6-+ **35.h4** **Rf5**



36.Re6 **Rf6** **37.Rxf6** **Qa1+**
[37...Qxf6 38.Qxg4 Qc3 39.Qa4+ Kb7 40.Qf4=]
38.Kh2 **Qxf6** **39.Qxg4** **Qxf2** And now ...d5-d4 would win. KQ-KQ
40.h5 -4.15/21
[⌓40.Qa4+ -2.89/19 Kb7 41.Qg4]

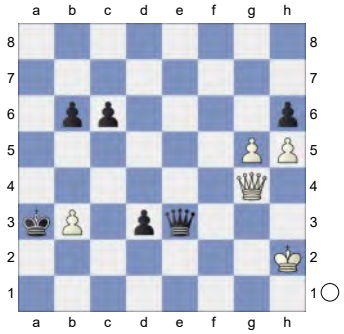


40...Qe3 -1.80/22
[⚟40...d4! -4.15/21 41.Qe4 Qf6]

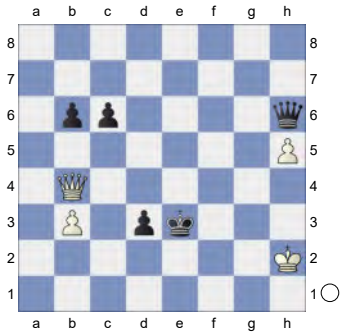


41.Qg6? -4.25/21
[41.Qa4+ -1.80/22 was the only chance. Kb7 42.Qg4]
41...Kb5 Threatens to win with ...d5-d4!
[41...Qxb3 42.Qxc6 d4 43.Qc8+ *(43.Qxh6 d3=)* 43...Ka5 44.Qa8+ Kb5 45.Qe8+ Kb4 46.Qe7+ Kc3 47.Qe1+ Kc2 48.Qf2+ Kc3 49.Qe1+ Kd3 50.Qg3+ Kc2 51.Qf2+ Kc3 52.Qe1+=]
42.g4 -6.61/22
[⚟42.Qf7 -4.01/19]
42...d4 ...d4-d3! is the strong threat. Black is clearly winning.
[42...Qxb3 43.Qxh6 d4 44.Qd6∓]
43.g5 d3 44.Qf5+ Kb4 45.Qg4+ Ka3
[45...Kxb3 46.g6 Qf2+ 47.Kh3=]

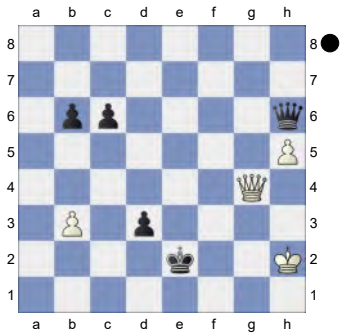
(Diagram)



46.gxh6 Qxh6
[46...Kxb3 47.h7 Qe2+ 48.Qxe2 dxe2 49.h8Q=]
47.Qa4+ Kb2 48.Qd4+ Kc2
[48...Kxb3 49.Qxd3+ Kb4 50.Qg6 Qd2+ 51.Kh3=]
49.Qc4+ Kd2 50.Qb4+ Ke3
[50...Kd1 51.Qg4+ Kc2 52.Qg6 Qd2+ 53.Kg3-+]

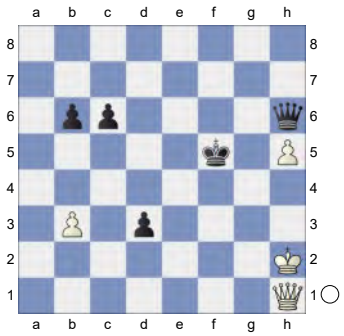


51.Qe1+ Kf3 52.Qg3+ Ke2 53.Qg4+



Ke3! 54.Qg1+ Ke4 55.Qh1+ Kf5

(Diagram)

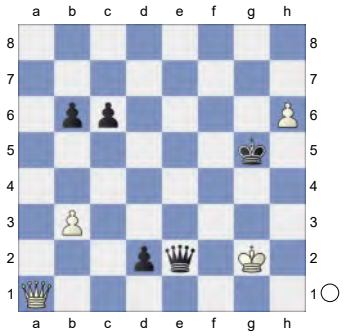


56.Qd1 Qe3 57.Kg2 d2 58.h6 Kf4 (→ ...Qe3-g3+) **59.Qf1+** Predecessor: **59...Kg5** ...Qe3-e4+ would now be deadly.

[59...Ke5 60.h7 Qe4+ *(60...Qxb3 61.h8Q+ Kd5 62.Qf7+* Skewer *Kc5 63.Qxb3 Kd6 64.Qf6+ Kc7 65.Qbf7+ Kc8 66.Qh8#)* 61.Kg3 Qg6+ *(61...Qxh7 62.Qf4+ Ke6 63.Qe3+ Kd7 64.Qxd2+ Kc7 65.Qc3=)* 62.Kf3 Qxh7 63.Qe2+ Kf6 64.Qxd2 Qh5+ 65.Kg3 Qg5+ 66.Qxg5+ Kxg5 67.Kf3]

60.Qa1 Qe2+

[60...Qxb3 61.Qg7+ Kf5 62.Qh7+ Ke5 *(62...Kf4 63.Qc7+ Ke4 64.Qxc6+ Kd3 65.Qg6+ Kc3 66.h7∓)* 63.Qg7+ Ke4 64.Qg6+ Kd4 65.Qf6+ Kd3 66.Qg6+ Kc3 67.Qxc6+ Qc4 68.Qxc4+ Kxc4 69.h7∓]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/ Black=0.37. Loss on time!?

1-0

53 **C18**

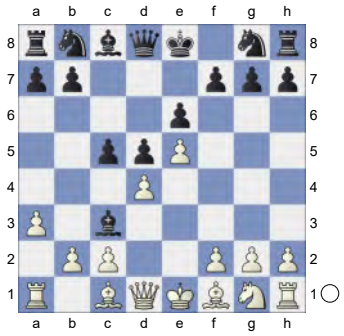
□ **Giri,Anish** **2780**

■ **Nisipeanu,Liviu Dieter** **2656**

22nd European Teams (5.4) 28.10.2019

[John Watson]

John Watson,MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** John Watson,MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Qd1!? -0.10/25

A remarkable move in an extremely well-known position. I find only one other game with it, by an unrated player! Giri's idea is that the queen is better placed defending the center than exposed to attack on the kingside this is at any rate true in several other variations of the Winawer in which Qg4 is played and, soon after, Qd1. So why not now? John Watson,MH: 'N' John Watson,MH: 'A remarkable move in an extremely well-known position. I find only one other game with it, by an unrated player! Giri's idea is that the queen is better placed defending the center than exposed to attack on the kingside this is at any rate true in several other variations of the Winawer in which Qg4 is played and, soon after, Qd1. So why not now? White has more active pieces. The black rooks are passive.'

[10.dxc5 John Watson,MH e5 11.Qa4 Bd7=]
[10.Bg5!± 0.72/20 John Watson,MH Rf7 *(10...e5 11.Qh4±)* 11.Qh5 *(11.dxc5 e5∓)* 11...g6 12.Qd1 e5 *(12...Qa5 13.Bd2 Nbc6 14.Nf3 c4 15.Be2 Nf5 16.Ng5 Re7 17.f4 Bd7 18.0-0 Nd8 19.Qe1 h6 20.Nf3 Nf7 21.Ne5 Kg7 22.Bf3 Rae8 23.g4 N5d6 24.h4 Ba4 25.Ra2 Qd8 26.Qg3 Kh7 27.Qh2* 1-0 Salgado Lopez,I (2584)-Moreno Ruiz,J (2437) Espana (ch) 145/95 2020*)* 13.dxe5 Nbc6 14.f4 c4 15.Be2 Qb6 16.Bf3 *(16.Rb1 Qc5 17.Qd2 Nf5 18.Bf3 Ne3 19.Bh4 d4 20.Bf2 Bf5 21.Rc1 Qxa3 22.Bxe3 dxe3 23.Qxe3 Nb4 24.Kf2 Nxc2 25.Rxc2 Bxc2 26.Bd5 Rd8 27.Bxf7+ Kxf7 28.e6+ Kg8 29.Nf3* Analyse-N,N (3... ♘g4) 1990 *)* 16...Qe3+ 17.Ne2 Nxe5 18.fxe5 Qxg5 19.Bxd5 Nxd5 20.Qxd5 Bg4 21.Rf1 Raf8 22.Rd1 Qe3 23.Rd2 Bxe2 24.Rxe2 Qc1+ 0-1 6.0-0 Re8 7. Nbd2 (2102)-5.Qd2 Nbd7 6.f3 b5 7.g4 (2423) C1) 9.dxc5 2009 (4)]

10...Nbc6

[The only other example I can find went 10...Qc7 0.27/22 John Watson, MH: '10...c4 -0.14' 11.Nf3 Nd7 0.63/21 *(11...h6=* 0.13/22 John Watson,MH*)* 12.Bg5 Qa5?! *(12...Rf7)* 13.0-0! c4!? *(an exchange sacrifice. 13...Rf7* 1.17/24 John Watson,MH: '13...c4 0. 70' *14.c4!* is unattractive*)* 14.Bxf6 Nxf6 15.Be2 Ne4?! 1.99/23 *(15...Qxc3±* 0.94/22 John Watson, MH: '±' John Watson,MH: ' was worth a try.' *16.Re1* John Watson,MH *Nf5)*

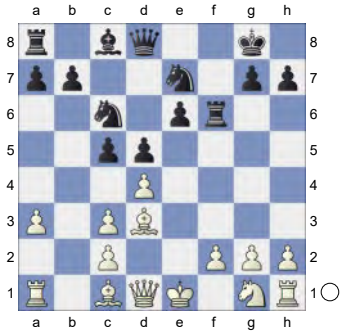
A) 16.Ne5! 1.99/23 John Watson, MH: '+-' Nxc3 2.50/23 *(⌓16...Qxc3* 1.99/21 John Watson,MH *17.Re1 Nc6)* 17.Qd2 John Watson,MH: '+-' Nxe2+ 18.Qxe2+- is awful for Black John Watson,MH: '+-';

B) 16.Qe1 0.31/24 John Watson, MH: '?' 16...Nxc3? 2.47/22 *(16...Qxc3!* 0.31/24 John Watson, MH: '±' *17.Qxc3 Nxc3 18.Rfe1* undoubtedly favors White, but would be hard to convert.*)* 17.Kh1 1.04/22 *(*again, *17.Ne5!* 2.47/22 John Watson,MH: '+-' John Watson, MH: ' has better winning chances.' *Nxe2+ 18.Qxe2+-)* 17...Bd7? 2.89/20 *(17...Nc6* 1.04/22 John Watson,MH: ' ±'*)* 18.Ne5! John Watson,MH: '+-!' Bc8 4.75/22 John Watson,MH: '?' *(18...Be8* 2.79/19 John Watson,MH *19.Bg4 Kh8)*

B1) White has a clear advantage with almost any move, but perhaps the easiest route is 19.Bg4 4.75/22 John Watson, MH: '+-!' b6 20.f3!+- covers e4 and leaves the knight stranded, while John Watson,MH: 'covers e4 and leaves the knight stranded, while. Inhibits Ne4.' Na4 8.74/21 *(⌓20...Rb8* 4.61/19 John Watson,MH *21.Qh4 Rb7)* 21.Qh4 wins immediately;

B2) 19.Bxc4?? 0.00/26 19...dxc4 John Watson,MH: '=' 20.Nxc4 -1.42/19 *(20.f4!=* 0.00/26 John Watson,MH*)* 20...Qc7 John Watson,MH: ' ∓!' 21.Qxc3 b5 (clearly White missed this) 22.Rab1 -2.07/23 *(22.Rfb1∓* -1.29/21 John Watson,MH *bxc4 23.Rb4)* 22...bxc4 *(22...Nd5!∓)* 23.Rb4 Nd5?! -0.21/22 *(23...Ba6∓; 23...Qd6-+* -1.70/25 John Watson,MH *24.Qg3 Qxg3*

25.hxg3 Nd5) 24.Rxc4 John Watson,MH: '=' Qd8 25.Qh3? -1.95/20 *(25.Qe1* -0.12/25 John Watson,MH: '=!' '!' John Watson,MH: ' and White stays safe.') 25...Nf4 John Watson,MH: '-+!' 26.Qb3? -3.67/21 *(26.Qf3* -2.00/23 John Watson,MH: ' ⌓ ' *Ba6∓* John Watson,MH: ' Skewer' *27.Rc5* John Watson,MH *Bxf1 28.Qxf4)* 26...Ba6 John Watson, MH: '-+' 27.Re1 Qd5 28.Qf3 Qxf3 0-1 Cast,J-Hammerstad,A (2223) Fuegen 2006]



11.Nf3 h6!? Flexible and interesting. Some alternatives: John Watson,MH: 'Flexible and interesting. Some alternatives:. Inhibits Bg5.'

[a) 11...Qa5

A) 12.Bd2

A1) 12...c4 13.Be2 *(13.Bxh7+ Kxh7 14.Ng5+ Kg8 15.Qh5 Qd8!? 16.Qh7+ Kf8 17.Qh8+ Ng8 18.Nh7+ Kf7 19.Ng5+ Kf8 20.Nh7+=)* 13...Bd7 14.0-0 Rff8∞ 0.40/21 *(14...h6=* 0.00/22 (John Watson,MH) is superior. *)*;

A2) 12...Bd7;

A3) 12...Qc7 13.Bg5 *(13.0-0 c4 14.Be2 Bd7=)* 13...Rf7 14.0-0 c4 15.Be2 Bd7 16.Qd2 Raf8∞;

B) 12.0-0

B1) 12...Qa4 1.10/20 John Watson,MH: '12...c4 0.00' 13.Bg5 Rf7 14.dxc5 e5 1.49/22 *(⌓14...h6* 1.03/21 John Watson, MH *)* 15.Bxe7 John Watson,MH: '±' Rxe7 16.c4 John Watson, MH: '!';

B2) 12...c4 13.Bxh7+!? *(13.Be2 Qxc3 14.Bd2 Qb2 15.Bg5 Rf7∓)* 13...Kxh7 14.Ng5+ Kg8 15.Qh5

B2a) 15...Rg6!? 16.Qh7+ Kf8 17.Qh8+ John Watson,MH: '!' Ng8 0.00/27 John Watson,MH: '=!' 18.Nh7+ Kf7 19.Ng5+ Rxg5 0.92/18 20.Bxg5 John Watson,MH: ' ± ' Nf6 1.18/23 *(20...Qxc3=* 0.00/25 John Watson,MH *21.Rac1 Qxd4 22.Qh5+ g6 23.Qh7+ Qg7 24.Qxg7+ Kxg7)* 21.Bxf6 John Watson,MH: ' ± ' gxf6 22.Qh7+ Ke8 23.f4!;

B2b) 15...Qxc3]

[b) 11...c4 12.Be2 *(12.Bxh7+?* -1.46/22 John Watson,MH: '12.Be2 -0.04' *Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Kg8 14.Qh5 Nf5!* doesn't draw anymore*)* 12...Qa5 John Watson,MH: '=' 13.Qd2!? Qa4 0.39/23 is double-edged and unclear. *(13...Bd7=* 0.03/22 John Watson, MH *)*]

12.0-0 Qa5

[12...c4!? John Watson,MH 13.Be2□ Ng6=]

13.Be2?! This seems to be going a little far, since White is falling behind in development, but it's playable.

[a) 13.dxc5 is probably the best way to keep positive chances, e.g.,

A) 13...e5!? 14.c4 Bg4 *(14...dxc4 15.Bxc4+ Kh8 16.Nd2!? Qxc5*

17.Bd3 Bf5 18.Ne4±) 15.cxd5 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Nd4 John Watson, MH: '!' 17.Be4 *(17.f4!?)* 17...Qxc5∞;

B) 13...Qxc5 14.Qe2!?

B1) 14...Qxc3 0.61/22 John Watson,MH: '14...Ng6 0.12' 15.Rb1 Qc5 16.Bb2 d4 17.Qe4 Nf5 0.91/18 *(17...e5!± 0.52/22* John Watson,MH*)* 18.c3! dxc3 19.Rbc1 Qd5 20.Bxc3±;

B2) 14...Bd7 15.Bb2 Rf4±;

B3) 14...Ng6!

B3a) 15.c4 dxc4 John Watson,MH: '!' 16.Bxc4?! -0.53/18 *(White should try 16.Be4=* 0.00/23 John Watson, MH *)* 16...Rxf3!;

B3b) 15.Rb1 b6 16.c4 dxc4 17.Bxc4 Bb7 *(17...Rxf3?!* 0.68/20 John Watson,MH: '17...Bb7 0.10' *18.Rb5* John Watson,MH: '!'*)* 18.Bxe6+ Kh8 and Black has good counterplay for the pawn]

[b) 13.Qe1 is another way, when c4 14.Be2

A) 14...Bd7 is also reasonable, e.g. , 15.Ne5 John Watson,MH: ' Inhibits Ng6.' Be8 16.Bg4 Qa6 17.Rb1 0.21/18 *(17.a4±* 0.65/18 John Watson,MH*)* 17...Nxe5 John Watson,MH: '=' 18.dxe5 -0.34/20 *(18.Qxe5=* 0.25/21 John Watson,MH *Nf5 19.Bd2)* 18...Rf8 with the idea ...Bg6 John Watson,MH: '!';

B) 14...Ng6 has ideas of ...e5 and/ or ...Bd7]

13...Rxf3!? Destroying White's center in return for the exchange. There are other ways to hold the balance, for example, John Watson,MH: 'Destroying White's center in return for the exchange. There are other ways to hold the balance, for example,. Decoy'

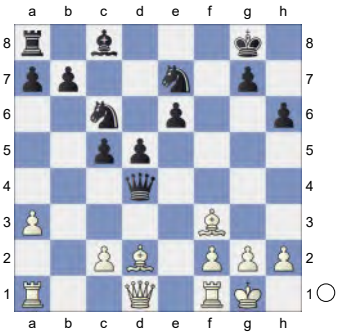
[13...Qxc3 14.Rb1?! *(14.Bd2 Qb2 15.Rb1 Qxa3 16.Ra1 Qb2 17.Rb1* draws *)* 14...Nxd4 15.Bb2 Qxc2 16.Qxc2 Nxc2 17.Bxf6 gxf6 18.Rbc1 Nxa3 19.Rxc5 Nc4! 20.Bxc4 dxc4 21.Rxc4 Nd5 and Black has what chances there are.]

14.Bxf3 Qxc3 15.Bd2!? -0.44/21 White has two other ways that hold the balance:

[15.Be3 0.00/23 John Watson,MH: '=' cxd4 16.Bd2 Qc5 17.Re1 e5! 18.Bb4 Nxb4 19.axb4 Qd6=]

[15.Bf4!? Nxd4 *(15...Qxd4!?=)* 16.Bg4 Nec6 *(16...Qxc2* 0.30/25 John Watson,MH: '16...Bd7 -0.27' *17.Qxc2 Nxc2 18.Ra2 Nd4 19.Bd6* with an edge*; 16...Bd7!?∞)* 17.Rc1 Qxa3 *(17...Bd7=)* 18.Re1 c4!? 19.Be3 John Watson,MH: '!' *(19.Re3* -1.25/19 John Watson,MH: '19.Be3 0.14' *Qf8)* 19...Nb5 John Watson,MH: '!' 20.Bxh6! with the idea gxh6? 1.26/19 *(20...Qe7!* 0.00/23 John Watson,MH: '=' *21.Bd2* John Watson,MH *e5)* 21.Bxe6+ John Watson,MH: ' ± ' Bxe6 22.Rxe6±]

15...Qxd4



John Watson,MH: '∓' **16.a4!?**

[16.Be3 Qxd1 17.Bxd1 d4 18.Bd2 e5∓]

16...Ne5?! 0.21/19

[16...e5!∓ is natural and good. 17.c3 Qd3 18.Re1 Qg6 John Watson,MH: '!']

[16...Qf6∓ -0.38/22 John Watson, MH]

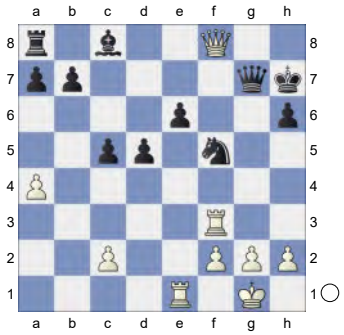
17.Be2 Nc4 18.Bxc4 Qxc4 19.Bxh6!? -1.29/19 Probably okay, but a little desperate, going for a draw. White has decent play after

[19.Re1=]

19...gxh6 John Watson,MH: ' ∓' **20.Qh5 Bd7!**

[20...Qf4 0.22/19 John Watson,MH: '?' John Watson,MH: '20...Bd7 -1.33' 21.Ra3 John Watson,MH: '!' Qf6 22.Qe8+! 0.00/32 *(22.Rf3!±* 0.43/29 (John Watson,MH) feels stronger. *Nf5 23.g4)* 22...Kh7 John Watson,MH: '=!' John Watson,MH: ' And now ...Nf5 would win.' 23.Rf3 Nf5 24.Re1 , e.g., John Watson,MH: '!'

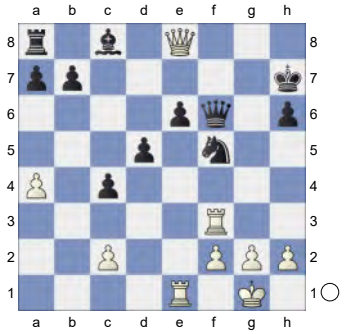
A) 24...Qg6? 2.47/25 John Watson, MH: '24...a5 0.00' 25.Qf8 John Watson,MH: ' Re5! is the strong threat.' Qg7? 3.82/19 John Watson,MH: ' *(⌓25...Qg4* 2.14/19 John Watson,MH *26.h3 Qg7 27.Rxf5 Qxf8 28.Rxf8 Kg7)*



' 26.Rxf5!;

B) 24...a5= 0.00/32 (John Watson, MH) keeps the balance.;

C) 24...c4 0.80/28 John Watson, MH: '



' 25.g4 0.00/32 *(25.h4!±* 0.80/28 John Watson,MH*)* 25...Nd6 26.Qxc8 Qxf3 27.Qxa8 John Watson,MH: ' Black must now prevent Re3.' Qxg4+=]

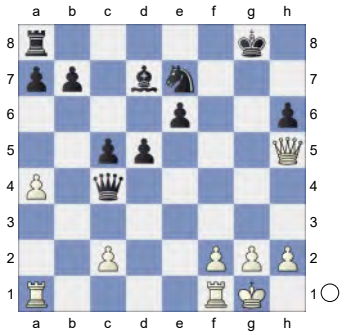
[Black's other winning try is 20...Kg7 21.Qe5+ John Watson,MH: '!' *(21.Ra3?* -1.14/26 John Watson,MH: '21.Qe5+ -0.21' *Ng6* John Watson, MH: '!' *22.Rg3 Qe4∓* John Watson, MH: ' ∓!'*)* 21...Kf7 but White seems to have enough play, e.g., 22.Ra3 John Watson,MH: '!'

A) 22...Qh4!?;

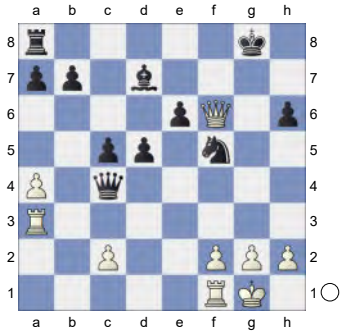
B) 22...Qe4 23.Rf3+ Nf5 24.Qc7+ John Watson,MH: '!' Ke8 John Watson,MH: '!' John Watson, MH: ' Strongly threatening ...Bd7.' 25.Rf4 Qe2 John Watson,MH: '!' John Watson,MH: ' ...Bd7 would now be deadly.' 26.h3 John Watson,MH: '!' h5!? John Watson,MH: ' Repels Rg4' 27.c4!∞ *(27.g4!?* John Watson,MH *Ne7□ 28.Rf6 Qxc2 29.gxh5∓)*;

C) 22...Nf5 23.Rf3 Bd7 24.Re1 John Watson,MH: '!' Re8 25.h3 *(25.Rf4!?* John Watson,MH *Qxc2 26.g4=* Pin *)* 25...h5 26.Rf4 Qxc2 27.g4 hxg4 28.hxg4 Rg8 John Watson,MH: '!' 29.Kh2 Rxg4 John Watson,MH: '!' 30.Rxg4

Qxf2+ 31.Kh1 John Watson,MH: '!' d4=]
[20...Qxc2 John Watson,MH 21.Qe8+ *(21.Qxh6? Qb2-+)* 21...Kh7 22.Qxe7+ Kh8 23.Qf8+ Kh7 24.Qf7+ Kh8 25.Ra3]



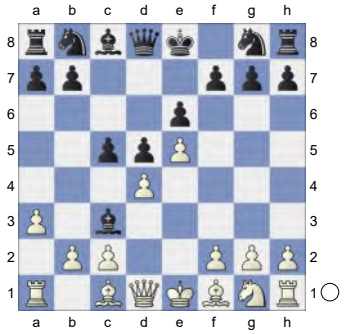
John Watson,MH: ' Wards off Qe8+'
21.Ra3 Nf5 0.00/39 Taking the draw. The option was John Watson,MH: 'Taking the draw. The option was. Repels Rg3+'
[John Watson,MH: ' Black should play' 21...Rf8! -1.47/31 John Watson,MH: '∓' ' Threatens to win with ...Kh7.' John Watson,MH: ' Hoping for ...Kh7.' 22.Qxh6 *(22.Rb3* -1.75/22 John Watson,MH: '22.Qxh6 -1.33' *b6)* 22...Nf5 John Watson,MH: '!' John Watson,MH: ' Prevents Rg3+' *(22...Bxa4* John Watson,MH *23.Qxe6+ Rf7 24.Rf3 Be8 25.Rg3+; 22...Qxc2* John Watson,MH *23.Rg3+ Kf7 24.Rc1=)* 23.Qg6+ Ng7 , when 24.Rh3 John Watson,MH: ' Inhibits Be8. aiming for Qh7+.' Qe4 John Watson,MH: '!' 25.Qg5 Kf7 is still not easy for White.]
[21...Qxc2? (John Watson,MH) perishes. 22.Rg3++-]
22.Qg6+ John Watson,MH: '=' John Watson,MH: 'The position is equal.'
22...Kh8 John Watson,MH: '!' **23.Qf6+ Kg8 24.Qg6+ Kh8** John Watson,MH: '!'
25.Qf6+ Kg8



John Watson,MH: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.24 (precise) '
½-½

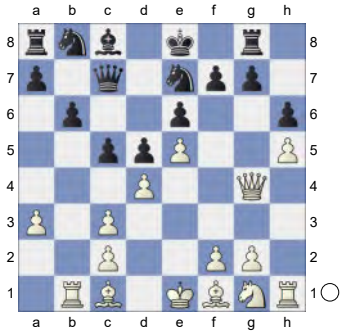
54 **C18**
□ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2777**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2767**
Candidates Tournament (11) 23.04.2021
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

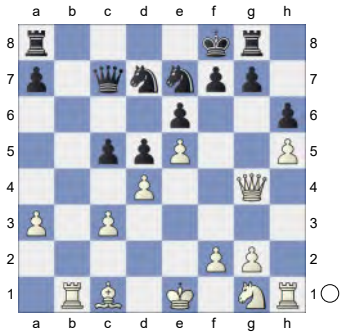


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7 8.h5 h6 9.Rb1 b6 10.Qg4 White is slightly better.
10...Rg8

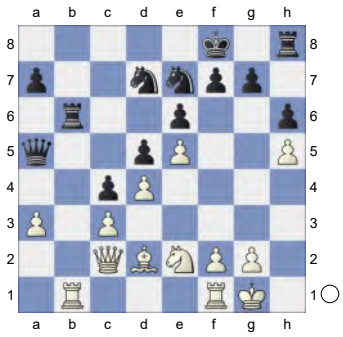
(Diagram)



11.Bb5+ Kf8 12.Bd3 Ba6 13.dxc5 Bxd3 14.cxd3 Nd7 15.d4 bxc5

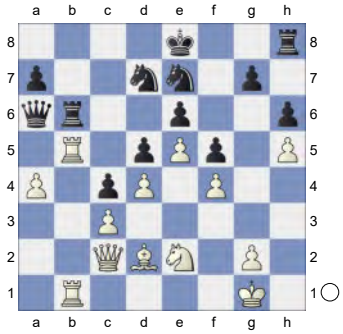


16.Qd1 Qa5 17.Bd2 Rb8 0.48/20
[17...Qxa3= -0.06/19 18.Nf3 Nc6]
18.Ne2 0.02/18
[18.Nf3± 0.48/20]
18...c4 0.53/21
[18...Rxb1= 0.02/18 19.Qxb1 Qa6]
19.0-0± Rb6 20.Qc2 Rh8 0.80/20
[20...Qxa3± 0.42/21 21.Ra1 Qb2 22.Qxb2 Rxb2 23.Rxa7 Nb6]

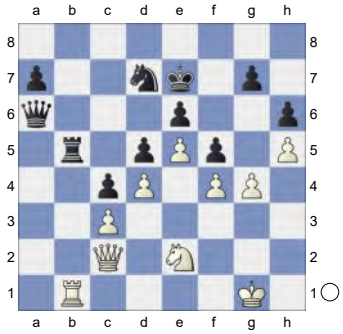


21.a4 Ke8 22.Rb4 Nc6 23.f4 Ne7 Against f5
[Reject 23...Nxb4?! 24.cxb4 Qa6 25.f5=]

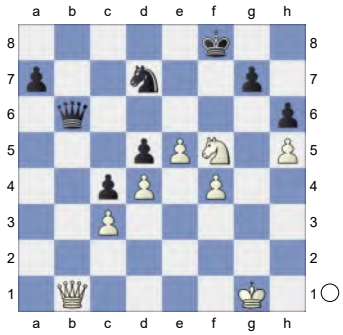
24.Rfb1 f5 25.Rb5 Qa6



26.Bc1 Kf7 27.Ba3 Hoping for g4!
27...Rhb8 1.56/24
[⌓27...Rf8 0.96/20]
28.Bxe7± &Bianco is more active.
28...Kxe7 29.g4! Rxb5 30.axb5 Rxb5

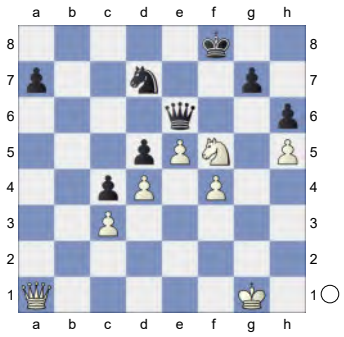


31.gxf5 Black must now prevent Rxb5.
31...Rxb1+ 32.Qxb1 exf5 33.Ng3
[Resist 33.Qxf5?! Qe6 34.Qb1 Qg4+ 35.Kf2 Qh4+ 36.Ke3 Qh3+ 37.Kd2 Nb6±]
33...Qb6 1.88/21
[33...Qe6± 1.37/21 was worth a try.]
34.Nxf5++- Kf8

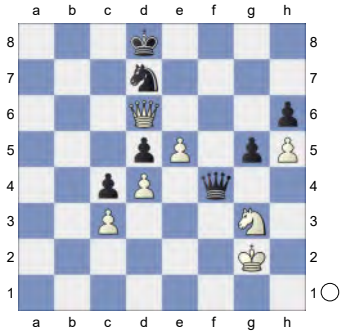


35.Qa1 1.30/18
[White should try 35.Qd1!+- 2.21/19]

35...Qe6 2.62/22
[35...a5± 1.30/18]

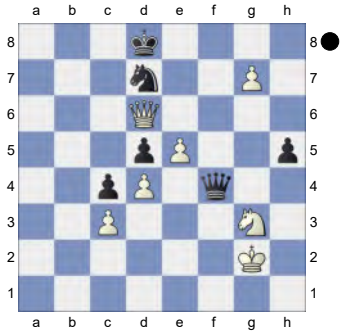


A mistake that costs the game. **36.Ng3! Qg4** 3.84/22
[36...Qb6 2.66/21 keeps fighting. 37.Qa3+ Kg8]
37.Kg2 Qxf4 38.Qxa7 Ke7 39.Qa3+ Kd8 5.00/23
[39...Ke8 3.41/21 was necessary. 40.Qa8+ Ke7 41.Qxd5 Qg5 42.Qd6+ Ke8 43.Qe6+ Kd8]
40.Qd6 White is clearly winning. **40...g5** 16.47/23
[⌓40...Ke8 4.45/23 41.Qe6+ Kd8 42.Qxd5 Qd2+ 43.Kh3 Qg5 44.Qxc4 Nf8]



41.hxg6 h5 42.g7

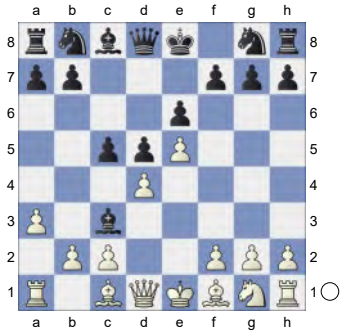
(Diagram)



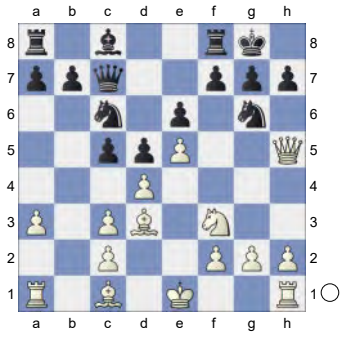
Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.25 (precise)
1-0

55 **C18**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2774**
■ **Bologan,Viktor** **2650**
Dortmund SuperGM 31st (7) 07.08.2003
[Lukacs,Peter]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7



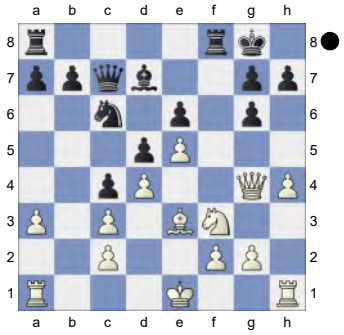
11.Be3 c4

[11...Nce7 12.h4 Bd7 13.Qg4 f5± 14.Qh3 f4! 15.Bd2 Nf5 16.0-0 c4 17.Be2 Anand,V: '?' '?' is now not so effective in view of Ba4! Anand Anand, V: '∓!' '∓!' 18.Ra2]

12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Bd7=

[13...Qf7 14.Ng5 Qe8∞ 15.h4 h6∞ 16.Nh3 Ne7∞ 17.Qe2 a5! *(17...Bd7 18.g4 b5 19.h5 a5! 20.g5 Rf5 21.gxh6! Rxh5 22.Kd2 gxh6 23.Rag1)* 18.g4 b5 19.h5 gxh5 *(19...g5 20.f4 gxf4 21.Nxf4 Bd7 22.Rg1±)* 20.g5 *(20.gxh5)* 20...hxg5 21.Nxg5 g6]

14.h4! Anand,V: 'N!' 'N!'



This phantastic idea is connected with a series of sacrifices against the ♔ in the middle. **14...Rf5** Anand,V: '!' '!' **15.Qh3**

[15.Ng1 Qa5 16.Ne2 Raf8 17.Kd2 Ne7± 18.Ng3 Rxf2+ 19.Bxf2 Rxf2++- ⌓20.Ne2 which is very difficult to find in a practical game. Nf5! 21.Raf1 Rxf1± 22.Rxf1 Qxa3 23.Qg5 Be8± 24.Nf4!±]

[15.h5 gxh5 16.Rxh5 Raf8

A) 17.Kd2 Be8 18.Rxf5± exf5 19.Qg3! Nd8 20.Ng5 Bg6 21.Rh1 Qc6 22.Qh4 f4 23.Nxh7

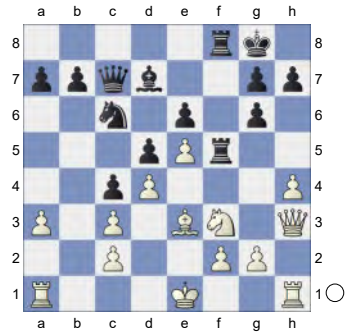
A1) 23...fxe3+ 24.Kxe3 Re8 *(24...Bxh7 25.Qxh7+ Kf7)* 25.Ng5 Nf7;

A2) 23...Qa4 24.Nxf8± Qxc2+ 25.Ke1 Qb1+ *(25...fxe3!* Δ ♗g3 ± *26.fxe3* is again premature: *Bd3 27.Qh8+! Kf7 28.Rf1+ Bxf1 29.Kxf1± Qxc3 30.e6+!∓* Anand,V: ' ∓' '∓' *Nxe6? 31.Nxe6)* 26.Ke2 Qd3+ 27.Kf3∞ Qe4+ 28.Ke2 Qd3+;

B) 17.Rh3 Qa5± 18.Kd2 Be8+- 19.Ng5 Rxg5 20.Qxg5 Bg6 21.Rhh1 Qa4!+- 22.Ra2 Rf5! 23.Qg4 Na5 24.Qd1 b6 25.Qb1 Qd7]

15...Raf8

[15...Qa5 16.Kd2 Raf8 17.Ng5 h6 18.f4 Rxf4 19.Bxf4 Rxf4 20.Nf3 Nxd4 21.Nxd4+- Rxd4+ 22.Kc1 Rd3 23.cxd3 Qxc3+ 24.Kb1 Qb3+ 25.Kc1 c3+- 26.Rb1 Qxa3++- 27.Kd1 Qa2+-]



16.Ng1! Qa5

[16...Qb6 17.Ne2 Qb2 18.Kd2]

17.Ne2 Qa4! 18.Kd2 Rxf2

[18...b5+- 19.f3]

19.Bxf2 Rxf2 20.h5!

[20.Qe3+- Rf8 21.Nf4]

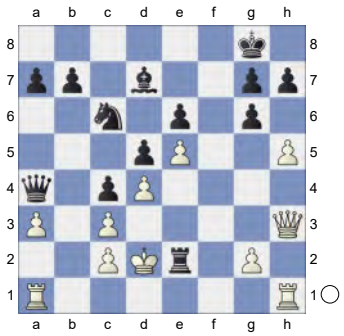
20...Rxe2+

[20...gxh5 21.Qxh5! h6?? 22.Raf1-+ Rxf1 23.Rxf1 Nd8 24.Qh4-+ Nf7 *(24...Nc6 25.Qf4)* 25.Qe7! Be8 26.Nf4]

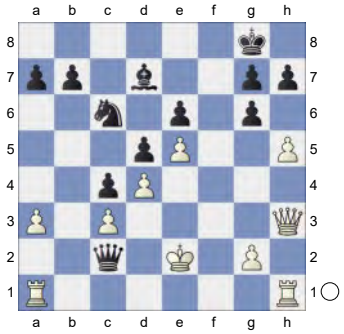
[20...Be8 21.Qxe6++-]

[20...h6 21.hxg6 Ne7]

(Diagram)



21.Kxe2!! Qxc2+?



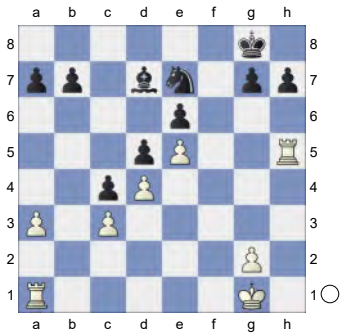
Anand,V: '[×e6]' **22.Kf1!!+-** Anand,V: '!' '!' This time this sacrifice destroys Black's defensive walls. **22...gxh5**

[22...Qb2 23.Re1]

23.Kg1! Qg6

[23...Ne7 24.Rf1!! Qg6 *(24...Nf5 25.g4)* 25.Qxh5+- Anand,V: '!' '!' was even more beautiful.]

24.Qxh5 Qxh5 25.Rxh5! and the ♔ in the middle is doomed. **25...Ne7**



26.Rh3 Be8 27.Rf3 Ng6

[27...Bh5 28.Rf2 Nf5 29.Rb2 b6± ⌓30.a4!]

28.a4 b6

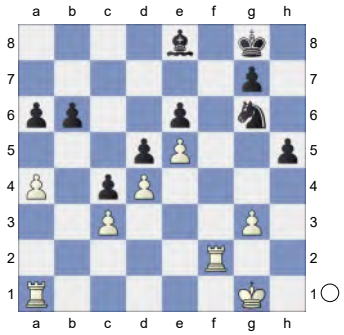
[28...a5 29.Rf2 Bc6 30.g3 Ne7+- 31.Rb2 Kf7 32.Rab1]

29.Rf2 a6

[29...h6 30.a5 b5+- 31.a6]

30.g3 h5

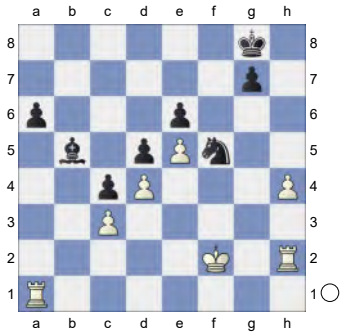
[30...Nf8 31.Rb2 Nd7]



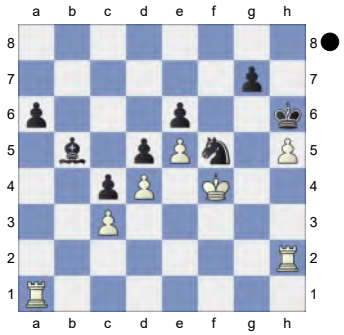
31.Rb2 b5 32.axb5 Anand,V: '+-' '+-' and materially White is winning. **32...Bxb5**

[32...axb5?? 33.Rf2 Bc6 34.Ra7]

33.Rh2 h4 34.gxh4 Ne7 35.Kf2 Nf5



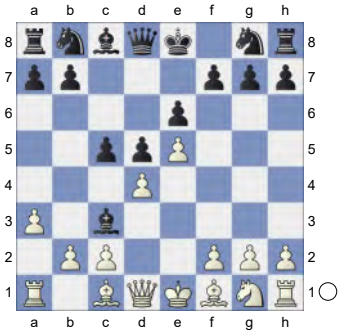
36.Kf3 This game belongs to all the books on combination. **36...Kh7 37.h5 Kh6 38.Kf4+-**



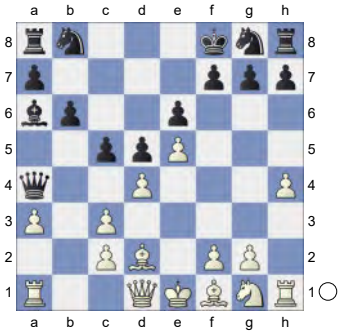
1-0

56 **C18**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2766**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar** **2718**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.17)
[Kitty Kat]

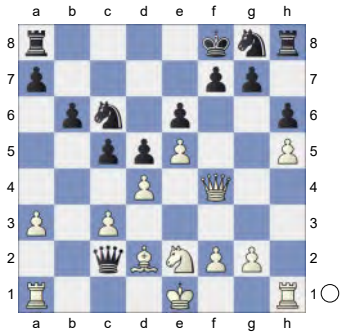
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



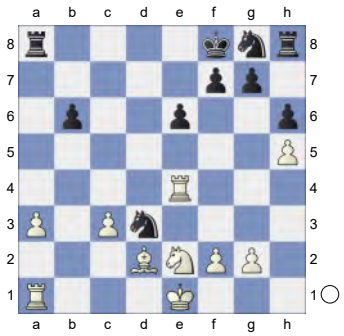
6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 Kf8 9.Qd1 b6 10.h4! is recently more successful than 10.dxc5. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 10.dxc5. **10...Ba6**



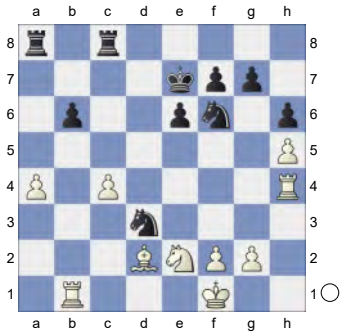
11.Bxa6 White has an edge.
[11.h5 Bxf1 12.Kxf1 h6 13.Rh4 Nc6 14.Rf4 Nge7 15.Ne2 c4 16.g4 Ke8 17.Ng3 Rf8 18.Rf3 Kd7 19.g5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 Ng8 21.Qd2 Rae8 22.Kg2 Kc8 23.Qc1 Nb8 24.Qb2 Nd7 25.Qb4 Qxb4 ½-½ Piorun,K (2665)-Harikrishna,P (2762) Bundesliga 1617 2016 (1.1)]
11...Qxa6 12.h5 h6 13.Qg4N
[Vorgänger: 13.Nf3 Ne7 14.a4 Nbc6 15.Qe2 Qxe2+ 16.Kxe2 cxd4 17.cxd4 Kg8 18.g4 Kh7 19.g5 0-1 (40) Ostrovskiy,A (2448)-Le,T (2485) Chess.com INT 2017]
[13.Rh4 Ne7 14.Rf4 Nbc6 15.a4 Rc8 16.a5 cxd4 17.cxd4 Qc4 18.axb6 axb6 19.c3 Ke8 20.Ra4 Qb5 21.Ne2 Na5 22.Bc1 Nc4 23.Ra7 Rf8 24.Qc2 Nc6 25.Ra1 Ke7 26.Qh7 Rg8 27.Rg4 Ra8 1-0 Castellanos Rodriguez,R (2479)-Vilela De Acuna,J (2355) Balaguer op 11th 2006 (8)]
[13.Rh3 Ne7 14.Qg4 Nbc6 15.Ne2 Kg8 16.Rf3 Rf8 17.Qf4 Qa4 18.Rc1 Qxa3 19.g4 Na5 20.g5 Nc4 21.Ng3 Nxd2 22.Kxd2 hxg5 23.Qxg5 cxd4 24.Rg1 dxc3+ 25.Rxc3 Qb4 26.Ne4 g6 27.Nf6+ Kg7 0-1 Neumann,J (2638)-Modern IBd7 (2387) Staunton Memorial 7th 2009 (6)]
13...Qa4 14.Ne2 -0.39/20
[14.Rh3= -0.01/20]
14...Nc6 White must now prevent ... Nc6xe5. **15.Qf4 Qxc2**



16.dxc5 -0.53/23
[16.Rc1!= -0.01/21 Qh7 17.dxc5]
16...Qe4 -0.12/22
[16...bxc5∓ -0.53/23 deserves consideration. 17.Be3 c4]
17.Qxe4= dxe4 18.cxb6 axb6 19.Rh4 -0.86/22
[19.Bf4= -0.27/20]
19...Nxe5∓ 20.Rxe4 Nd3+

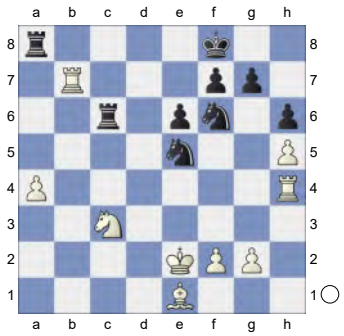


21.Kf1 Nf6 22.Rh4 Ke7 23.a4 -0.95/21
[23.Nd4= -0.25/21 keeps the balance.]
23...Rhc8 24.Rb1 -1.29/22
[White should play 24.c4 -0.85/21]
24...Nd5 -0.46/22
[24...Ra6∓ -1.29/22 25.g3 Nc5]
25.c4∓ Nf6
[Much weaker is 25...Rxa4 26.Rd4 N5b4 *(26...Raxc4? too greedy. 27.Rxd3 Kf8 28.g3+-)* 27.Nc3=]

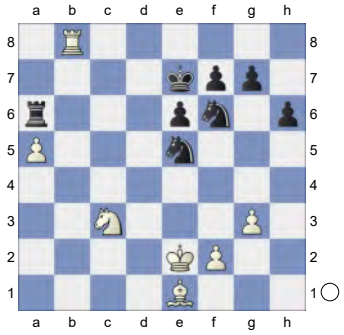


Excellent horsemanship. **26.Nc3 Ne5** -0.01/23
[26...Rc6∓ -0.70/21]
27.Rxb6= Nxc4 28.Rb7+ Kf8 29.Be1 Ne5 30.Ke2 Rc6

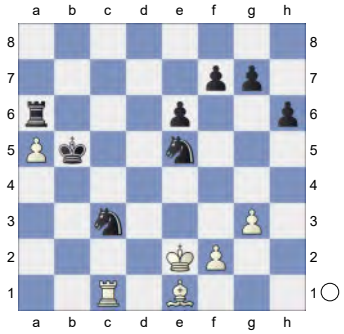
(Diagram)



31.Rhb4 Nxh5? 1.97/23
[31...Rcc8= -0.01/23 and Black has nothing to worry.]
32.g3? -0.11/22
[32.R7b5+- 1.97/23]
32...Nf6 33.Rb8+ Rxb8 34.Rxb8+ Ke7 35.a5 Ra6

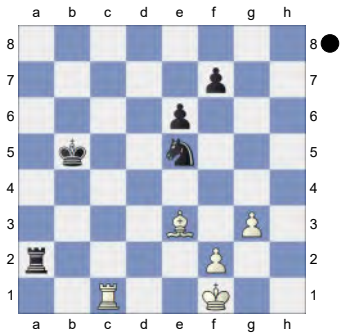


36.Rb7+ Kd6 Hoping for ...Kd6-c6!
37.Na4 Kc6 38.Rb1 Nd5 39.Rc1+ Kb5 40.Nc3+ Nxc3+

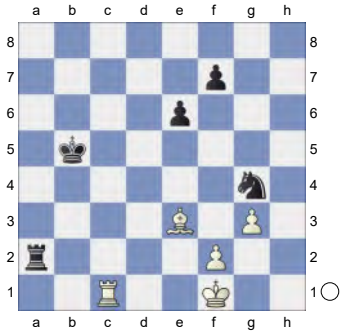


41.Bxc3 Endgame. KRB-KRN **41...Nc4 42.Bxg7 Rxa5 43.Bxh6 Ra2+ 44.Kf1 Ne5 45.Be3**

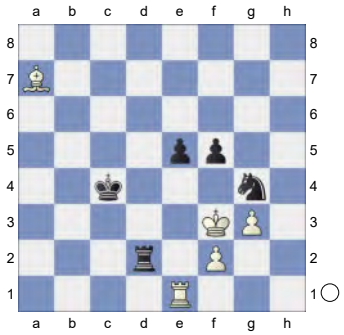
(Diagram)



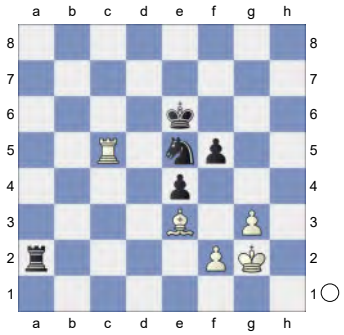
And now Rc1-c5+ would win. **45...Ng4**



46.Re1 Kc4 47.Kg2 f5 48.Bb6 e5 49.Kf3 Rb2 50.Ba7 Rd2

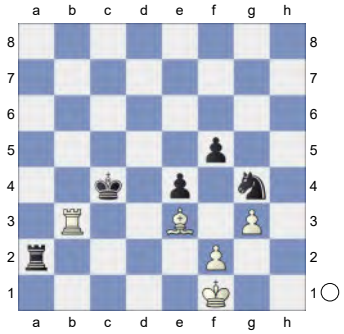


51.Kg2 Ra2 52.Bb6 e4 53.Be3
The position is equal. **53...Ne5 54.Rc1+ Kd5 55.Rc5+ Ke6**

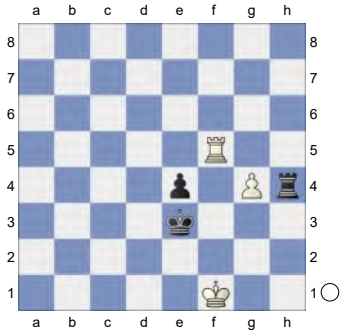


56.Rb5 Ng4 57.Rb3 Re2 58.Kf1 Ra2

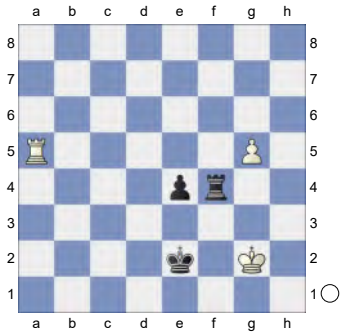
59.Rb6+ Kd5 60.Rb3 Kc4



61.Rb8 Nxe3+ 62.fxe3 KR-KR
62...Rh2 63.Rf8 Kd3 64.Rxf5 Kxe3 65.g4 Rh4

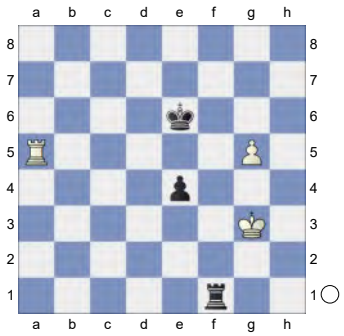


66.g5 Rg4 67.Ra5 Kf3 68.Rf5+ Ke3 69.Ra5 Rf4+ 70.Kg2 Ke2

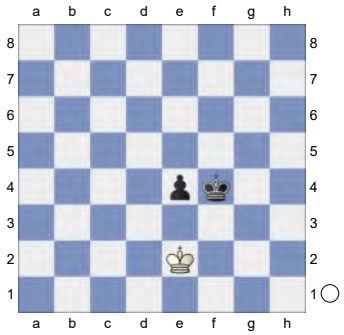


71.Kg3 Rf1 72.Ra2+ Kd3 73.Ra3+ Kd4 74.Ra4+ Ke5 75.Ra5+ Ke6

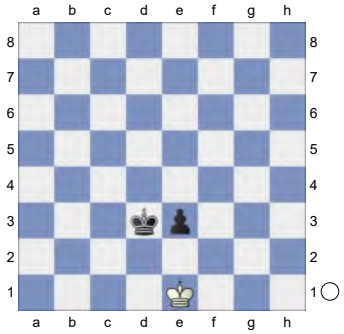
(Diagram)



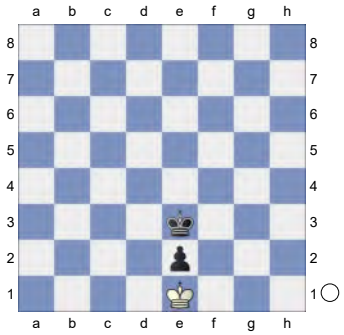
76.Kg2 Rf5 77.Rxf5 Kxf5 78.Kf2 Kxg5 KP-K **79.Ke3 Kf5 80.Ke2 Kf4**



81.Kf2 e3+ 82.Ke2 Ke4 83.Ke1 Kd3
[83...Kd4!?]



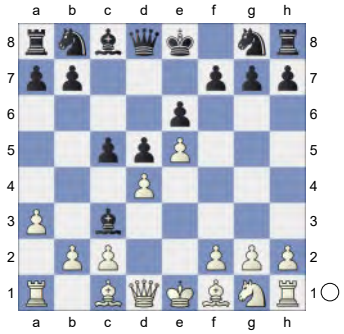
(→ ...e3-e2) **84.Kd1 e2+ 85.Ke1 Ke3**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
½-½

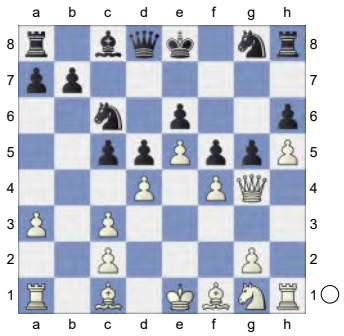
57 **C18**
□ **Giri,Anish** **2764**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
World Blitz 2022 (7.1) 29.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.h4
[8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Qg3 Nd7=]
8...h6 9.h5
[9.dxc5 Nxe5 10.Qf4 Nc6=]
9...g5 10.f4
[Reject 10.dxc5 Nxe5 11.Qd4 f6=]
10...f5
[10...Qa5 11.Bd2 f5 12.Qg3 g4 13.dxc5 Qxc5 14.a4 Bd7 15.Bd3 d4 16.Ne2 Nge7 17.Qf2 g3 18.Qg1 Nd5 19.cxd4 Qe7 20.Rh3 0-0-0 21.Rxg3 Kb8 22.a5 a6 23.Rb1 Ncb4 24.c4 Nxd3+ 25.Rxd3 Dominguez Perez,L (2748)-Gong,Q (2250) Chess.com INT 2024 [John Watson] 1-0 (32)]

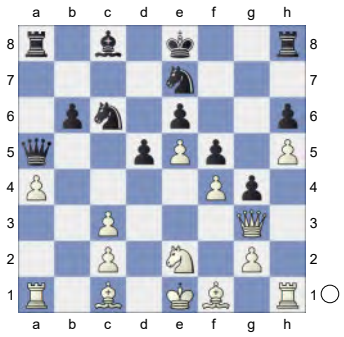
(Diagram)



White is slightly better. **11.Qg3 g4 12.dxc5 Qa5 13.Ne2N**

[13.Rb1 Qxc5 14.a4 a6 15.Bd3 Qxc3+ 16.Bd2 Qc5 17.Ne2 Nge7 18.Qf2 29. Winawer 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6. bxc3-Winawer 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6]

13...Nge7 14.a4 b6 15.cxb6 axb6



16.Kf2 0.27/21

[16.Bd2!± 0.85/21]

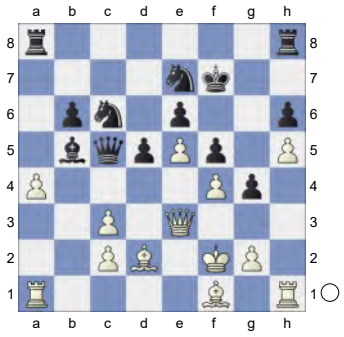
16...Ba6= 17.Qe3 Kf7 18.Bd2 Bc4 0.64/21

[Black should play 18...b5= 0.01/21]

19.Nd4⩲ Qc5 1.36/24

[19...Nxd4⩲ 0.69/21 20.cxd4 Qa6]

20.Nb5± Bxb5



21.Qxc5 Remove Defender

[Don't play 21.Bxb5 d4 22.cxd4 Nxd4⩲]

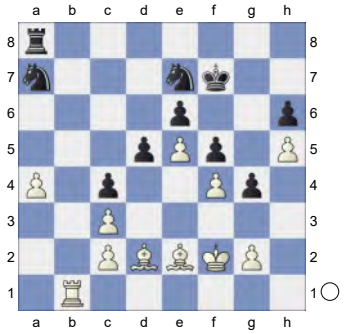
21...bxc5 22.Bxb5 Na7 1.99/19

[22...Na5± 1.29/20 23.Rhb1 Rhd8]

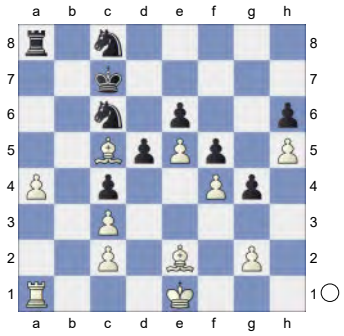
23.Rhb1+- Rhb8 24.Be2 0.39/23

[24.c4+- 2.35/21]

24...Rxb1⩲ 25.Rxb1 Hoping for Rb6. **25...c4!**



26.Be3! Nac6 27.Ra1 Ke8 28.Ke1 Kd7 29.Bf2 Nc8 30.Bc5 Kc7



31.a5 -0.41/21

[31.Bb4⩲ 0.48/21]

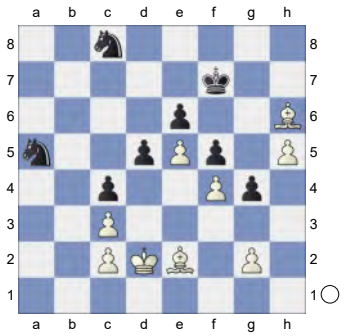
31...Rxa5∓ 32.Rxa5 Nxa5 Endgame KBB-KNN **33.Bf8 Kd7 34.Bxh6 Ke8** Prevents Bf8. **35.Kd2** -1.64/26

[35.Bg5∓ -0.34/25]

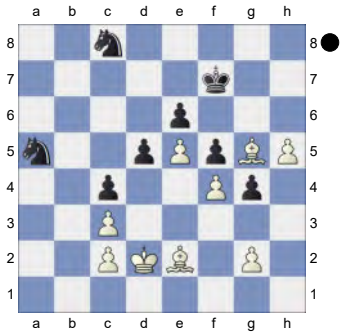
35...Kf7 -0.51/29

[35...Nb7!-+ -1.64/26 And now ...Nc5 would win. 36.Bg5 Nc5]

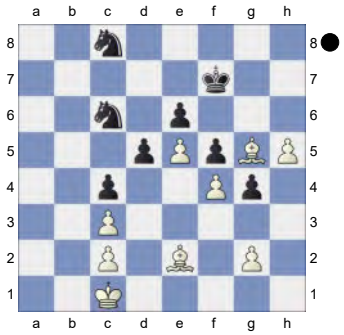
(Diagram)



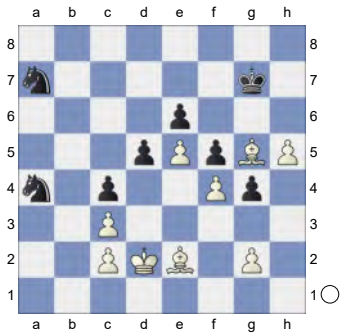
36.Bg5 -1.41/26
[White should try 36.g3∓ -0.51/29]



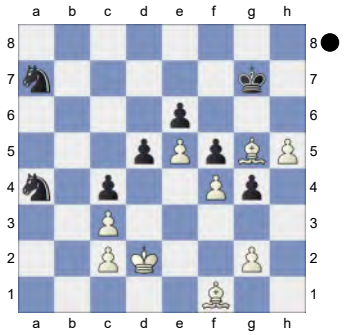
36...Nc6 -0.55/26
[36...Nb7!∓ -1.41/26]
37.Kc1 -1.64/27
[Better is 37.g3∓ -0.55/26]



37...Nb6!-+ Black has strong compensation. **38.Kd2 Na4** Strongly threatening ...Nc5. **39.Bh6?** -3.19/26
[39.Bh4∓ -0.79/24]
39...Na7 Pair of Knights! **40.Bg5 Kg7?** -0.63/29
[40...Nb5-+ -2.87/22 41.Bd8 Naxc3]



41.Bf1? -2.62/24
[41.Bf6+!∓ -0.63/29 Kh6 42.Be7]

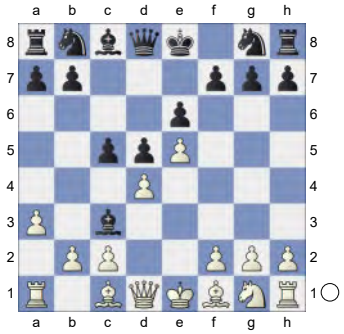


Black used his chance.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/ Black=0.26 (precise)
0-1

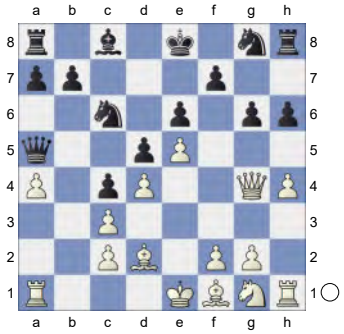
58 **C18**
□ **Giri,Anish** **2764**
■ **Rapport,Richard** **2740**
13th Hainan Danzhou GM rapid (1.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

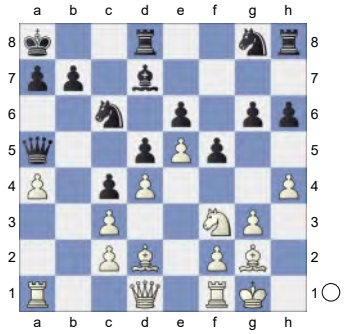
(Diagram)



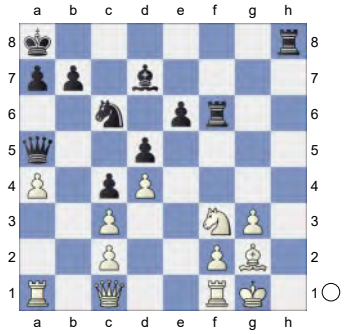
6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.a4
[Don't play 8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Qg3 Nd7=]
8...Qa5 9.Bd2 c4 10.h4 h6



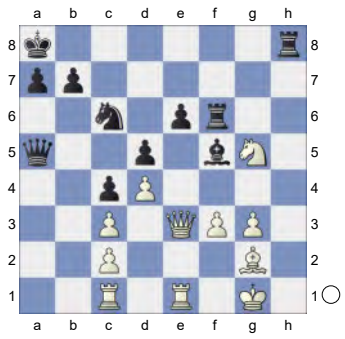
White is slightly better. **11.Qd1** &Bianco is more active.
[11.Nf3 Bd7 12.Qf4 Rh7 13.Nh2 0-0-0 14.Ng4 Rf8 15.Be2 Qd8 16.Qg3 f5 17.exf6 Nxf6 18.Bxh6 Ne4 19.Qe3 Rfh8 20.Bf3 e5 21.dxe5 Qa5 22.Ra3 Bf5 23.0-0 Kb8 24.Bg5 Nxg5 25.Qxg5 Rxh4 Ter-Sahakyan,S (2605)-Carlsen,M (2859) Almaty KAZ 2022 [John Watson] 0-1 (42)]
11...Bd7 12.Nf3N
[12.Nh3 0-0-0 13.Qc1 g5 14.Be2 f6 15.f4 gxf4 16.Nxf4 fxe5 17.Ng6 Rh7 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Ne7 20.Qa3 Nf5 21.Bf3 Qc7 22.Bf4 h5 ½-½ (22) Maksimovic,B (2484)-Antic, D (2368) Bajina Basta 2023]
12...0-0-0 13.g3 Kb8 14.Bg2 Ka8 15.0-0 f5
(Diagram)



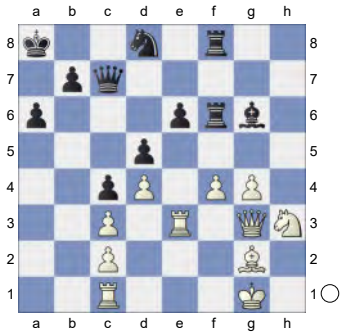
16.exf6 Nxf6 17.Qc1 g5 18.hxg5 hxg5 19.Bxg5 0.62/20
[19.Nxg5± 0.94/19 Nf7 is the strong threat. Rde8 20.Nf7]
19...Rdf8± 20.Bxf6 Rxf6



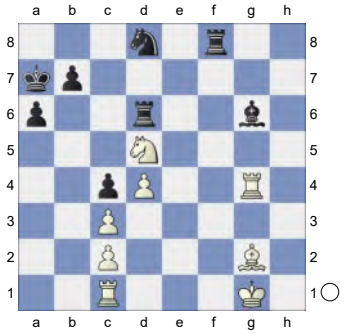
21.Qe3 Be8 22.Ng5 Bg6 23.Rac1 0.25/19
[23.Rfb1± 0.60/19]
23...Bf5= 24.Rfe1 Qxa4 1.28/21
[24...a6= 0.20/19 remains equal.]
25.f3 0.04/20
[25.Qf4± 1.28/21]
25...Qa5
[25...Bxc2? 26.Nxe6 Bd3 27.Nc7+ Kb8 28.Ra1!+-]



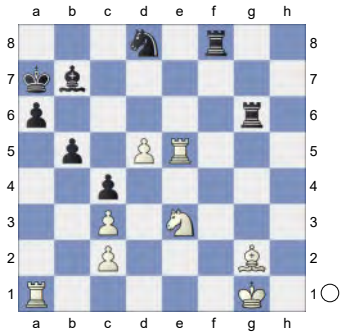
26.g4 Bg6 27.f4
[Wrong is 27.Nxe6? Re8 28.Qd2 Rfxe6-+]
27...Nd8 0.38/18
[27...Qc7= -0.01/22]
28.Qg3 -0.01/18
[28.Nh3± 0.38/18 might be stronger.]
28...Rhf8 29.Nh3
[Of course not 29.Ra1 Qc7 30.Nh3 Bxc2∓]
29...Qc7 30.Re3 a6



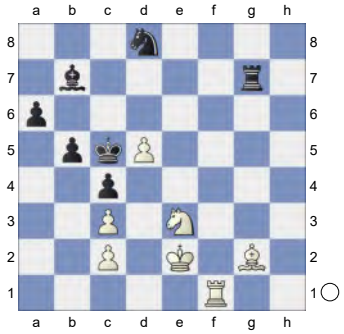
31.f5 Qxg3 32.Rxg3 exf5 Strongly threatening ...f4. **33.Nf4!** Threatens to win with g5. **33...fxg4 34.Nxd5 Rd6**
[34...R6f7 is more complex. 35.Nb6+ Ka7 36.Nc8+ Kb8]
35.Rxg4 Ka7 0.64/20
[35...Kb8= 0.01/21]



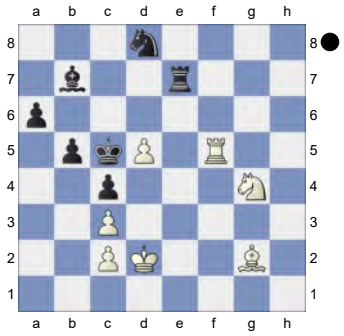
36.Ne3 -0.01/19
[36.Ne7!± 0.64/20 Bh5 37.Nc8+ Kb8 38.Nxd6 Bxg4 39.Nxc4]
36...b5 37.Rg5 Be8
[37...Re8!? 38.Nd5 Bf7=]
38.Ra1 -0.21/20
[⌓38.Rf1! 0.12/21 Rxf1+ 39.Kxf1]
38...Rg6 39.Re5 -0.65/21
[39.Rxg6= -0.26/21 Bxg6 40.Nd5]
39...Bc6!∓ aiming for ...Bxg2. **40.d5 Bb7**



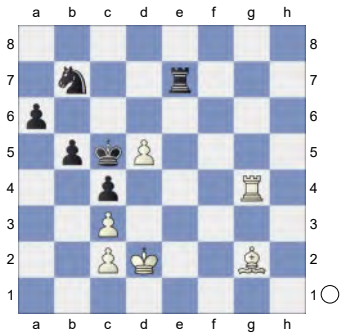
41.Rf1 Rfg8 42.Re7 Kb6 43.Kf2! R6g7 44.Rxg7 Rxg7 45.Ke2 Kc5



46.Rf5 Rd7 -0.01/19
[46...a5∓ -0.33/21 feels stronger.]
47.Ng4 -0.52/23
[47.Rg5!= -0.01/19]
47...Re7+
[47...Bxd5? 48.Ne3+-]
48.Kd2

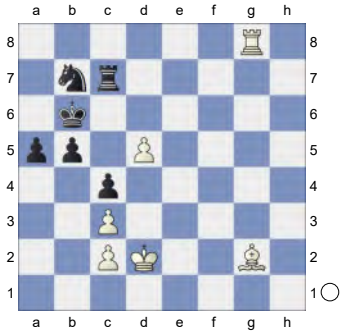


Bc8! 49.Rf4 Bxg4 -0.71/22
[⌓49...Rg7 -1.07/23 50.Ne3 Nf7]
50.Rxg4∓ Endgame KRB-KRN **50...Nb7**



51.Rg8 Nd6 Prevents Rc8+. White should prevent ...Rf7. **52.Ra8! Kb6 53.Rd8 Nb7 54.Rc8 Rc7 55.Rg8 a5** -0.01/21

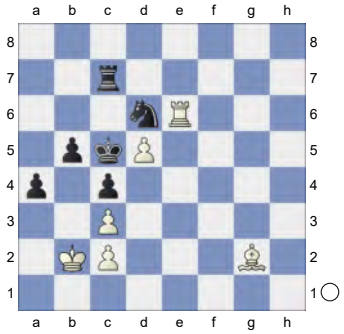
[Black should play 55...Nd6!∓ -0.51/26]



56.Rg6+= Kc5 57.Ra6 a4 58.Kc1! Nd6 59.Kb2 Nf5 60.Re6 -0.93/26

[60.Bh3= 0.01/26 Nd6 61.Be6]

60...Nd6∓



61.Rg6 Ra7 62.Ka3 -1.42/27

[⌓62.Bf3 -0.88/21]

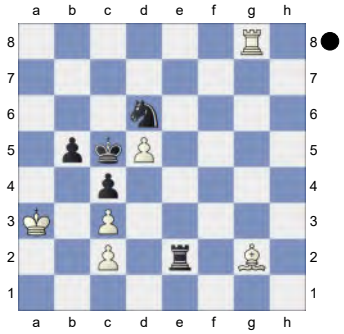
62...Re7 63.Rg8? -2.83/27

[63.Kb2∓ -1.26/25 keeps fighting.]

63...Re2 64.Kb2 a3+ -1.09/25

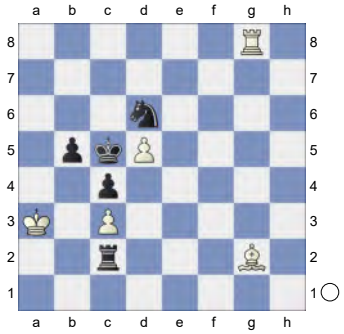
[64...b4-+ -1.71/24 65.cxb4+ Kxb4 66.Rb8+ Kc5]

65.Kxa3



Rxc2 -1.18/21

[⌓65...Rf2! -0.79/28]



66.Rg3 Kb6 67.Bh1 Ka5 68.Rh3 Kb6 0.01/23

[Better is 68...Nb7∓ -1.09/22 69.Be4 Rd2]

69.Rg3!= Kc5 -0.01/25

[Black should try 69...Rc1∓ -1.09/24 70.Bg2 Rc2 71.Bh1]

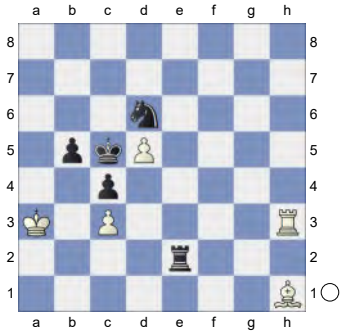
70.Rh3 -0.97/23

[70.Bg2!= -0.01/25 keeps the balance.]

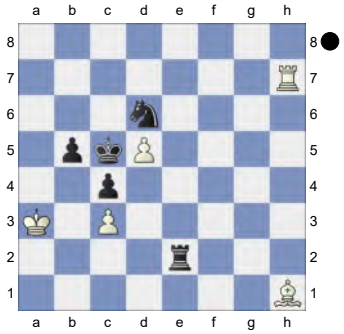
70...Re2 -0.01/25

[70...Nc8∓ -0.97/23]

(Diagram)



71.Rh7! Black must now prevent Rc7+. The position is equal. **71...Kb6** Prevents Rc7. **72.Rh6! Kc5 73.Rh7!** Hoping for Rc7+. **73...Kb6** Prevents Rc7. **74.Rh6! Kc5 75.Rh7!**

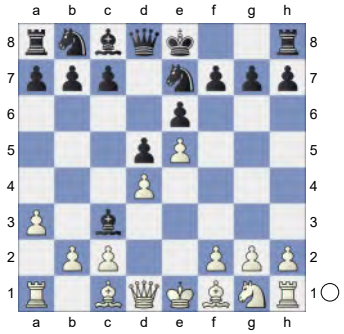


Black had all chances to win.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise)
½-½

59 **C19**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Dgebuadze,A.** **2439**
Chartres Noel Match1 2023 (1.1)
[John Watson]

John Watson,MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** John Watson,MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 c5 John Watson,MH: 'N'
[6...b6 John Watson,MH 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth,P (1739) Nuremberg Zabo op 23rd 2023 (1)*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 *(8.a4 Qd7 9.Bb5 c6 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.Ba3 c5 12.dxc5 Qc7 13.Nf3 bxc5 14.0-0 Bxd3 15.cxd3 Nd7 16.d4 0-0* Burnazovic,E (2574)-Aschenberg,A (2603) 32/71 Polanica Zdroj 1981*)* 8...h5 9.Qg3 *(9.Qd1 Qd7 10.Bd3 Ne7 11.Ne2 Qc6 12.Bg5 Nf5 13.0-0 Ba6 14.Ng3 Bxd3 15.cxd3 Qxc3 16.Rc1 Qxd4 17.Nxf5 exf5 18.Rxc7 0-0 19.e6 Na6 20.exf7+ Rxf7 21.Rxf7 Kxf7 22.Re1 Qg4 23.Re7+ Kg6* 1-0 Burnazovic,E (2560)-Shaposhnikov,Y (2509) 36/(116) London 1983*)* 9...Ba6 10.Ne2 Kf8 11.a4 Nc6 12.Nf4 Bxf1 13.Qxg6 fxg6 14.Nxe6+ Kg8 15.Nxd8 Bxg2 16.Rg1 Nxd8 17.Rxg2 Kh7 18.Be3 Nc6 19.Ke2 Rhe8 20.Rag1 Ne7 21.Kd3 1-0 7.♗b3 ♘c6 8.♘c3 b5_7152 (2464)-Pasanen,T (2371) Swiss Ch Pontresina 2000 (3)]
[6...Nd7 John Watson,MH 7.a4 a5 8.Qg4 Nf5 9.Bd3 h5 10.Qh3 Nf8 11.Nf3 Ng6 12.Bg5 f6 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Bc1 Kf7 15.g4 hxg4 16.Qxg4 Ngh4 17.Nxh4 Rxh4 18.Qf3 Qd6 19.Qg2 Qf8 20.Rg1 Qg7 21.Qxg7+ 1-0 Zheliandinov,V-Borisenko,G

RSFSR-ch19 Voronezh 1959]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Bg5

[9.dxc5 John Watson,MH Nxe5 10.Bxh7+ Kxh7∓]

9...Qc7!? 0.58/21 A surprising try from an expert in this line, perhaps trying to interfere with Firouzja's preparation. Dgebuadze has done reasonably well in the past with

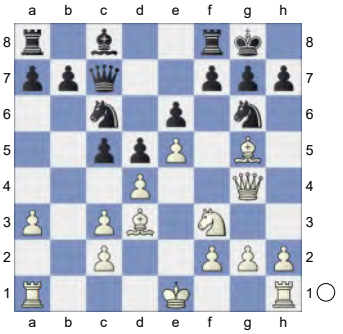
[9...Qa5 0.05/23 , the move in our Archives games with this line. One example this year went John Watson, MH: '=' 10.Ne2 *(10.Bd2* John Watson,MH *f5)* 10...Ng6 0.15/20 *(10...b6* -0.27/20 (John Watson,MH) should be considered.*)* 11.0-0 John Watson, MH: '=' c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.a4 *(13.f3* and*; 13.h4* are examined in Leko-Morozevich in the Archives*)* 13...Rf5!? *(13...Bd7 14.h4* is analysed in depth in Leko-Morozevich*;* , as is *13...Rf7)* 14.h4 Rb8?! *(14...Bd7* looks easier and safer *)* 15.Bd2 *(15.h5!)* 15...Bd7 16.Ng3 h5 0.78/22 *(16...Rf7⩲* 0.39/21 John Watson,MH*)* 17.Qd1 Rf7 18.Ne2 Ne7 19.Bg5 Rbf8 20.Qd2 Nc8 21.Nf4 Kh7 é-é Defromont,B (2347)-Dgebuadze,A (2435), Gournay en Bray 2023. White has control of some key squares, but I don't see any way to get through without allowing dangerous counterplay.]

10.Nf3 John Watson,MH: '⩲'

[10.dxc5 John Watson,MH Nxe5 11.Qg3 f6-+]

10...Ng6

[10...c4?? 4.46/24 John Watson,MH: '10...Ng6 0.51' 11.Bxh7+ Kxh7 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Qh5+ Kg8 14.Ng5+-]



11.h4! I like playing this with the rook still on h1 adding force to the advance and able to come to h3. Black needs to move quickly, and finds a way to open the position. John Watson,MH: 'I like playing this with the rook still on h1 adding force to the advance and able to come to h3. Black needs to move quickly, and finds a way to open the position. White is slightly better.'

[11.dxc5 John Watson,MH Ncxe5 *(11...Ngxe5 12.Nxe5 Nxe5* Discovered Attack *13.Qd4⩲)* 12.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 13.Kd2 Qc7 14.Bxg6 hxg6∓]

11...cxd4 12.cxd4 f5 13.exf6 John Watson,MH: ' Threatens to win with 0-0.' **13...e5 14.Qg3** John Watson,MH: '↑' John Watson,MH: ' Black is under strong pressure. White is more active.'

14...Nxd4 15.0-0?! -0.15/23 Here's where the engines excel in finding White's best path.

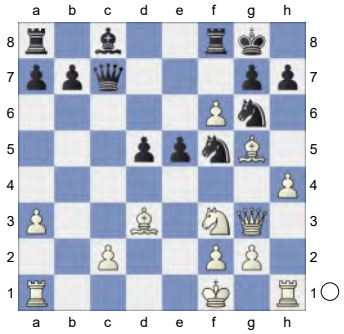
[a) 15.Nxd4 was played years ago but doesn't impress after Qc3+ 16.Ke2 Qxd4 17.c3 Qg4+ 18.Qxg4 Bxg4+ 19.f3 e4!? *(19...Bh5∞)* 20.Bc2 *(20.Bb1* John Watson,MH *Be6⩲)* 20...gxf6 21.Bh6 exf3+ 22.gxf3 Rfe8+ 23.Kf2 John Watson,MH: '!' Bh5∞ John Watson,MH: '∞!']

[b) 15.Rd1 Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 Nf4 17.Bxf4 exf4 18.Qxg7+ Qxg7 19.fxg7

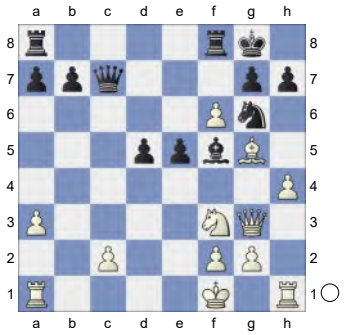
A) 19...Kxg7?! 20.Rg1+ Kh6

1.24/23 *(⌓20...Kh8* 0.79/21 John Watson,MH*)* 21.Rg5 John Watson,MH: '**±**' Be6 22.Kd2; **B)** 19...Rf6!**±**]

[15.Kf1! is the engine suggestion, leaving White's rook on the useful square h1, e.g., Nxf3 *(15...Nf5* 1.52/21 John Watson,MH: '15...Nxf3 0.55



' *16.Bxf5* John Watson,MH: '!' *Bxf5* John Watson,MH: '

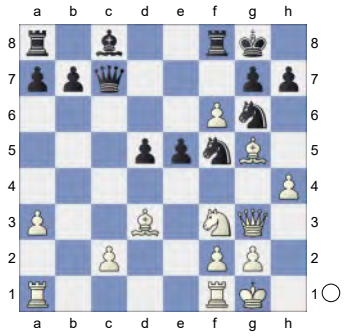


' *17.h5* John Watson,MH: '!' *Nf4* John Watson,MH: ' ...Qc4+ would now be deadly.' *18.Re1!±*) 16.gxf3 John Watson,MH: ' Re1 is the strong threat.' Nf4 17.fxg7 Re8 *(17...Qxg7?* John Watson,MH: ' And now ...Nh5 would win.' *18.Bh6! Qxg3 19.fxg3 Nxd3 20.Bxf8 Nb2 21.Bh6 Nc4 22.Kf2+-*) 18.Bxf4 exf4 19.Qg5! Qxg7 20.Rb1**±** with activity, although there is still a lot of play here.]

[15.Rc1**±** 0.83/21 John Watson,MH Nf5 *(15...gxf6?* (John Watson,MH) too greedy. *16.Bh6+-*) 16.Bxf5 Bxf5 17.Nd4 gxf6 John Watson,MH 18.Bd2 *(18.Nxf5 fxg5 19.Qxg5 Kh8∓*)]

15...Nf5? 1.04/22

[15...Nxf3+! -0.15/23 John Watson, MH: '=!' John Watson,MH: ' keeps the balance.' 16.gxf3 *(16.Qxf3?* (John Watson,MH) loses. *e4-+*) 16...gxf6 17.Bh6 Kh8! 18.Bxf8 Nxf8 gives Black plenty of compensation, since ...Ne6 will give him an iron grip on f4: 19.Rab1 *(19.f4* -0.78/21 John Watson,MH: '19.a4 0.01' *e4 20.Be2 Bf5* John Watson,MH: ' Strongly threatening ...Ne6!' *21.Kh1 Ne6∓*) 19...Ne6 20.Kh1 John Watson, MH: '!' Qf7 21.Rg1 Nf4=]



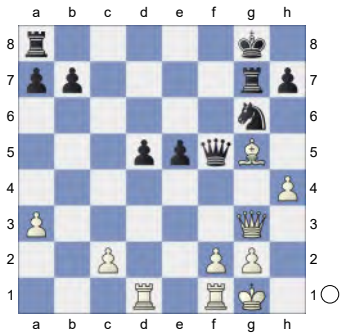
16.Bxf5 John Watson,MH: ' **±**' **16...Bxf5 17.Nd4! Qd7**

[17...Bc8 1.91/21 John Watson,MH: '17…gxf6 0.79' 18.h5 Nf4 19.fxg7 Qxg7 2.02/22 *(19...Rf7±* 1.39/24 John Watson,MH *)* 20.Rae1!+-]

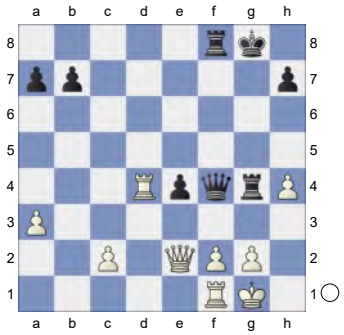
18.Nxf5 John Watson,MH: ' Deflection' **18...Qxf5 19.fxg7 Rf7 20.Rad1** John Watson,MH: ' The board is on fire.' **20...Rxg7?!** 1.68/21

[20...d4 1.12/23 John Watson,MH: '**±**' 21.c3!**±** Nf4!? 22.Rfe1 John Watson, MH: ' Repels Ne2+' dxc3 23.Qxc3 Ne6 24.Be3 Rxg7 25.Rd3**±**]

(Diagram)

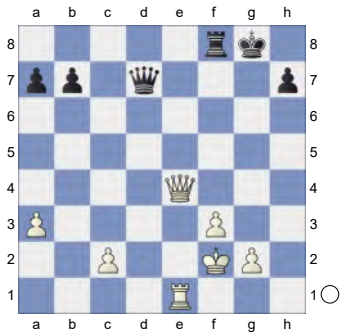


21.Rxd5 John Watson,MH: '+-' **21...Nf4** **22.Qf3** John Watson,MH: ' Repels Ne2+'
[Or 22.Qxf4! Qxf4 23.Bxf4 exf4 24.Rfd1]
22...Rf8 23.Bxf4 Qxf4 24.Qe2!?
[24.Qxf4! Rxf4 25.Rd8+ Rf8 26.Rfd1]
24...e4 25.Rd4 Rg4?! John Watson, MH: '
[25...Re7 26.h5]

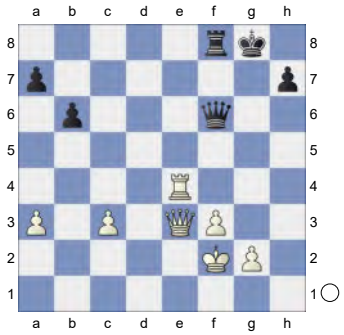


' **26.f3! Rxh4** John Watson,MH: ' aiming for ...Qh2+.' **27.Rxe4**
[27.fxe4? John Watson,MH Qh2#]
27...Qh2+ 28.Kf2 Rxe4 29.Qxe4 Qc7 30.Re1 Qd7 1.89/19
[30...Qc5+± 1.47/19 John Watson, MH 31.Re3 b5]

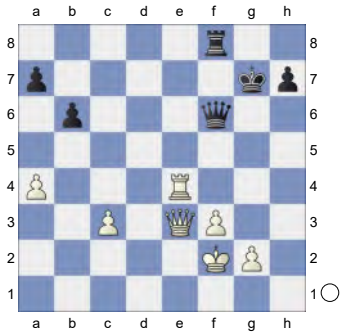
(Diagram)



John Watson,MH: ' Prevents Qg4+'
31.Qc4+ 1.28/18
[31.c4+- 1.89/19 John Watson,MH]
31...Qf7 1.87/23
[31...Rf7± 1.28/18 (John Watson,MH) was necessary. 32.Kg1 b5]
32.Qd4 b6 33.Re4 John Watson,MH: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.18 (very precise) '
33...Qf6 John Watson,MH: '=' **34.Qe3 Rc8 35.c3 Rf8**



36.a4 Kg7 2.55/23
[36...Rf7 1.78/20 (John Watson,MH) might work better. 37.g3 Qg6]

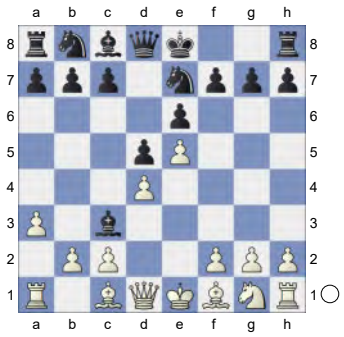


and even with the engine's +4.8

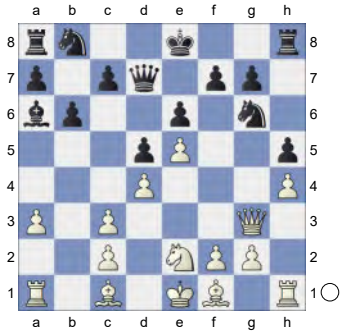
assessment, White will have to be patient to make progress with the eventual advance of his kingside pawns.
1-0

60 **C16**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2760**
■ **Kuzubov,Yuriy** **2606**
Titled Tue 30th Apr Early blitz (11)
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5 Moskalenko,V: 'Inf 64/(279)'
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+



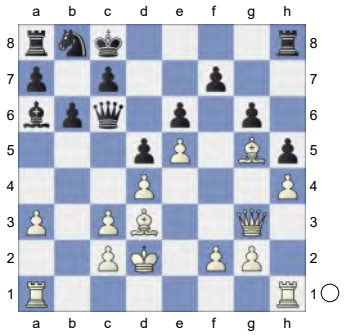
6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 9.Qg3 scores better than 9.Qd1. 9.Dg3 punktet besser als 9.Dd1. **9...Ba6 10.Ne2** 0.23/21
[10.Bxa6!± 0.87/23 Nxa6 11.Ne2]
10...Qd7=
[10...Kf8 11.a4 Nc6 12.Nf4 Bxf1 13.Nxg6+ fxg6 14.Kxf1 Qe8 Leko,P (2555)-Moskalenko,V (2525) Kobenhavn 64/(279) 1995]
[10...Rh7 11.Bg5 Qd7 12.Qf3 Qa4 13.Ng3 Bxf1 14.Kxf1 c5 15.Nf5 Qc4+ 16.Kg1 exf5 17.Qxf5 Nd7 18.e6 Nf6 19.Re1 Qxc3 20.exf7+ Kxf7 21.Qe6+ Kf8 22.Rh3 Qxd4 23.Rf3 Nxh4 24.Rf4 Qc3 25.Bxh4 Rusakov,Y-Bleis,C Budapest 1984]



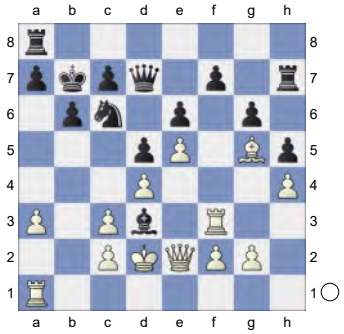
11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 g6N Black is weak on the dark squares. White has an edge.
[12...Bxf1? 13.Qxg7 *(13.Rxf1 g6=; 13.Kxf1 Kf8=)* 13...Rf8 14.Bh6+- *(14.Rxf1?! Nc6+-; 14.Kxf1?! Qb5+ 15.Kg1 Qb2+-)*]
[12...Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8 25.axb6 axb6 26.Rh5 Qc4 27.Rxf5 Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 exf5 28.e6+ fxe6 29.Ra7 Kc6 30.Qxe6+ Kb5 31.Rxc7 Rxc7 32.Bxc7 Ra8 33.Qxb6+ Ka4 34.Qb1 Re8 35.Be5 Rc8 36.Qb2 Ka5 37.Bd6 Re8 38.Qa3+ Kb5 39.Qa7 Qc6 40.Bb4 Qh6+ 41.Kd3 Qh3+ 42.Kd2 ½-½ Castro Torres,C (2305)-Zienkiewicz,J (2605) 15th Marienbad GM 2016]
13.Bd3
[13.Bxa6 simplifies Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Bg5]
13...Qc6N
[Vorgänger: 13...Bxd3 14.cxd3 Nc6 0.93/24 *(Black should play 14...Kd8± 0.31/22)* 15.Bg5± Ne7 16.Qf4 Rh7 1.52/22 *(⌓16...Rf8 0.91/21)* 17.0-0 0-0-0 18.a4 a5

19.c4 Re8 1-0 Potapov,P (2516)-Avalyan,A (2347) Moscow Aeroflot op-B 18th 2019 (1)]

14.Kd2 Kd7 15.Bg5 Strongly threatening Qg3-f3. **15...Kc8**



16.Qf4 Qd7 17.Rh3 Kb7 18.Rf3 Rh7 19.Qe3 Nc6 20.Qe2 Bxd3



21.cxd3 Rhh8 22.Ke3 -0.12/23

[22.Ke1± 0.52/18]

22...Na5= 23.Rh3 -0.91/19

[23.c4= -0.20/22]

23...Rhc8∓ 24.Rhh1 -1.55/19

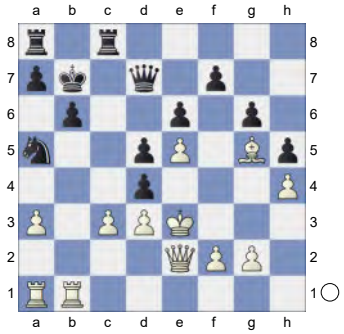
[⌓24.Rf3 -0.93/26]

24...c5! 25.Rhb1 -2.50/21 Wards off Na5-b3

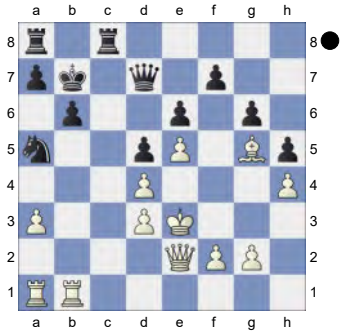
[⌓25.Qb2 -1.65/18]

25...cxd4+-+

(Diagram)



26.cxd4



Rc3! 27.a4 Rac8 28.Ra2 Nc4+? -1.25/20

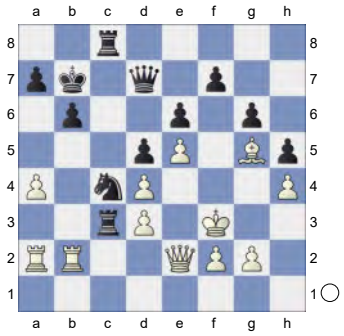
[28...R8c4-+ -3.48/22 29.Kd2 Rb3 *(29...Rxa4? 30.Rxa4 Qxa4 31.Kxc3+-)* 30.dxc4 Rxb1]

29.Kf3∓ Na3? -3.12/20 Black is more active.

[29...Na5∓ -1.29/21 30.Be3 Qe8]

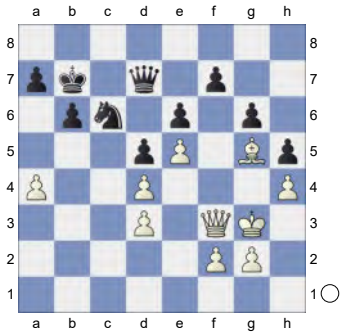
30.Rbb2-+ Nc4 -0.78/23

[30...Qxa4-+ -2.76/19 has better winning chances. 31.Be3 b5 *(31...Qa6? 32.Rd2-+)*]

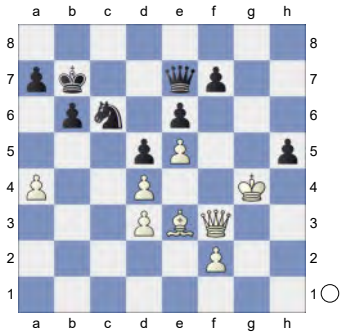


31.Rc2∓ Rxc2 32.Rxc2 Na5 33.Rxc8 -1.35/25

[33.Ra2!∓ -0.56/26]
33...Qxc8∓ Endgame. KQB-KQN **34.Kg3 Qd7** -0.90/22
[⌓34...Nc6 -1.55/25 35.Qb2 Qf8]
35.Qf3? -2.70/23
[35.Qa2∓ -0.90/22]
35...Nc6-+
[35...Qxa4? 36.Qxf7+ Ka6 37.Qxg6+- *(37.Qxe6 Qxd4 38.Qe8 Qxd3+ 39.f3 Qf5+-)*]

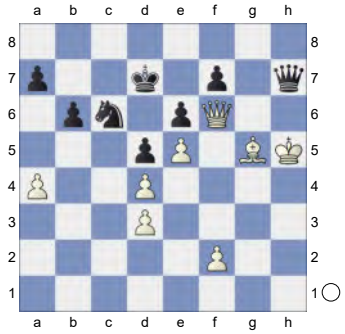


36.Be3 Qe7 37.Kh3 Ka6 38.g4 hxg4+ 39.Kxg4 Kb7 40.h5 -2.79/20
[⌓40.Qd1 -1.81/22]
40...gxh5+



41.Kxh5 Qf8 42.Bh6 -4.00/23
[42.Qg4 -2.74/22 was worth a try.]
42...Qg8 43.Qf6 Prevents Qg8-g6+
43...Kc7 44.Be3 Kd7 45.Bg5 Qh7+
[45...Nxd4 46.Qe7+ Kc8 47.f4-+]

(Diagram)



46.Kg4 Qg6? -0.81/17
[46...Qxd3? 47.Qxf7+ Kc8 48.Qxe6+ Kc7 49.Qd6+ *(49.Qxd5 Nxd4 50.e6 Qe2+ 51.Kg3 Nxe6+-)* 49...Kb7 50.Qd7+ *(50.Qxd5 Qd1+ 51.Kf5 Qc2+ 52.Ke6 Kc7+-)* 50...Ka6 51.Qxc6+-]
[46...a6-+ -2.84/23 White must now prevent ...b6-b5! 47.f4 b5 *(47...Qxd3 48.Qxf7+ Kc8 49.Qxe6+ Kc7 50.Qd6+ Kb7 51.Qd7+* Deflection *Kb8 52.Qxc6+-)*]
47.Qh8? -4.95/20
[47.Qxg6∓ -0.81/17 was the crucial defense. fxg6 48.f3 *(48.Be3? Ke8-+)*]
47...Qf5+ Black is clearly winning.
[47...Nxd4 48.Qd8+ Kc6 49.Qc8#]
[47...Qxd3 48.Qf8 Qxd4+ 49.Kh5 Qxe5 *(49...Qxf2 50.Qd6+* Deflection *Kc8 51.Qxc6+ Kb8 52.Qd6+ Kb7 53.Qe7+ Kc6 54.Kh6±; 49...Nxe5 50.Qd8+ Kc6 51.Qa8+ Kc7 52.Qxa7+ Kc8 53.Qa8+ Kc7 54.Qa7+ Kd6 55.Qb8+ Kc6 56.Qc8+ Kd6 57.Qb8+ Kc6 58.Qc8+ Kd6 59.Qb8+=)* 50.Qxf7+ Kd6 51.Qf8+ Kc7 52.Qf7+∓ Kc8 53.Qe8+ Kb7 *(53...Kc7 54.Qf7+ Kd6 55.Qf8+ Kc7 56.Qf7+∓)* 54.Qd7+ Qc7 55.Qxe6=]
48.Kh5 -6.66/23
[⌓48.Kh4 -4.37/16 Qxf2+ *(48...Nxd4 49.Qd8+ Kc6 50.Qc8#; 48...Qxd3 49.Qf8∓)* 49.Kh5 Qe2+ *(49...Nxd4*

50.Qd8+ Kc6 51.Qc8#; 49...Qxd4 50.Qf8∓) 50.Kh6]

48...Qf3+

[48...Qxd3 49.Qf8 Qh3+ *(49...Qxd4? 50.Qd6+* Deflection *Kc8 51.Qxc6+ Kb8 52.Qe8+ Kb7 53.Qxf7+ Ka6 54.Qxe6+-; 49...Nxd4 50.Qd8+ Kc6 51.Qc8#)* 50.Bh4 Qf5+ *(50...Nxd4 51.Qd8+ Kc6 52.Qc8#)* 51.Bg5=]

[48...Nxd4 49.Qd8+ Kc6 50.Qc8#]

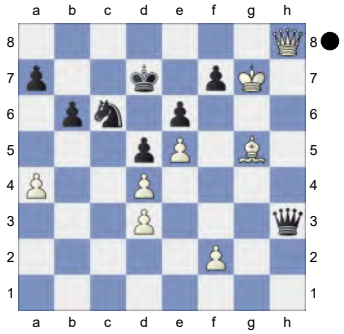
[48...Qxf2 49.Qf8 Qh2+ *(49...Nxd4 50.Qd8+ Kc6 51.Qc8#)* 50.Bh4 Nxe5 *(50...Nxd4 51.Qd8+ Kc6 52.Qc8#; 50...Qe2+? 51.Kh6+-)* 51.dxe5 Qxe5+ 52.Kh6±]

49.Kh6 Qh8-f8 would now be deadly.

49...Qh3+

[49...Qxf2? perishes. 50.Qf8 Nxe5 51.Qd8+ *(51.dxe5 Qh2+ 52.Kg7 Qxe5+ 53.Bf6 Qg3+ 54.Kxf7 Qxd3±)* 51...Kc6 52.Qc8+ *(52.dxe5 Qh2+ 53.Kg7 Qxe5+ 54.Bf6 Qg3+ 55.Kf8 Qd6+ 56.Qe7 Qxe7+ 57.Kxe7 d4±)* 52...Kd6 53.Qb8+ *(53.dxe5+ Kxe5 54.Qc3+ Kd6±)* 53...Kc6 54.dxe5+- *(54.Qxe5 Kb7+-)*]

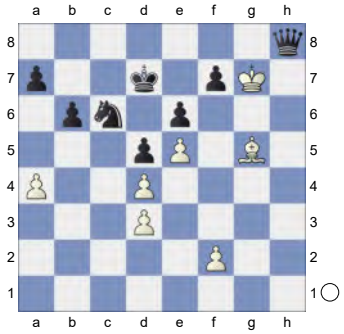
50.Kg7



Qxh8+

[And not 50...Qxd3 51.Kxf7 Qf5+ 52.Bf6=]

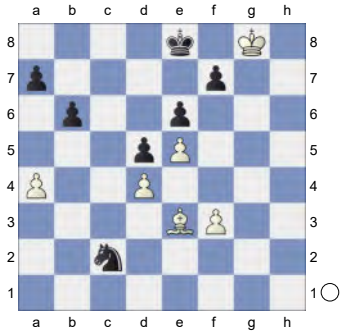
(Diagram)



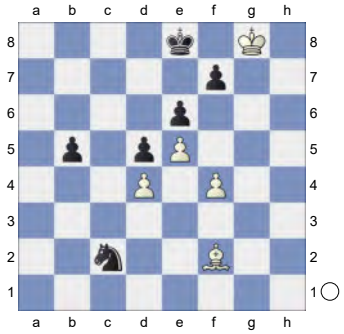
51.Kxh8 Nxd4 KB-KN **52.Kg8 Ke8 53.Be3 Nc6 54.f3** -7.19/23

[⌓54.d4 -4.88/20]

54...Nb4 55.d4 Nc2



56.Bf2 a6 57.f4 b5 58.axb5 axb5

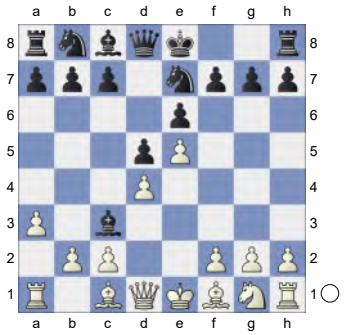


Weighted Error Value: White=0.66/ Black=0.32

0-1

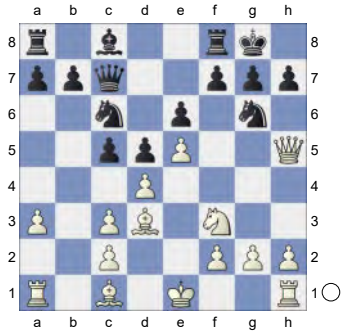
61 **C18**
□ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2758**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2784**
Saint Louis Rapid (8.4) 17.09.2020
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7

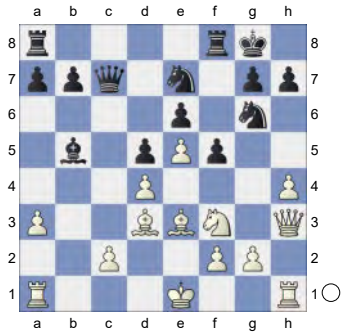


11.Be3 Nce7 12.h4
[12.Ng5 h6 13.Nf3 c4=]

12...Bd7 0.61/18
[12...c4= 0.26/18 13.Be2 *(13.Ng5 h6∓)* 13...f6]

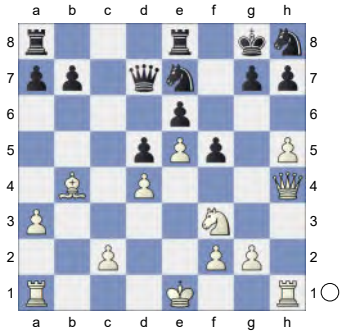
13.Qg4!± &Bianco is more active.
[Much weaker is 13.Ng5 h6 14.Nf3 c4 15.Bxg6 fxg6∓]

13...f5 White is slightly better. **14.Qh3 cxd4** White is better. **15.cxd4 Bb5**



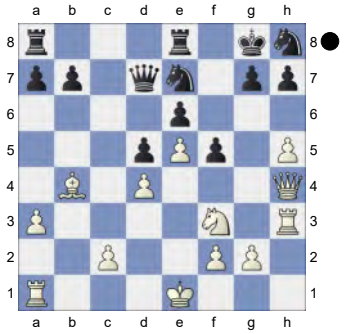
16.Bxb5 Qa5+ 17.Bd2 Qxb5 18.h5

Nh8 19.Bb4 Rfe8 20.Qh4 Qd7



21.Rh3 0.15/19

[21.h6!± 0.93/21 g6 22.Bd2 *(22.Qf6 Nc6±)*]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless) . Loss on time!?

1-0

62 **C18**

□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2758**

■ **Xiong,Jeffery** **2712**

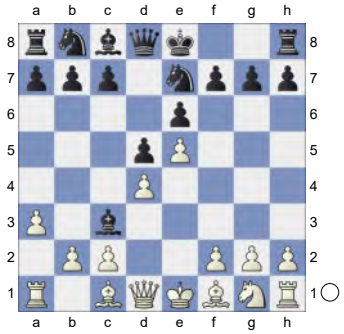
82nd Tata Steel GpA (5.3) 16.01.2020

[John Watson]

Kitty Kat: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Illescas Cordoba, Miguel: 'Illescas Cordoba,M: 'Inf 69/285'"

1.e4 Kitty Kat **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 c5 7.Qg4 Kf8 8.h4 We haven't seen this precise order in this column the main moves have been Kitty Kat: ' White has more active pieces. Black is weak on the dark squares'

[8.Bd2 b6 Kitty Kat 9.Nh3 Ng6 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.Ng5 Bxd3 12.cxd3 Qd7 13.0-0 h6 14.Nf3 cxd4 15.cxd4 Nc6 16.h4 Kg8 17.Qh5 Nge7 18.Rfc1 Nf5 19.Qg4 Kh7 20.Qf4 Rhf8 21.Rc3 Rac8 22.Rac1 Kg8 0-1 Garpe (2543)-Heidrich,W (2502) 49/511 München 1990 (6.6)]

[8.Nf3]

[8.a4 and]

[8.Qd1]

8...h5?! A novelty, and perhaps not the most logical move, since White's queen wants to go to d1 anyway. But it may be playable. Kitty Kat: 'N'

[8...Qa5 9.Bd2 Qa4 , 10.h5 Kitty Kat h6 11.Rh3 Nbc6 12.Qf4 b6 13.Rf3 Nd8 14.dxc5 Qxf4 15.Rxf4 bxc5 16.Be3 c4 17.Nf3 Ke8 18.Kd2 Ndc6 19.Rg4 Nf5 20.Bc5 Rb8 21.a4 Bd7 22.g3 Rg8 23.Bh3 ½-½ Kulaots, K (2530)-Sumets,A (2473) Alushta Osen I 2003 (2)]

[8...Qc7 (often followed by ... b6), and 9.Qd1 Kitty Kat Bd7 10.Bd2 Ba4 11.Bd3 Nbc6 12.Nf3 c4 13.Be2 Ke8 14.h5 h6 15.Nh4 Kd7 16.f4 Rag8 17.Bg4 g5 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Kf2 Nxh4 20.Rxh4 Qd8 21.g3 Ne7

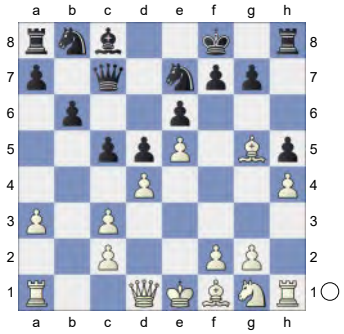
22.Rc1 h5 23.Rxh5 ½-½ Leko,P (2600)-Illescas Cordoba,M (2635) 69/285 Ubeda 1997]

[8...b6 are the usual moves.]

9.Qd1 b6

[9...Qc7 10.Nf3 b6 is another order, committing White's knight to f3. In the game, by contrast, the idea of Ne2-f4 proves strong.]

10.Bg5! Qc7



Kitty Kat: 'White is slightly better.'

11.Rh3!?

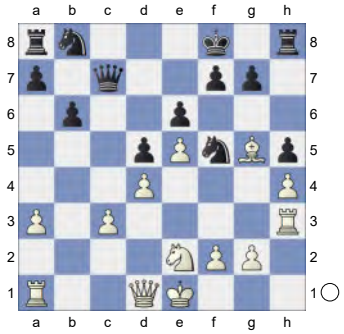
[11.Nf3 could lead in several directions: Nf5 *(11...Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.0-0 cxd4 14.Bxe7+ Kxe7 15.cxd4 Rac8 16.Rc1 Qc4±)* 12.Bd3 Ba6 13.Bxa6 *(13.Bxf5 exf5 14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.Qd4 Nd7=)* 13...Nxa6 14.0-0±]

11...cxd4? 1.19/23 Inconsistent with Black's next move. Better

[11...Nf5 0.47/21 Kitty Kat: ' ±' 12.a4 *(12.Nf3 Ba6!)* 12...Ba6 *(12...Nc6!?)* 13.Bb5! Bxb5 14.axb5 a5 15.bxa6 Rxa6 16.Rxa6 Nxa6 17.Ne2± , when there's plenty of play on the board for both sides.]

12.cxd4 Nf5 13.c3! Ba6 14.Bxa6 Nxa6 15.Ne2! Intending Nf4. **15...Nb8!?**

[15...Qc4 16.Nf4 *(16.Rf3 Rc8* intending … Nb6-c6 next.*)* 16...g6 17.Bf6 Rg8 18.Qd2 Rc8 19.Ne2 Nb8 20.f3 Nd7 21.Bg5 and White stays on top.]



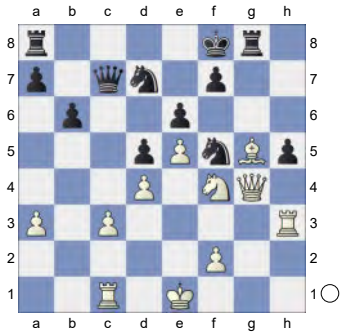
The standard idea, to bring the knight via c6 to a5, although this is slow. A slightly different order is **16.Nf4 g6 17.g4!?** Good, although not really necessary.

[17.Rc1 Nd7 18.f3 Kg8 19.g4± ties Black down]

17...hxg4 18.Qxg4 Nd7 19.Rc1 Kitty Kat: '!' Kitty Kat: ' Strongly threatening h4-h5.' **19...Rg8!?** 1.59/20

[If Black runs towards safety by 19...Ke8 0.87/23 , Kitty Kat: ' ⩲' 20.c4! dxc4 21.d5! could follow.]

20.h5 Kitty Kat: '±' **20...gxh5**



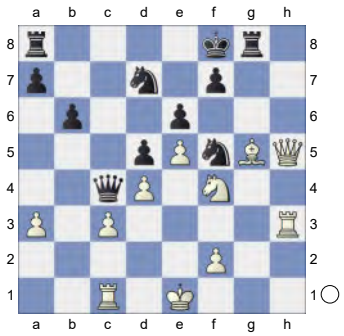
21.Qxh5

[21.Nxh5?! Kitty Kat Ke8±]

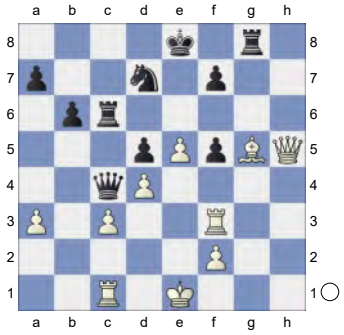
21...Qc4 1.78/24 Kitty Kat: '

[21...Qc6± 1.40/23 Kitty Kat]

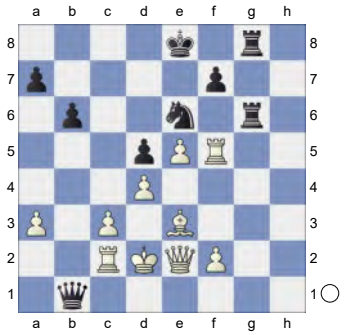
(Diagram)



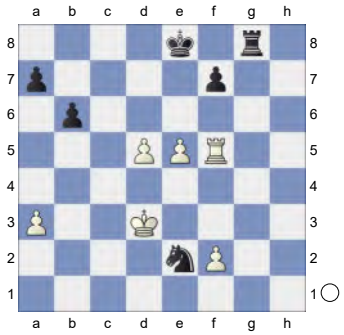
' **22.Ne2** 0.40/24
[22.Rf3!+- 1.78/24 (Kitty Kat) Nf4xe6+! would now be deadly. Nxe5 23.dxe5 Qe4+ 24.Kd2 Rxg5 *(24...Qxe5? perishes. 25.Bh6+ Ke7 26.Re1+-)* 25.Qh8+ Ke7 *(25...Rg8? 26.Nxe6+ Ke7 27.Qf6+ Kd7 28.Qxf7+ Ne7 29.Nd4+-)* 26.Qf6+ Ke8 27.Nxe6 Qxf3 *(27...fxe6? 28.Qxe6+ Kd8 29.Rh1+-)* 28.Qxf7+ Decoy *(28.Nxg5 Qxf2+ 29.Kd3 Kd7=)* 28...Kxf7 29.Nxg5+ Ke7 30.Nxf3]
22...Rc8 Kitty Kat: '±!'
[22...Ke8 with the idea ...Nf8 allows 23.Rf3 Nf8 24.Ng3]
23.Rf3 Kitty Kat: ' aiming for Ne2-g3.'
23...Rc6!
[Wrong is 23...Ke8? Kitty Kat 24.Rxf5 *(24.Ng3 Rc6±)* 24...exf5 25.e6+-]
24.Ng3 Ke8± Kitty Kat: '±' **25.Nxf5 exf5**



26.Rxf5 Kitty Kat: '→' Kitty Kat: ' White attacks.' **26...Rcg6 27.Kd2 Nf8** A nice defensive reorganization. **28.Be3** 0.04/19
[28.e6± 0.59/22 Kitty Kat Nxe6 29.Be3]
28...Ne6 Kitty Kat: '=' **29.Qe2 Qa2+?** 1.40/27
[29...Qa4!± 0.31/23 . This is not easy to crack.]
30.Rc2 Kitty Kat: '±' Kitty Kat: ' Really sharp!' **30...Qb1?** 3.15/23 Kitty Kat: '
[30...Qxa3 31.Qb5++-]
[30...Qb3! 1.21/22 Kitty Kat: '±' 31.Qa6 Rg1 32.a4±]

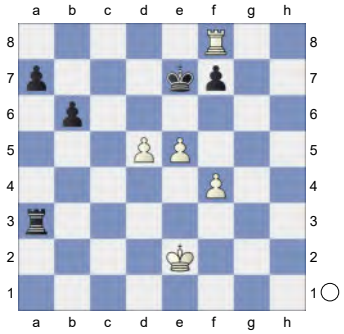


Prevents Qe2-b5+. This move loses the game for Black.' **31.c4!** Black's position collapses now. Kitty Kat: '+-!' **31...Rg4** 5.15/25 Kitty Kat: '?'
[31...Rg1 32.cxd5 Nd8 33.e6!]
[31...Qh1 3.20/21 Kitty Kat 32.cxd5 Qxd5]
32.cxd5 Kitty Kat: 'White is clearly winning.' **32...Rxd4+ 33.Bxd4 Qxc2+**
[33...Nxd4 34.Rc8+ Ke7 35.d6+ Ke6 36.Qc4+ Kxf5 37.Rxg8+-]
34.Kxc2 Nxd4+ 35.Kd3 Nxe2

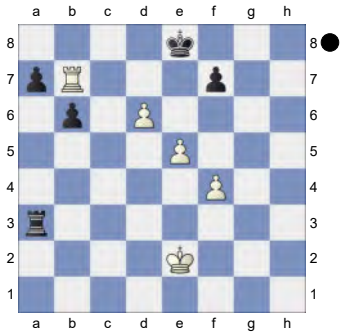


36.Kxe2+- Kitty Kat: 'Endgame. KR-KR'

36...Rg4 37.f4 Rg3 38.Rg5 Rxa3 39.Rg8+ Kd7 40.Rf8 Ke7



41.Rb8 Kd7 42.Rb7+ Ke8 43.d6

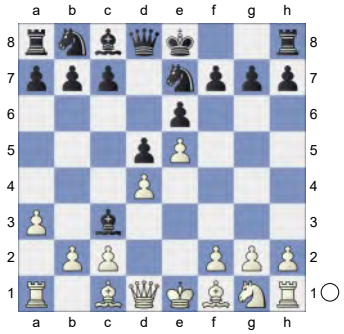


Kitty Kat: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.37'
1-0

63 **C18**
□ **Buchicchio,Gianpaolo** **2758**
■ **Tymrakiewicz,R.** **2712**
Schachbundesliga Championship (5.3)
[Rabinovich,A]

Kitty Kat: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Illescas Cordoba, Miguel: 'Illescas Cordoba,M: 'Inf 69/285'''
1.e4 Kitty Kat **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 c5 7.Qg4 Kf8 8.h4 Kitty Kat: ' White has more active pieces. Black is weak on the dark squares'

[8.Bd2 b6 Kitty Kat 9.Nh3 Ng6 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.Ng5 Bxd3 12.cxd3 Qd7 13.0-0 h6 14.Nf3 cxd4 15.cxd4 Nc6 16.h4 Kg8 17.Qh5 Nge7 18.Rfc1 Nf5 19.Qg4 Kh7 20.Qf4 Rhf8 21.Rc3 Rac8 22.Rac1 Kg8 0-1 Garpe (2543)-Heidrich,W (2502) 49/511 München 1990 (6.6)]

[8.Nf3]

[8.a4]

[8.Qd1]

8...h5 Kitty Kat: 'N'

[8...Qa5 9.Bd2 Qa4 10.h5 Kitty Kat h6 11.Rh3 Nbc6 12.Qf4 b6 13.Rf3 Nd8 14.dxc5 Qxf4 15.Rxf4 bxc5 16.Be3 c4 17.Nf3 Ke8 18.Kd2 Ndc6 19.Rg4 Nf5 20.Bc5 Rb8 21.a4 Bd7 22.g3 Rg8 23.Bh3 ½-½ Kulaots,K (2530)-Sumets,A (2473) Alushta Osen I 2003 (2)]

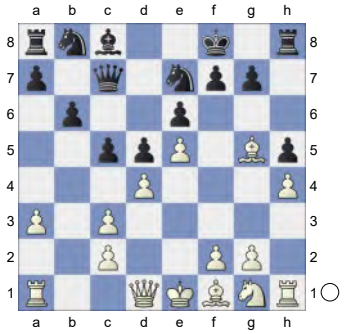
[8...Qc7 9.Qd1 Kitty Kat Bd7 10.Bd2 Ba4 11.Bd3 Nbc6 12.Nf3 c4 13.Be2 Ke8 14.h5 h6 15.Nh4 Kd7 16.f4 Rag8 17.Bg4 g5 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Kf2 Nxh4 20.Rxh4 Qd8 21.g3 Ne7 22.Rc1 h5 23.Rxh5 ½-½ Leko, P (2600)-Illescas Cordoba,M (2635) 69/285 Ubeda 1997]

[8...b6]

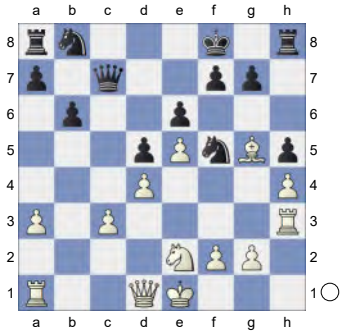
9.Qd1 b6

[9...Qc7 10.Nf3 b6]

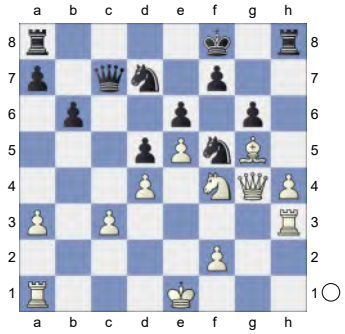
10.Bg5 Qc7



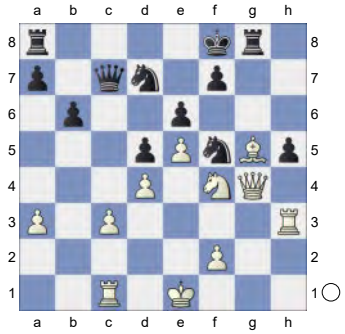
Kitty Kat: 'White is slightly better.'
11.Rh3
[11.Nf3 Nf5 *(11...Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.0-0 cxd4 14.Bxe7+ Kxe7 15.cxd4 Rac8 16.Rc1 Qc4)* 12.Bd3 Ba6 13.Bxa6 *(13.Bxf5 exf5 14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.Qd4 Nd7)* 13...Nxa6 14.0-0]
11...cxd4 1.25/22
[11...Nf5 0.61/21 Kitty Kat: ' ±' 12.a4 *(12.Nf3 Ba6)* 12...Ba6 *(12...Nc6)* 13.Bb5 Bxb5 14.axb5 a5 15.bxa6 Rxa6 16.Rxa6 Nxa6 17.Ne2]
12.cxd4 Nf5 13.c3 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Nxa6 15.Ne2 Nb8
[15...Qc4 16.Nf4 *(16.Rf3 Rc8)* 16...g6 17.Bf6 Rg8 18.Qd2 Rc8 19.Ne2 Nb8 20.f3 Nd7 21.Bg5]



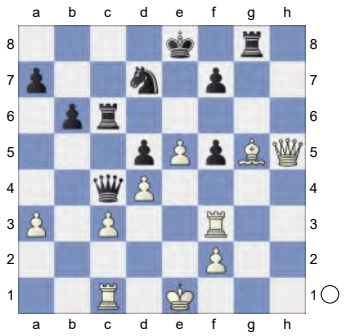
16.Nf4 g6 17.g4
[17.Rc1 Nd7 18.f3 Kg8 19.g4]
17...hxg4 18.Qxg4 Kitty Kat: ' h4-h5 would now be deadly.' **18...Nd7** Kitty Kat: '



' **19.Rc1** Kitty Kat: '!' **19...Rg8** 1.42/19
[Kitty Kat: ' Black should try' 19...Ke8 0.76/23 20.c4 dxc4 21.d5]
20.h5 Kitty Kat: '±' **20...gxh5**



21.Qxh5
[21.Nxh5?! Kitty Kat Ke8=]
21...Qc4 22.Ne2 0.38/23
[22.Rf3+- 1.61/23 (Kitty Kat) Nf4xe6+! is the strong threat. Nxe5 23.dxe5 Qe4+ 24.Kd2 Rxg5 *(24...Qxe5? is the wrong capture. 25.Re1+-)* 25.Qh8+ Ke7 *(25...Rg8? 26.Nxe6+ fxe6 27.Qf6+ Ke8 28.Qxe6+ Ne7 29.Rf7+-)* 26.Qf6+ Ke8 27.Nxe6 Qxf3 *(27...fxe6? 28.Qxe6+ Kd8 29.Rh1+-)* 28.Qxf7+ Decoy *(28.Nxg5 Qxf2+ 29.Kd3 Kd7=)* 28...Kxf7 29.Nxg5+ Ke7 30.Nxf3]
22...Rc8 Kitty Kat: '±!'
[22...Ke8 23.Rf3 Nf8 24.Ng3]
23.Rf3 Rc6 Kitty Kat: '!'
[Don't blunder 23...Ke8? Kitty Kat 24.Rxf5 *(24.Ng3 Nf8±)* 24...exf5 25.e6+-]
24.Ng3 Ke8 25.Nxf5 exf5



26.Rxf5 Kitty Kat: '→' Kitty Kat: ' Black needs to defend precisely.' **26...Rcg6** **27.Kd2 Nf8 28.Be3** 0.00/25

[28.e6± 0.58/21 Kitty Kat Nxe6 29.Be3]

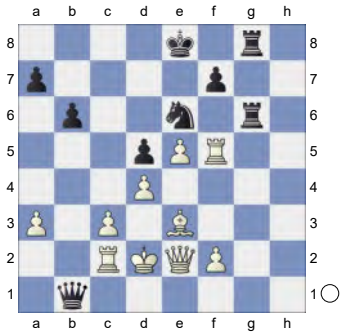
28...Ne6 Kitty Kat: '=' **29.Qe2 Qa2+** 1.43/29

[29...Qa4 0.35/24 Kitty Kat: '±!']

30.Rc2 Kitty Kat: '±' Kitty Kat: ' Some like it hot' **30...Qb1** 3.34/20 Kitty Kat: '

[30...Qxa3 31.Qb5+]

[30...Qb3 1.55/25 Kitty Kat: '±' Kitty Kat: ' was necessary.' 31.Qa6 Rg1 32.a4]



Inhibits Qe2-b5+. A mistake that costs the game.' **31.c4** Kitty Kat: '+-!' **31...Rg4** 4.63/25

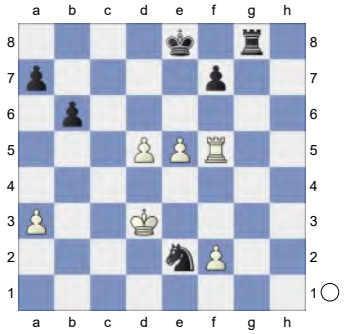
[31...Rg1 32.cxd5 Nd8 33.e6]

[⚠31...Qb3 3.29/20 Kitty Kat 32.cxd5 Qxd5]

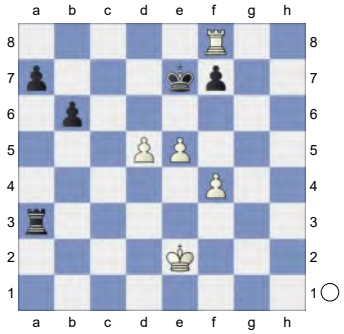
32.cxd5 Kitty Kat: 'White is clearly winning.' **32...Rxd4+ 33.Bxd4 Qxc2+**

[33...Nxd4 34.Rc8+ Ke7 35.d6+ Ke6 36.Qc4+ Kxf5 37.Rxg8]

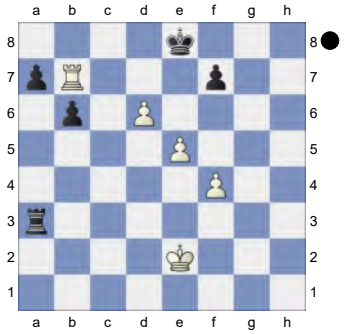
34.Kxc2 Nxd4+ 35.Kd3 Nxe2



36.Kxe2 Kitty Kat: 'Endgame. KR-KR' **36...Rg4 37.f4 Rg3 38.Rg5 Rxa3 39.Rg8+ Kd7 40.Rf8 Ke7**



41.Rb8 Kd7 42.Rb7+ Ke8 43.d6



Kitty Kat: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.31'

1-0

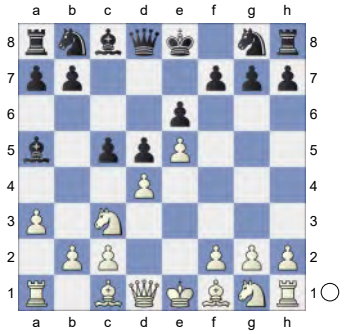
64 **C17**
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I.** **2757**
■ **Aronian,L.** **2747**
Titled Tue 3rd Jun Early blitz (8) 03.06.25
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356' Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**

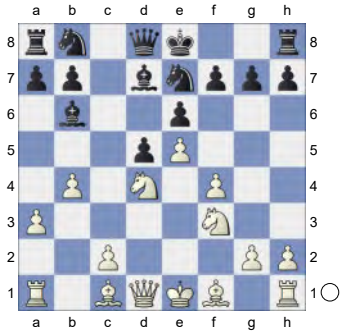
[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4* Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62)*; 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½ (45) *)* 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]

[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray G] 1-0]

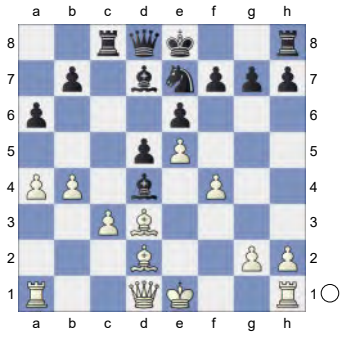
5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.f4 Bd7 9.Nxd4 Ne7 10.Ngf3 Bb6

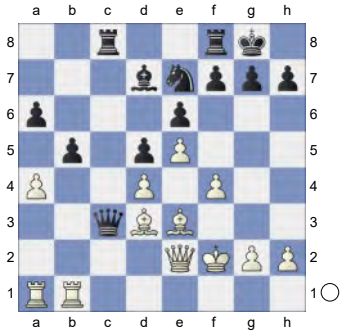


11.c3 a6 12.a4 Nbc6 13.Bd2 -0.19/20
[⌓13.Be3 0.22/17]
13...Nxd4= 14.Nxd4 Rc8 15.Bd3 Bxd4

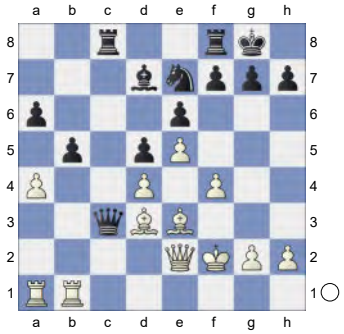


16.cxd4 Qb6 17.Be3 Qxb4+ 18.Kf2 b5 19.Qe2 0-0 0.01/24
[19...bxa4∓ -0.58/21 20.Rab1 Qa5]
20.Rhb1 The position is equal. **20...Qc3**

(Diagram)



21.Rc1⇄ White is not holding back
21...Qb3 22.Rcb1 Qc3 23.Rc1 Qb3 And now ...Rxc1 would win. **24.Rcb1 Qc3**

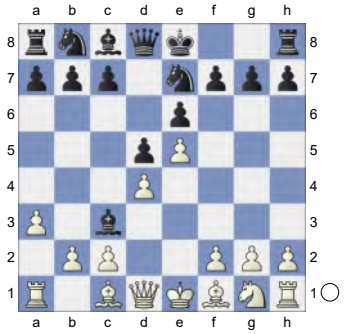


Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

65 **C19**
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I.** **2757**
■ **Galchenko,Matvey** **2442**
Titled Tue 13th May Late blitz (4) 13.5.25
[Kitty Kat]

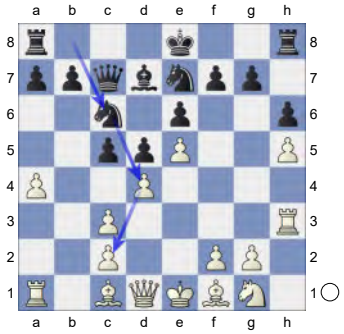
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.h4 Qc7 8.Rh3 Bd7 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Nbc6



White has an edge. **11.Ba3 b6 12.Qg4** -0.09/19

[⌓12.f4 0.25/18]

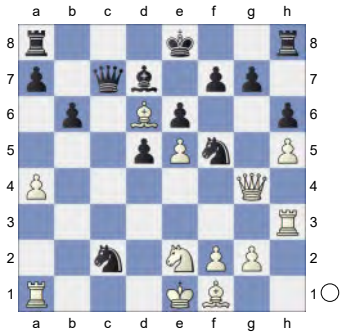
12...Nf5

[12...0-0 keeps more tension. 13.Bd3 cxd4 14.f4 f5]

13.Ne2 -0.20/21

[13.Nf3 0.21/19 was preferrable.]

13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Ncxd4 15.Bd6! Nxc2+

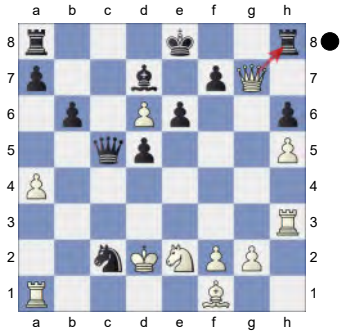


Pair of Knights! **16.Kd2 Nxd6 17.exd6 Qc5** 2.01/21 Black cannot hold the game after this.

[17...Qxd6∓ -0.31/20 keeps the upper hand. 18.Kxc2 Rc8+ 19.Kd1 0-0]

18.Qxg7+-

(Diagram)

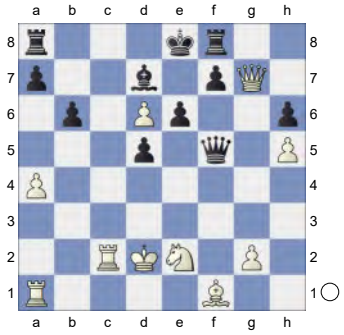


Rf8 19.Rc3→ White is out for blood. Dancing on a razor blade. **19...Qxf2** 3.41/20

[19...Nxa1 is a self mate. 20.Rxc5 Nb3+ 21.Ke1]

[19...Qxd6 1.86/20 20.Kxc2 *(20.Rxc2 Ke7±)* 20...Qb4]

20.Rxc2 Qf5

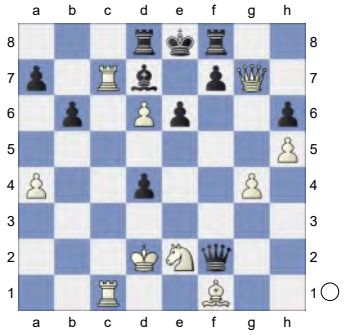


21.g4 Qf2 22.Rac1 Rd8 4.60/19

[⌓22...Qh2 2.88/18 23.g5 hxg5]

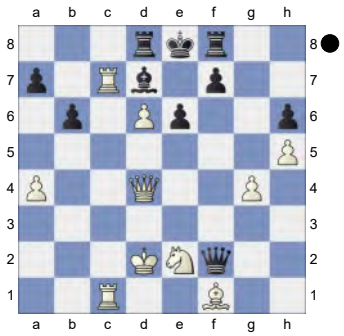
23.Rc7 d4? 6.22/24

[23...Qh2 3.57/18 24.R1c6 Qf2 25.Rxa7 Qf3]



24.Qxd4

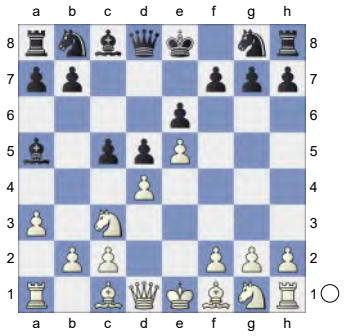
(Diagram)



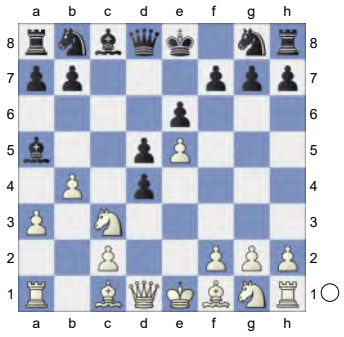
Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.68
1-0

66 **C17**
□ **So,Wesley** **2757**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
SuperUnited CRO Blitz 2024 (13.4)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Ba5**

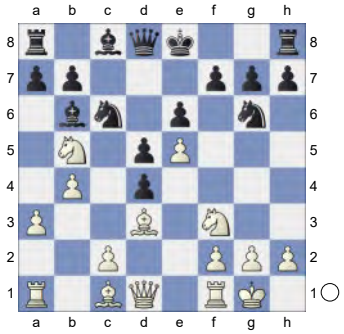


6.b4 cxd4

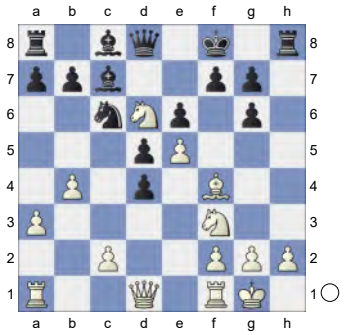


7.Nb5 0.48/23
[7.Qg4!± 0.87/22 Kf8 8.bxa5 *(8.Qxd4 Bb6∓)* 8...dxc3 9.a4]
7...Bb6
[7...Bc7 8.f4 Bd7 9.Nf3 Bxb5 10.Bxb5+ Nc6 11.Bd3 Nge7 12.0-0 Bb6 13.Kh1 Qd7 14.Rb1 Nf5 15.a4 a6 16.a5 Ba7 17.Bxf5 exf5 18.Ba3 Rc8 19.b5 axb5 20.Rxb5 Nd8 21.Qb1 Rc3 22.e6 1-0 Nakamura,H (2787)-Akobian,V (2647) ch-USA 2018 Saint Louis USA (10.5)]
8.Nf3 0.07/21 White is much more active.
[8.Nxd4 a5=]
[8.f4± 0.71/21]
8...Nc6= 9.Bd3
[9.Nbxd4 Bxd4 10.Nxd4 Nxe5∓]
9...Nge7N 0.57/20
[9...Kf8= 0.03/22]
[9...f6 10.Qe2 fxe5 11.Nxe5 Nf6 12.Bb2 0-0 13.Nxc6 bxc6 14.Nxd4 Qd6 15.Nf3 a5 16.0-0 axb4 17.Be5 Qe7 18.axb4 Rxa1 19.Bxa1 Qxb4 20.h3 Ne4 21.Bxe4 Qxe4 22.Qd2 c5 23.Re1 Qg6 24.Ne5 1-0 Berg,E (2540)-Campos Moreno,J (2470) II Open Calvia ESP 2005 (9) Qf5 25.Re3 d4 26.Re1 Bc7 27.Ng4 h5 28.Nh2 Bxh2+ 29.Kxh2 Qxf2 30.Re2 Qf4+ 31.Qxf4 Rxf4 32.Bb2 Rf5 33.Kg3 Kf7 34.Bc1 e5 35.h4 Ke6 36.Rf2 Rxf2 37.Kxf2 Kd5 38.Bg5 Bf5 39.c3 0-1 Chapter,D (2544)-Destruels Moreno,F (2640) Monaco (rapid) 61/(345) 1994 (3)]
10.0-0 0.00/21
[10.Qe2± 0.57/20 Kf8 11.Nd6]
10...Ng6 0.41/21
[10...0-0= 0.00/21 might be stronger.]

(Diagram)

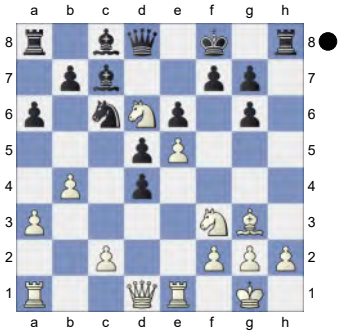


11.Bxg6± **hxg6** **12.Nd6+** -0.22/20
[12.Nbxd4 Bxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxe5∓]
[12.a4!± 0.61/21]
12...Kf8= aiming for ...Nc6xe5! **13.Bf4** -0.38/24
[13.Re1= 0.00/21]
13...Bc7 **14.Nb5!** Excellent horsemanship. **14...Bb6!** **15.Nd6** b4-b5 is the strong threat. **15...Bc7**
[15...a6 16.a4 *(16.Ng5 Nxe5 17.Nxc8* Remove Defender *Rxc8∓)*]

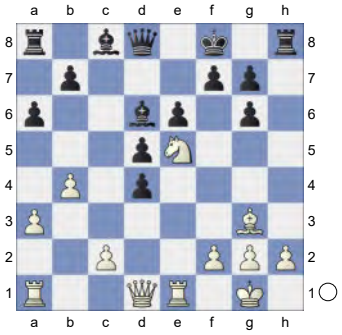


16.Nb5!
[16.Nxd4 Nxe5 17.Bxe5 Bxd6-+ 18.Bxd6+ Qxd6-+]
16...Bb6! **17.Re1** -0.54/20
[17.Nfxd4 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Qh4-+]
17...a6!∓ **18.Nd6** Strongly threatening Nf3-g5.
[18.Nbxd4 Nxd4 19.Nxd4 Qh4-+]
18...Bc7! **19.Bg3**

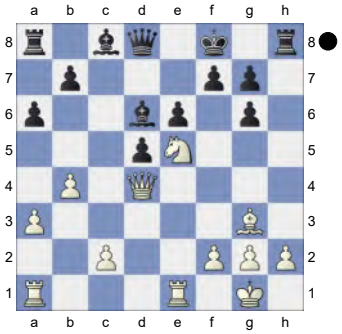
(Diagram)



Nxe5! Remove Defender **20.Nxe5**
[20.Bxe5 Bxd6]
20...Bxd6
[20...Qxd6? loses. 21.Qf3+- *(21.Qxd4 Qb6=; 21.Nxg6+ fxg6 22.Bxd6+ Bxd6+-; 21.Qxd4 Qe7=; 21.Nxg6+ fxg6 22.Bxd6+ Bxd6+-)*]



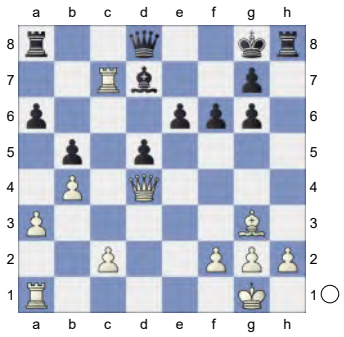
21.Qxd4



Bxe5! **22.Rxe5** **b5** -0.62/22
[22...f6∓ -1.10/21 23.Re2 e5 24.Qc5+ Kf7]
23.Re3 **Kg8** **24.Rc3** **f6** -0.17/23
[24...Bd7∓ -0.55/22 deserves consideration.]
25.Rc7

[25.Rd1 simplifies e5 26.Qxd5+ Qxd5 27.Rxd5 Kh7 28.h4]

25...Bd7



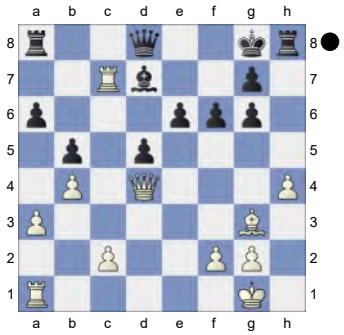
26.h4 Rc8 27.Ra7 -1.42/21 **Ra8** -0.42/24 **28.Rc7 Rc8 29.Ra7** -1.27/19

[Better is 29.Rb7∓ -0.51/21 Bc6 30.Ra7]

29...Ra8 -0.82/19

[⌓29...Rxc2∓ -1.27/19 Threatens to win with ...Rc2-c4. 30.Qd3 *(30.Rxa6 Qc8)* 30...Rc4]

30.Rc7!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/ Black=0.27 (precise)

½-½

67 **C19**

☐ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2755**

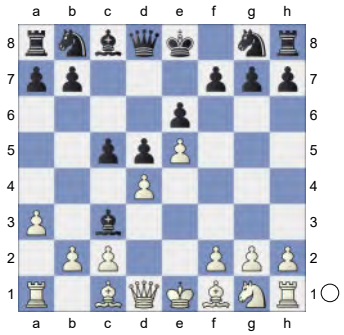
■ **Martinez Ramirez,L.** **2441**

Titled Tue 19th Nov Early (3) 19.11.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

There are times when the White dark-squared bishop can dominate the h4-d8 diagonal. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qa5 8.Bd2 c4

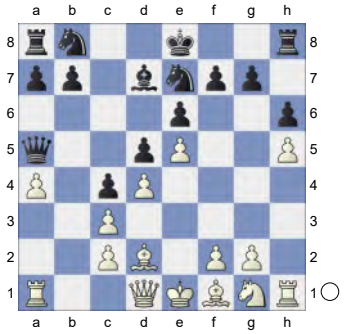
[8...Nbc6 9.Rb1 b6 10.Bb5 c4 11.Qg4 Rg8 12.Bxc6+ Nxc6 13.h5 h6 14.Ne2 Ne7 15.Qh4 Bd7 16.g4 Ba4 17.Rb2 Qa6 18.Ng3 Qb7 19.g5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 Qd7 21.Kd2 Nf5 22.Qf4 b5 23.Rbb1 Iordachescu,V (2589)-Istratescu,A (2656) 21st Abu Dhabi Masters 2014 The Week in Chess 1034 [GM Valeriy Aveskulov] 1-0]

9.a4N

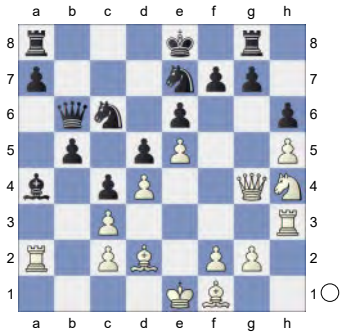
[9.f4 Nbc6 10.h5 Bd7 11.Nf3 h6 12.Be2 0-0-0 13.Qc1 Nf5 14.Kf2 Rdf8 15.a4 Re8 16.Qb2 Nb8 17.Rhb1 Bc6 18.Qb4 Qd8 19.Qc5 b6 20.Qa3 a5 21.Rh1 Qc7 22.g4 Ne7 23.g5 Nf5 Giacomelli,B-Butti,E Kuala Lumpur 1943 CBM 131 [Machulsky,A] 0-1 (76) 24.Nh4 Nxh4 25.Rxh4 Bd7 26.Rg1 Qc6 27.g6 fxg6 28.Rxg6 Qxa4 29.Qxa4 Bxa4 30.Bg4 Bd7 31.Rxg7 Nc6 32.Rh1 Rhg8 33.Rg6 Ne7 34.Rxg8 Rxg8 35.Bf3 Nf5 36.Ra1 Kb7 37.Re1 b5 38.Ra1 Kb6 De Amorim,R (1650)-Bianchini,M (1184) Jundiai 2023 1-0 (76) 39.Bc1 b4 40.Rb1 Ba4 41.Bd1 Ng3 42.cxb4 Ne4+ 43.Kf1 c3

44.bxa5+ Kxa5 45.Ra1 Ng3+ 46.Kf2 Nf5 47.Be3 Rg3 48.Bf3 Rh3 49.Kg2 Rh4 50.Bf2 Rxf4 51.Rd1 Bxc2 52.Rc1 Be4 53.Bxe4 Rxe4 De Agustin,M-Alonso Leira,J Madrid 1943 CBM 118 [Moskalenko,Viktor] 0-1 (76)]

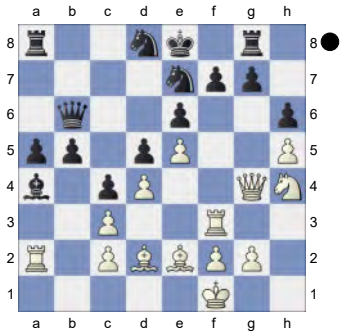
9...Bd7 10.h5 h6



White is slightly better. **11.Rh3 Bxa4 12.Qg4 Rg8 13.Nf3** White has compensation. **13...b5 14.Nh4 Qb6 15.Ra2 Nbc6**



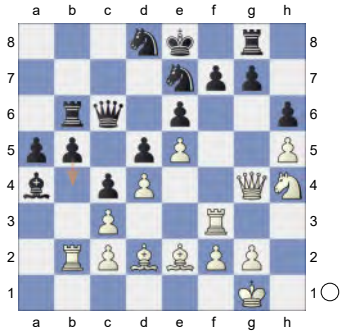
16.Rf3 Nd8 17.Be2 a5 18.Kf1 -0.42/22
[18.Qg3= 0.15/20]



18...Qc6 0.16/20
[18...b4!∓ -0.42/22 19.Rxa4 b3 20.cxb3 cxb3]

19.Kg1 Rb8 20.Rb2 Against b4

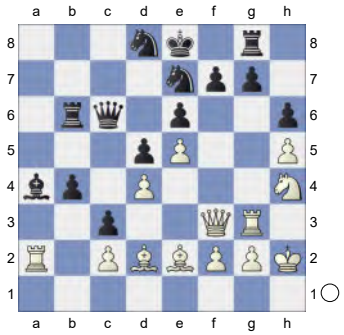
20...Rb6



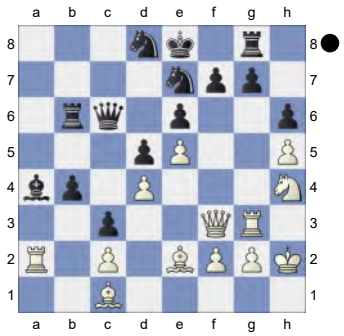
21.Rg3 -0.27/24
[⩲21.Bd1! 0.21/22]

21...Qb7 22.Ra2! Qc6 23.Qf3 b4 24.cxb4 axb4 25.Kh2 -1.37/19
[25.Be1!∓ -0.64/20]

25...c3!∓



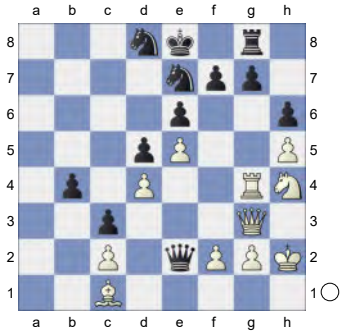
26.Bc1



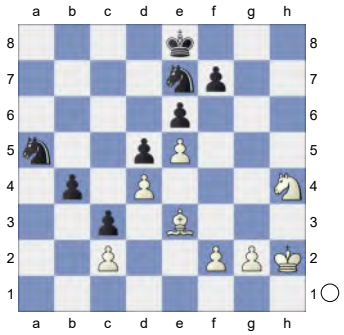
Bb5 Hoping for ...Bxe2.
[Much weaker is 26...b3?! 27.cxb3 Rxb3 28.Rc2=]

27.Bxb5 Qxb5
[Worse is 27...Rxb5 28.Rg4∓]

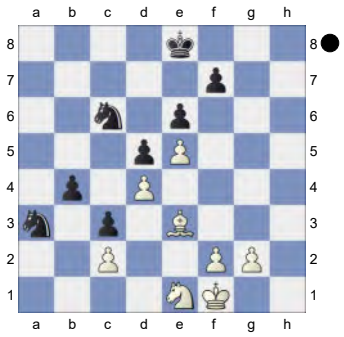
28.Rg4 Ra6 29.Rxa6 Qxa6 30.Qg3? -5.58/22
[30.Bf4 -1.86/21]
30...Qe2-+



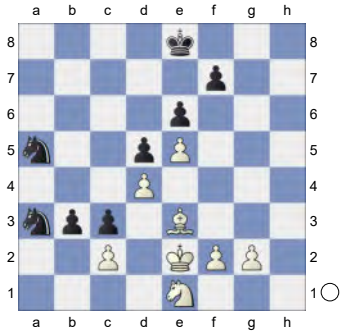
31.Rxg7 Rxg7 32.Qxg7 Qxh5 33.Qxh6 -7.56/24
[⚟33.Qh8+ -4.02/23 Kd7 34.Qxh6 Qxh6 35.Bxh6]
33...Qxh6 34.Bxh6 Endgame KBN-KNN **34...Ndc6 35.Be3 Na5**



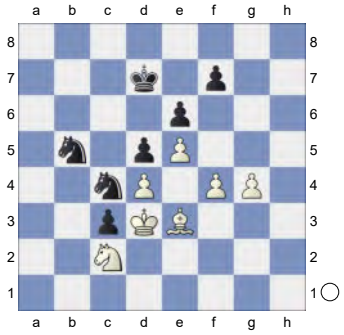
36.Nf3 Nc4 37.Kg1 Na3 38.Ne1 Nc6 Threatens to win with ...Nxc2! **39.Kf1**



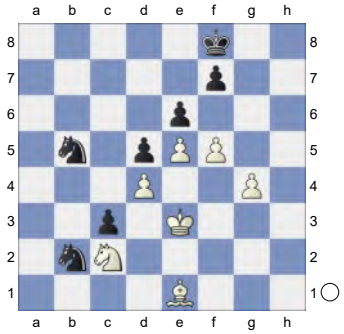
Na5? -1.44/28 Pair of Knights!
[39...Nxc2!-+ -7.69/24 40.Nxc2 b3]
40.Ke2∓ b3? 0.30/21
[40...N5c4∓ -1.57/26 White must now prevent ...Nxc2! 41.Kd1 Kd7]



41.cxb3= Nxb3 42.Kd3 Nb5 43.Nc2! Kd7 44.g4 Na5 45.f4 0.01/24
[45.Nb4⩲ 0.38/25 deserves consideration.]
45...Nc4

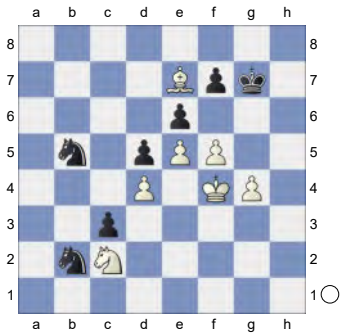


46.Bf2 Nb2+ 47.Ke2 Ke7 48.Be1 Kd7 49.Ke3 Ke7 50.f5 Kf8

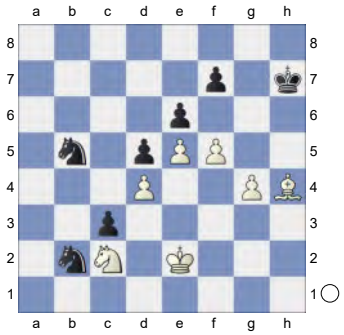


51.Kf4 Kg7 52.Bh4 Nd3+ 53.Ke3 Nb2 54.Be7 Nc4+ 55.Kf4 Nb2

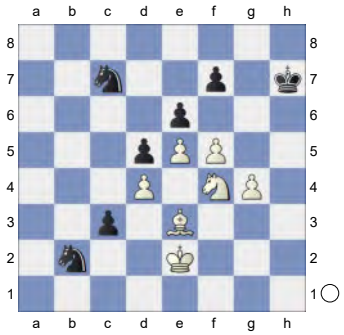
(Diagram)



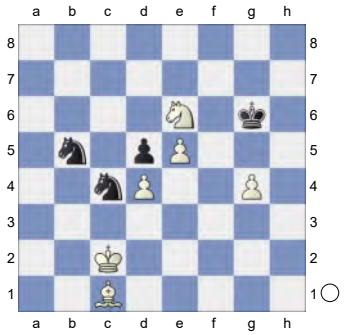
56.Bb4 Nd3+ 57.Ke3 Nb2 0.01/28
[57...Nxb4∓ -0.33/28 58.Nxb4 Kh6]
58.Ke2 Kh7 59.Be7 Kg7 60.Bh4 Kh7



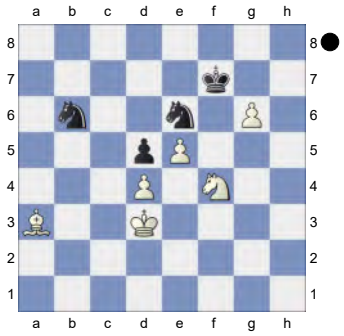
61.Bf2 Kg7 62.Nb4 Kh6 63.Be3+ Kg7 64.Nd3 Kh7 65.Nf4 Nc7 0.33/23
[65...exf5= 0.00/20 feels stronger. 66.gxf5 c2]



66.Bc1 -0.01/21
[66.f6± 0.33/23]
66...Nc4 1.32/23
[66...Kg7= -0.01/21]
67.Kd3 Nb5 2.13/23
[67...Na5± 1.36/24 is a better defense. 68.Kxc3 Nc6]
68.fxe6+- fxe6 69.Nxe6 Strongly threatening Nf4. **69...c2** 3.34/23
[69...Na5 1.85/24 was called for. 70.Nd8 Kg7]
70.Kxc2 Kg6? 5.59/27
[70...Na5 2.95/25 71.Bb2 Kg8]



71.Kd3 White is clearly winning. **71...Kf7 72.Nf4 Nb6 73.g5 Nc7 74.Ba3 Ne6 75.g6+**

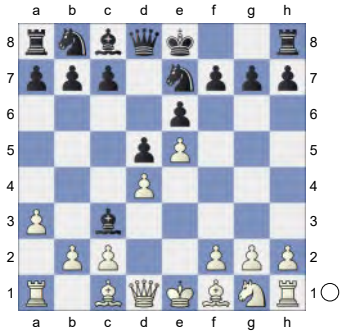


Never resign too early!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.36
1-0

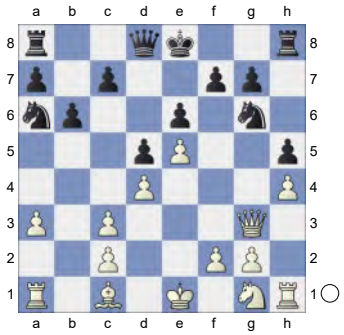
68 **C16**
□ **THE_KILLER1** **2755**
■ **Donegerous** **2591**
Blitz 31.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7

5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6



11.Bg5 Qd7 12.Ne2 Nb8 13.Qf3 White is slightly better.

[13.0-0 Nc6 14.Qf3 Nge7 15.Nf4 g6 16.Bf6 Rg8 17.Nh3 Nf5 18.Qf4 Nce7 19.f3 Qc6 20.g4 Qxc3 21.gxf5 gxf5+ 22.Kh1 Ng6 23.Qh6 Kd7 24.Rad1 Qxa3 25.Qxh5 a5 26.Qh7 Raf8 27.h5 Ne7 2.c4 e5 3.♘f3 d6 4. d4_25079 (2496)-Cota (2274) ICCF email 2023 CT-2392 [John Watson] 1-0]

13...Qc6 14.Ng3 0.32/18

[14.0-0± 0.71/18]

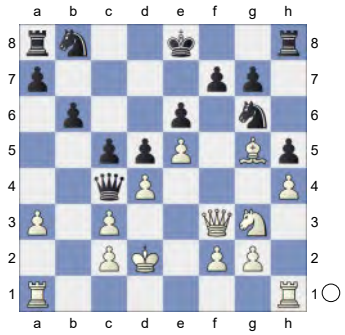
14...Qc4N 0.97/19

[Black should play 14...Nd7± 0.32/18 15.Bd2 Qa4 16.Nxh5 Rh7 17.Rc1 c5 18.Nf4 Nxh4 19.Qg4 Nf3+ 20.Ke2 Nfxe5 21.Qg3 Qb5+ 22.Nd3 Rxh1 23.Rxh1 Ng6 24.Rh7 Nf6 25.a4 Qc4 26.Rxg7 Nh5 27.Qc7 Nxg7 28.Qc6+ Ke7 29.Bg5+ f6 Molaei,M (2645)-Flyckt Olsen,J (2620) corr 1993 Telechess CBM 89 [Nielsen,Peter(Analyse 2016)] ½-½ (33)]

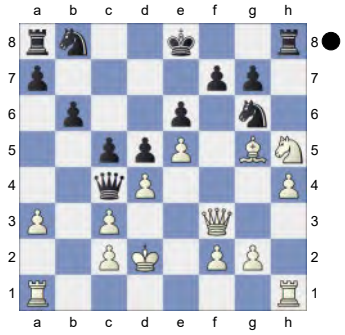
15.Kd2 -0.01/19

[15.Rh3± 0.97/19 Rg8 16.Nxh5]

15...c5!=



16.Nxh5



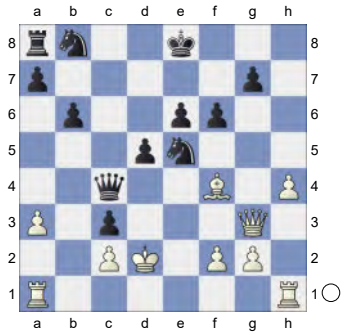
Rxh5 17.Qxh5 cxd4 18.Qf3 -1.12/20

[18.Rhd1= 0.01/18 keeps the balance.]

18...Nxe5∓ 19.Qg3 f6 20.Bf4

[But not 20.f4? Ned7 21.Qd3 dxc3+ 22.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 23.Kxc3 Nc6-+]

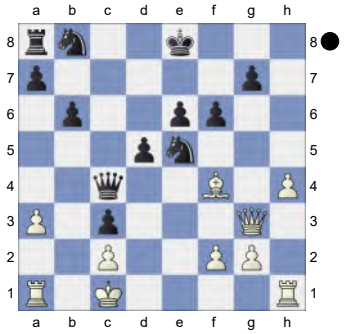
20...dxc3+



21.Kc1 -1.42/21

[⊿21.Ke1 -0.91/19 Nbc6 22.Bxe5

fxe5 23.Rc1 *(23.Qg6+ Kf8∓)*]

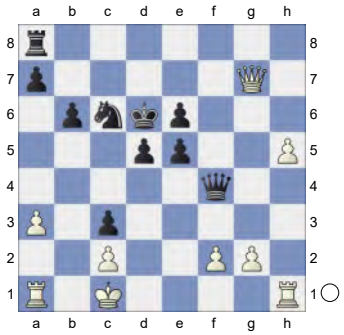


21...Nbc6! &Nero is much more active. The white rooks are badly placed. **22.Bxe5 fxe5 23.Qg6+ Kd7 24.Qxg7+ Kd6** Strongly threatening ...Qf4+. **25.h5** -1.75/21

[25.Qf6∓ -0.84/19 might work better.]

25...Qf4+-+

[Worse is 25...Qe2 26.Qg3=]



Black has strong compensation. **26.Kb1 Qa4→** -0.14/22 Black mounts an attack. Chess con chili.

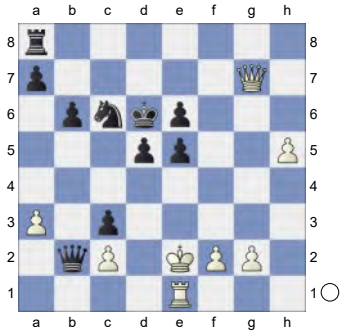
[26...Qxf2∓ -1.41/17 Threatens to win with ...Nd4. 27.h6 Nd4]

27.Re1? -10.16/21 White does not recover from this.

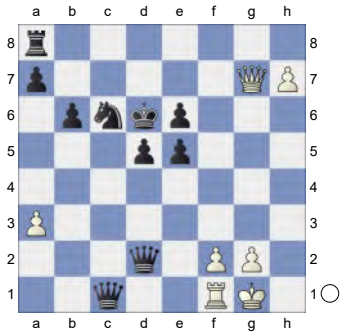
[27.Ra2= -0.14/22 Qb5+ 28.Ka1]

27...Qb5+ 28.Kc1 Qb2+ 29.Kd1 Qxa1+ 30.Ke2 Qb2

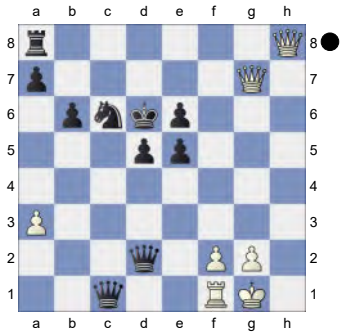
(Diagram)



31.h6 Qxc2+ 32.Kf1 Qd3+ 33.Kg1 Qd2 34.Rf1 c2 35.h7 c1Q



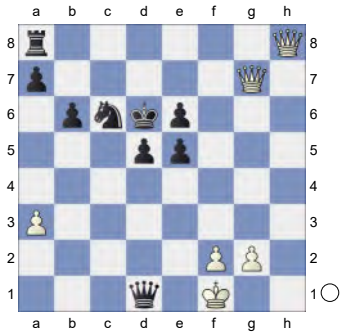
36.h8Q



Qxf1+! 37.Kxf1

[37.Kh2 Qf4+]

37...Qd1#

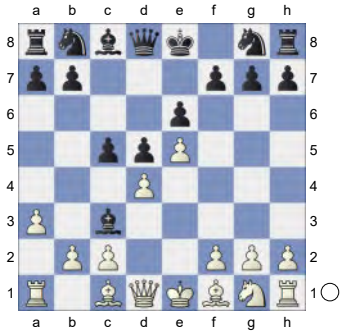


Weighted Error Value: White=0.95/

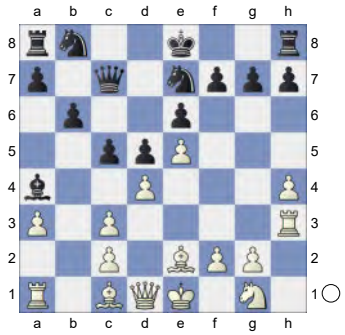
Black=0.24 (precise)
0-1

69 **C19**
□ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2754**
■ **Hamidov,Allahverdi** **2200**
Titled Tue 28th Jan Early blitz (2)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

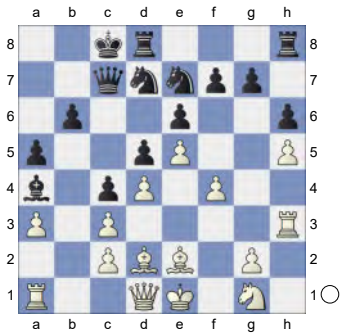


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7 8.Rh3 b6
[8...Nbc6 9.a4 *(9.h5 h6 10.Nf3 Bd7 11.Be2 Rc8 12.Bf4 a6 13.dxc5 Qa5 14.Qd2 Qxc5 15.Kf1 Nf5 16.a4 Nd8 17.Bd3 Qxc3 18.Qd1 b5 19.Kg1 bxa4 20.Bd2 Qc5 21.Bc1 Qb6 22.Ba3 Rc3 23.Qc1 Nc6* Reinecke,R (2123)-Nikolaus,H (1820) BDF 2024 Fernschach2025 [Bauer, Elmar] 1-0 (34)*)* 9...Bd7 10.Ba3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.f4 Qa5+ 13.c3 fxe5 14.fxe5 0-0 15.Qd2 Rf7 16.Bd3 Raf8 17.Nf3 h6 18.h5 Qd8 19.Bc2 Rf4 20.0-0-0 Na5 21.Qd3 R8f5 22.Rg1 Rg4 23.Nd2 Eljanov,P (2695)-Nisipeanu,L (2600) Germany 2023 Mega2024 Update 05 [Kitty Kat] 1-0 (36)]
9.Bb5+N Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[9.h5 h6 10.Qg4 Kf8 11.Qf4 Ba6 12.Rf3 Nec6 13.Ne2 Nd8 14.Qh4 Nbc6 15.Nf4 Bxf1 16.Ng6+ Kg8 17.Nxh8 Ba6 18.Bxh6 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Qxe5+ 20.Re3 Qf5 21.Qg3 Qh7 22.Bg5 Kxh8 23.h6 Kg8 Engels,L-De Freitas,M Sao Paulo 1947 EXT 2012 [ChessBase II] 1-0 (32) 24.0-0-0 f6 25.Bxf6 Qxh6 26.Bxg7 Qxg7 27.Qh4 Kf8 28.Rg3 Qe5 29.f4 Qf5 30.Rg5 Qf6 31.Rg8+ Ke7 32.Re8+ 1-0 (32) Engels-Perez Alcozar Rio de Janeiro 1957 French Nc3 [Myers]]
9...Bd7 10.Be2N
[10.Bd3 c4 0.54/20 *(10...cxd4=* 0.15/20 *11.cxd4 Qc3+ 12.Bd2 Qxd4)* 11.Be2± Ba4 12.h5 h6 13.g4 Nd7 14.f4 0-0-0 15.Nf3 f6 16.Be3 fxe5 1.03/22 *(⌓16...Bc6* 0.71/18 *)* 17.fxe5 1-0 Nepomniachtchi,I (2770)-Hernando Rodrigo,J (2233) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st May Late blitz 2024 (3)]
10...Ba4

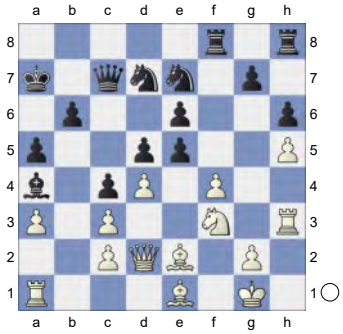


The position is equal. **11.Bd2 Nd7 12.h5 h6 13.Bd3 c4 14.Be2 a5 15.f4 0-0-0**

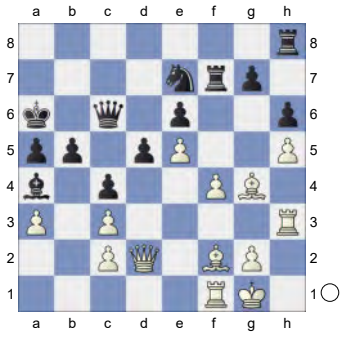
(Diagram)



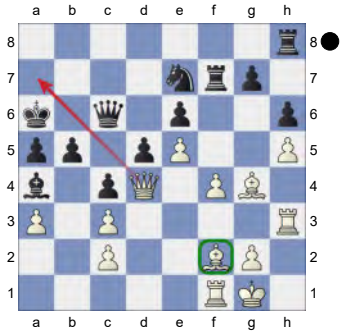
16.Nf3 f6 17.Kf2 0.40/19
[17.Nh4± 0.81/19]
17...Kb7 18.Kg1 Ka7 19.Be1 Rdf8 20.Qd2 fxe5



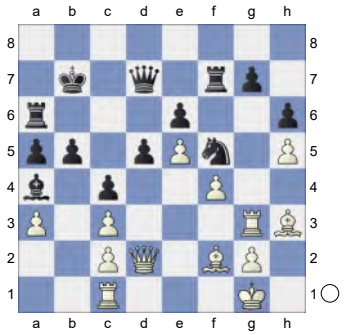
21.Nxe5 0.20/21
[21.fxe5± 0.53/22 Nb8 22.Nh4]
21...Nxe5 0.57/21
[21...Nf6= 0.20/21 was preferrable.]
22.dxe5± Ka6 23.Bf2 b5 1.86/22
[23...Rf7± 0.58/19]
24.Rf1 0.82/22
[24.Bg4+- 1.86/22 has better winning chances.]
24...Rf7 1.28/24
[⌓24...Nf5 0.82/22]
25.Bg4± Qc6



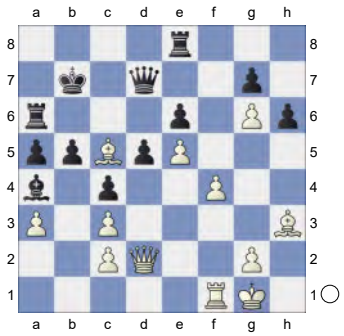
26.Qd4



Ra8 Against Qa7+ **27.Rc1 Kb7 28.Rg3 Ra6 29.Bh3 Qd7 30.Qd2 Nf5**

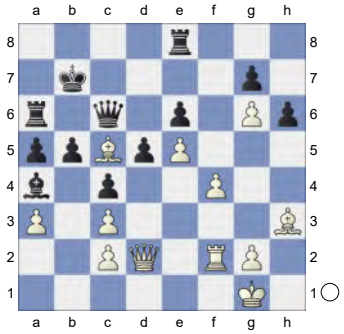


31.Rg6 Ne7 32.Bc5 &Bianco is more active. **32...Nxg6** 1.99/20
[32...Qc7± 0.61/19 33.Bxe7 Rxe7]
33.hxg6+- Re7 34.Rf1? 0.68/18
[White should play 34.f5+- 2.28/21]
34...Re8? 2.60/20
[34...Rc6!± 0.68/18 35.Bxe7 Qxe7]

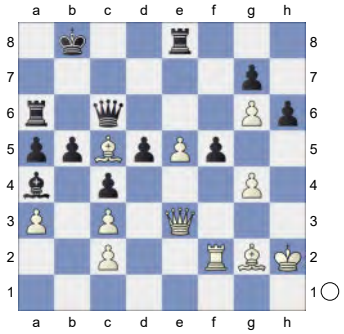


35.Rf2 1.07/19
[35.f5!+- 2.60/20 is the precise move to win.]
35...Qc6 2.65/21
[35...Rc6± 1.07/19 is a better

defense. 36.Be3 Qc7]

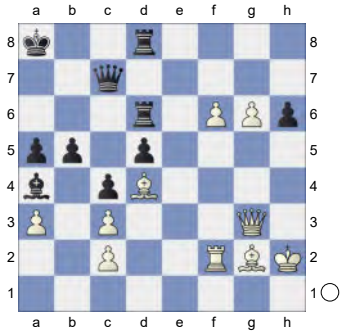


36.Qe3 1.55/19
[36.Qd4+- 2.65/21]
36...Ka8 2.31/19
[36...Qc7± 1.55/19]
37.Kh2 White has strong compensation.
37...Qd7 2.08/19
[37...Qc7± 1.47/19 might work better.]
38.g4 Qc6 2.55/19
[⌓38...Qc8 1.79/18]
39.Bg2 And now f5 would win. **39...Kb8**
40.f5 Hoping for f6. **40...exf5**

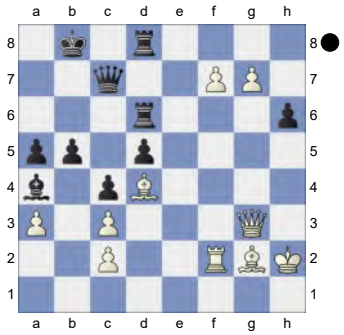


41.gxf5 Qc7 42.Bd4 A strong pair of Bishops. **42...Rd8 43.Qg3** White is clearly winning. **43...Ka8** 8.68/17
[⌓43...b4 5.09/18 44.axb4 axb4 45.cxb4 h5]
44.f6 gxf6 45.exf6 Rad6

(Diagram)



46.g7 5.76/15
[⌓46.f7 20.38/19]
46...Kb8 47.f7

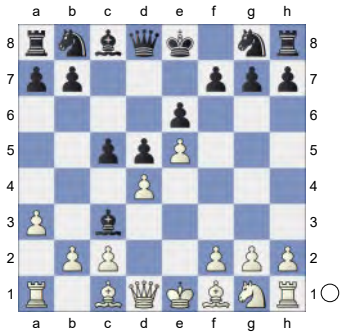


Weighted Error Value: White=0.46/ Black=0.43
1-0

70 **C18**
□ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2754**
■ **Masruri,R.** **2327**
Titled Tue 14th Jan Early blitz (3)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
My first tournament in the US after almost 10 years! I was really glad to participate in Saint Louis, especially in such a strong field! My first game was against a strong GM from Armenia, Aram Hakobyan.Mein erstes Turnier in den USA nach fast 10 Jahren! Ich habe mich wirklich gefreut, in Saint Louis

teilzunehmen, vor allem in einem so starken Feld! Meine erste Partie war gegen einen starken GM aus Armenien, Aram Hakobyan. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



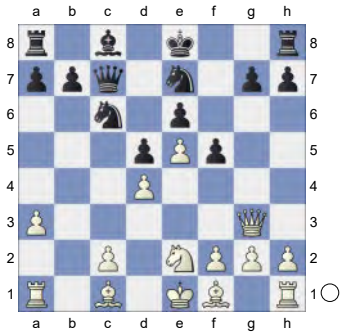
6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Nc6 0.81/18

[8...Ne7⩲ 0.46/18]

9.Ne2 0.48/18

[9.Nf3± 0.81/18]

9...cxd4 10.cxd4 Nge7



11.h4N Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. White is better.

[Much worse is 11.Qxg7?! Rg8 12.Qxh7 Nxd4=]

[11.c3 0-0 12.h4 Na5 13.Nf4 Nb3 14.Rb1 Nxc1 15.Rxc1 Qa5 16.Nh5 Rf7 17.Qg5 Kh8 18.Nf4 Qxa3 19.Kd2 Bd7 20.Be2 Rc8 21.Rh3 b5 22.Bh5 g6 23.Bxg6 Rg7 24.h5 Kg8 25.Qh6 hxg6 Hakobyan,A (2613)-Abasov,N (2646) Saint Louis 2022 CBM 213 Extra [Abasov,Nijat] 0-1 (32) 26.hxg6 Nxg6 27.Nxg6 Kf7 28.Nf4 Qe7 29.Qh5+ Kg8 30.Qh8+ Kf7 31.Qh5+ Kg8 32.Qh8+ ½-½ (32) Bar,R (2381)-Greenfeld,A (2570) Tel Aviv 2001 CI1-130 [Greenfeld,Alon]]

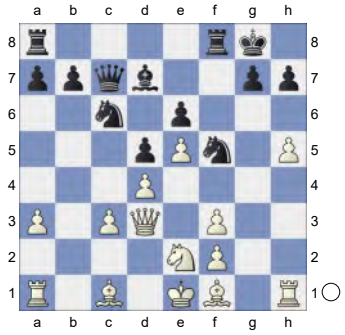
11...0-0 12.h5 f4 13.Qd3

[But not 13.Bxf4 Nf5 14.Qc3 Nfxd4=]

13...Nf5N

[13...f3 14.gxf3 Nf5 15.f4 0.60/20 *(15.h6± 1.16/18)* 15...b6⩲ 16.Bh3 Nce7 17.a4 0.38/19 *(17.Be3± 0.72/17)* 17...a5!⩲ 18.Nc3 Ba6 19.Nb5 Bxb5 20.axb5 1-0 Vandevoort,P (2357)-Vogel,J (2213) NED-chT 0910 2009 (9.9)]

14.c3 f3 15.gxf3 Bd7



16.Bh3 Rac8 1.16/20

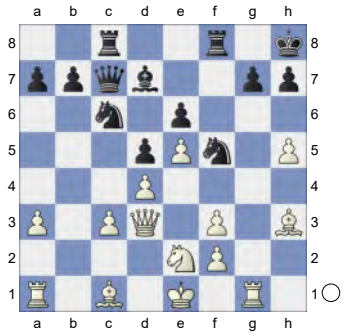
[⌓16...Na5 0.71/17]

17.Rg1 0.79/16

[⌓17.h6 1.16/20]

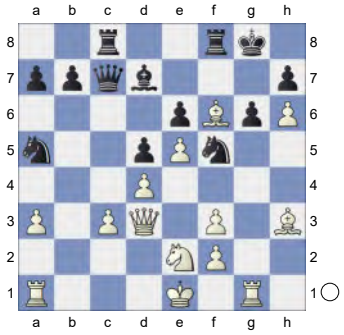
17...Kh8 1.16/19

[⌓17...Nh4 0.79/16 18.Bg4 Ne7]

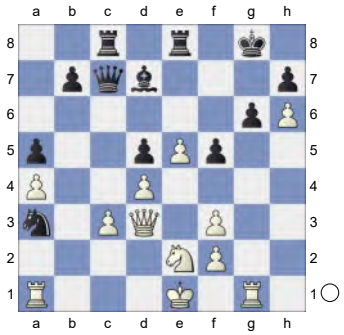


18.h6!± And now Bxf5 would win. **18...g6 19.Bg5 Na5 20.Bf6+** 0.69/20

[20.Kf1± 1.44/17]
20...Kg8 1.66/17
[20...Rxf6!± 0.69/20 21.exf6 Nc4]

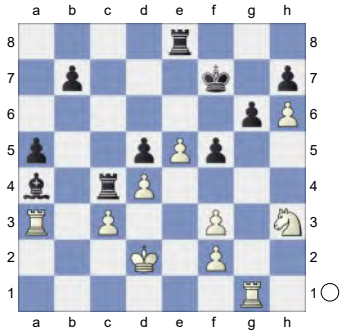


21.Bxf5+- exf5 22.Be7 Rfe8 23.Bb4 0.33/22 &Bianco is more active.
[White should play 23.Bh4± 1.51/19]
23...Nc4± 24.a4 a5 25.Ba3 Nxa3 1.13/20
[25...Bxa4= 0.24/19 26.Bc1 Bb5]

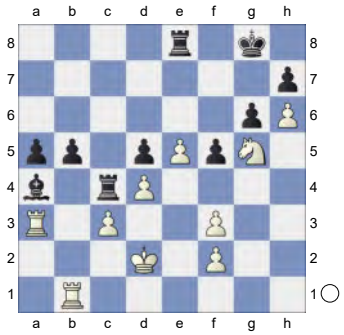


26.Rxa3± Qc4 2.31/22
[26...Qb6± 1.33/19]
27.Qxc4 Rxc4 28.Nf4 Bc6 29.Kd2 Kf7 30.Nh3 Bxa4? 3.84/22
[30...Rxa4 2.05/20 is a better defense. 31.Rxa4 Bxa4]

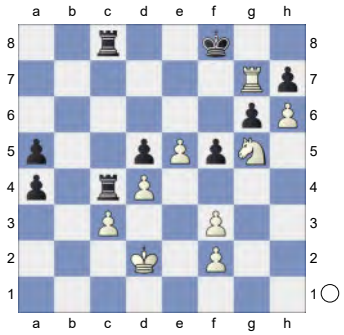
(Diagram)



31.Ng5++- Kg8 32.Rb1 b5 10.60/22
[⌓32...Re7 4.39/22 33.Rb6 Rc6]

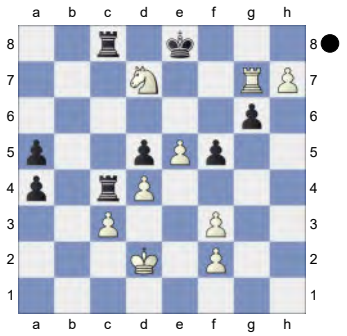


33.Rxa4! bxa4 Endgame KRR-KRN
[33...b4 34.Rxa5]
34.Rb7 Threatening mate with Rg7+.
34...Rec8 35.Rg7+ Deflection **35...Kf8**



36.Nxh7+ Ke8 37.Nf6+ Kf8 38.Nd7+ Ke8 39.h7

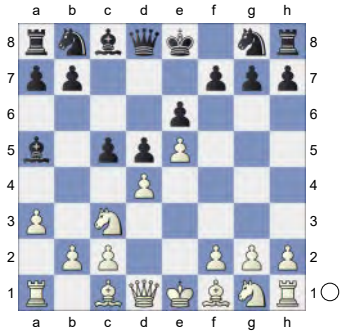
(Diagram)



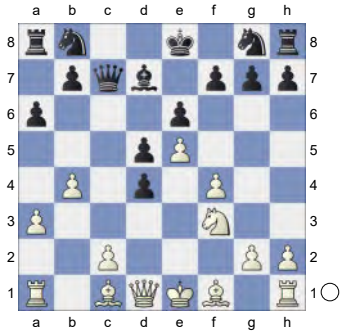
Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.46
1-0

71 **C18**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2753**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2773**
Online Olym KO Stage 2020 rapid (2.11)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356'' Chandler,Murray G: 'Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**
[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4* Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62)*; 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½ (45) *)* 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]
[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray G] 1-0]
5.a3 Ba5

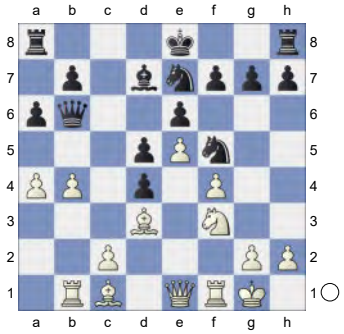


6.b4 cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.f4 Bd7 9.Nxc7+ Qxc7 10.Nf3 a6

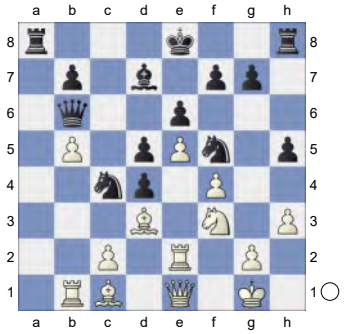


11.a4 White has compensation. **11...Ne7**
[11...Qc3+ 12.Bd2 Qc7 13.Bd3± *(13.Nxd4 Nc6±)*]
12.Bd3 The position is equal. **12...Nf5 13.0-0 Nc6 14.Qe1 Qb6** 0.63/19
[14...Ne3= 0.03/16]

15.Rb1 Nce7

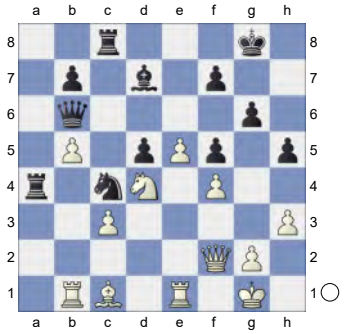


16.b5 0.10/20
[16.a5± 0.44/20 Qc7 17.Bb2]
16...axb5= 17.axb5 Ne3 18.Rf2 Nc4 19.h3 -0.28/18
[19.Bb2 0.08/18 deserves consideration.]
19...Nf5 0.11/20
[19...Bxb5 20.Qb4±]
[⊼19...0-0 -0.28/18]
20.Re2 h5
[20...Bxb5 21.Qb4 Ra5 22.Bd2±]

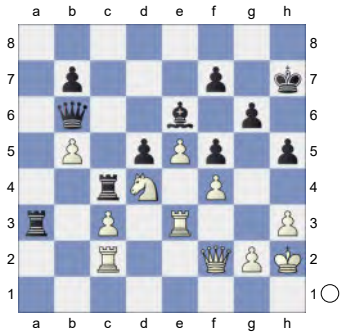


21.Qf2 Ra4
[21...Bxb5? 22.Bxf5 exf5 23.Nxd4±]
22.Re1
[22.Bxf5!? exf5 23.Nxd4=]
22...g6
[22...Bxb5? 23.Bxf5 exf5 24.Nxd4+-]
23.Bxf5 exf5 24.Nxd4 0-0 25.c3 Rc8

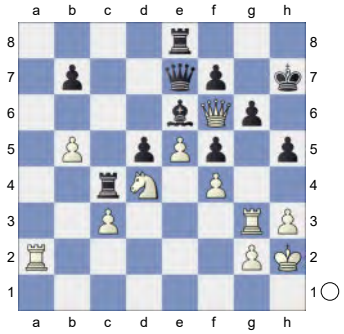
(Diagram)



26.Be3 Nxe3 27.Rxe3 Be6 28.Kh2 Ra3 29.Rc1 Rc4 30.Rc2 Kh7

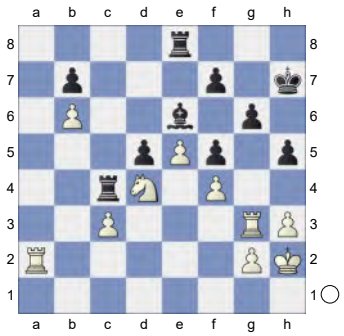


31.Rf3 Qc7 32.Qh4 Qd7 33.Rg3 Strongly threatening Qf6. **33...Ra8 34.Qf6 Re8 35.Ra2 Qe7**

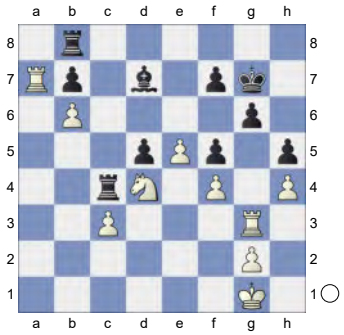


36.Qxe7
[36.Re3 is interesting. h4 37.Qxe7 Rxe7 38.Ra8]
36...Rxe7 37.b6 Re8 1.17/25
[⊼37...h4 0.80/24 38.Re3 Re8]

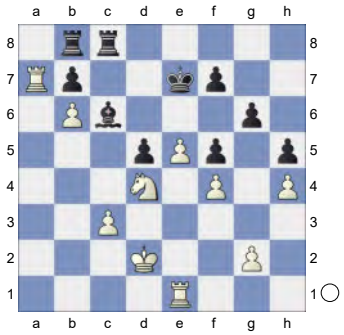
(Diagram)



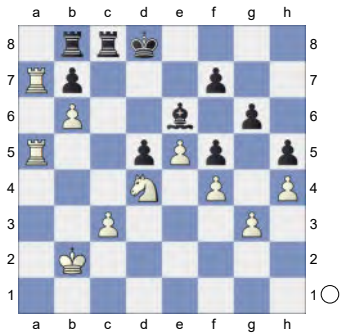
38.h4!± **Kg7** **39.Ra7** **Rb8** **40.Kg1** &Bianco is much more active. **40...Bd7**



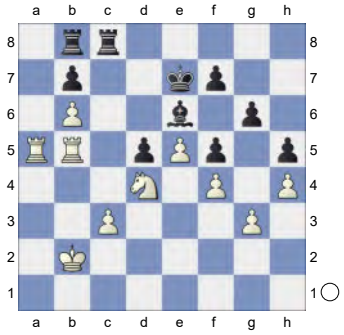
41.Kf2 **Kf8** **42.Ke2** 0.63/23
[42.Rd3± 1.24/22]
42...Ke8 1.67/25
[Better is 42...Ra4± 0.63/23]
43.Kd2 1.13/22
[43.Re3+- 1.67/25]
43...Rcc8 2.00/24
[43...Ke7± 1.13/22]
44.Re3+-
[44.Ra5 Ra8 45.Rxa8 *(45.Rxd5 Ra2+ 46.Ke1 Rb2=)* 45...Rxa8=]
44...Ke7 **45.Re1** **Bc6**



46.Rea1 **Bd7** **47.R1a5** **Be6** **48.g3** **Kd8** **49.Kc2** **Ke7** **50.Kb2** **Kd8**

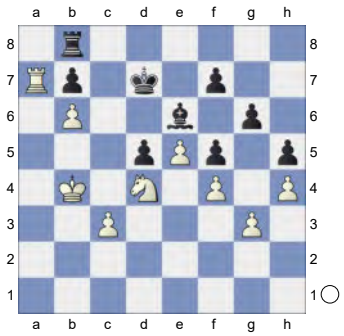


51.Rb5 **Rc4** **52.Raa5** 1.60/29
[52.Nb3+- 3.18/24]
52...Rbc8± **53.Rb3** **Rb8** **54.Rb4** **Rcc8** 2.81/26
[54...Rxb4+ 1.78/26 was necessary. 55.cxb4 Rc8]
55.Rbb5+- **Ke7**

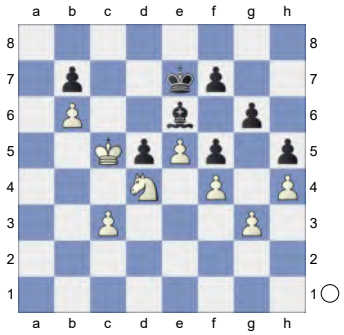


56.Rc5 Rxc8 is the strong threat.
56...Kd7 5.00/25
[56...Bd7 2.80/25 might work better. 57.Rxc8 *(57.Rxd5 Be6±)* 57...Rxc8]
57.Rxc8 **Rxc8** Endgame KRB-KRN
58.Ra7 **Rb8** 6.08/29
[58...Rc6 1.95/28]
59.Kb3 **Kd8** 7.43/28
[⌓59...f6 4.96/26 60.Kb4 *(60.exf6 Bf7±)* 60...fxe5]
60.Kb4 **Kd7**

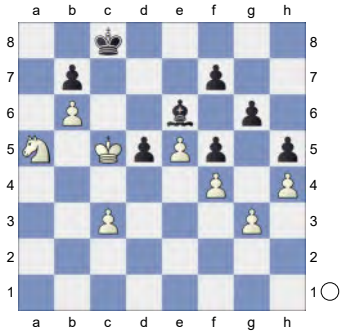
(Diagram)



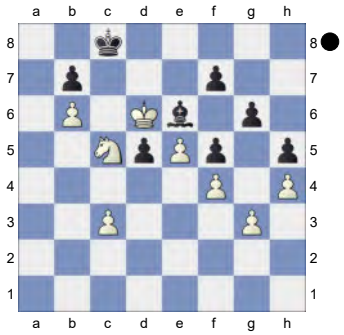
61.Ra5 Rc8 62.Rc5 Rxc5 63.Kxc5 KB-KN **63...Ke7**



64.Nc6+! Kd7
[64...Ke8 65.Kd6]
65.Na5 Kc8



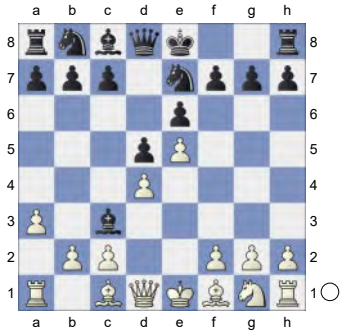
66.Kd6 Kb8 67.Nb3 Threatening mate with Nd4. **67...Kc8 68.Nc5**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.31. An unexpected result.
½-½

72 **C18**
□ **Grube,Joerg** **2752**
■ **Molina,Roberto Junio Brito** **2834**
Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED 2018
[Kitty Kat]

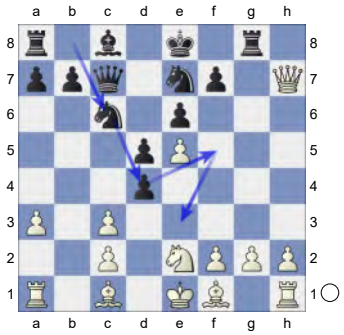
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-

Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)) 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Ne2 Nbc6



11.f4

[11.cxd4 Nxd4! 12.Ra2 Nxe2 13.Bxe2 Rxg2∓]

11...dxc3 12.Nxc3 0.30/19

[12.h4!± 0.63/20 deserves consideration.]

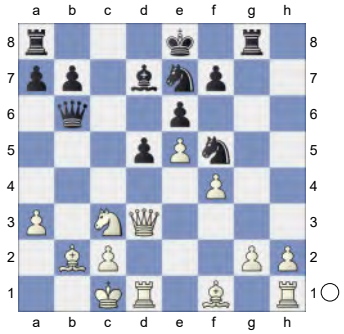
12...Nd4= 13.Bb2 Bd7 14.0-0-0! Qb6 15.Qd3 0.40/20

[15.Nxd5 Nb3+! 16.cxb3 exd5=]

[15.g4!± 0.79/18]

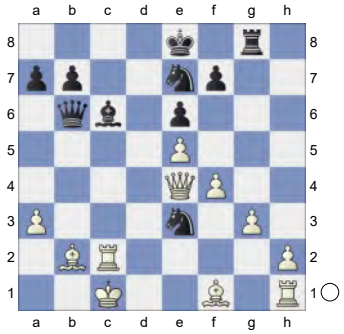
15...Ndf5±

(Diagram)

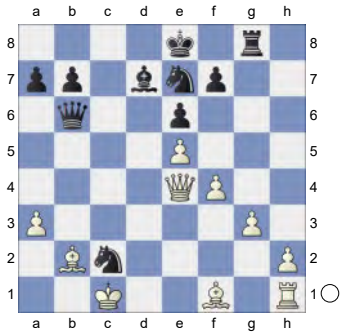


16.Rd2 Rc8 17.g3 Ne3 18.Ne4 -0.19/20 **Rxc2+= 19.Rxc2** Really sharp! **19...dxe4 20.Qxe4** Threatens to win with Bd4. **20...Nxc2**

[Resist 20...Bc6

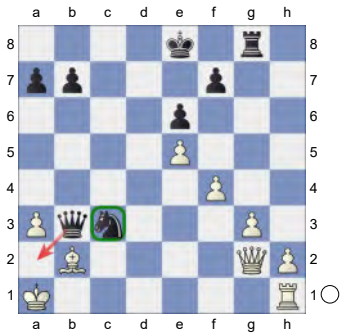


21.Rxc6! Nxc6 22.Bd3±]

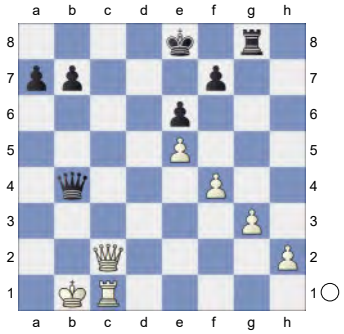


21.Qxc2 Bc6 22.Bg2 Bxg2 23.Qxg2 Nd5 24.Kb1 Nc3+ 25.Ka1 Qb3

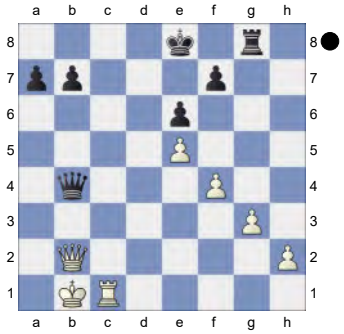
(Diagram)



26.Bxc3 Qxa3+
[Not 26...Qxc3+ 27.Qb2 Qxb2+ 28.Kxb2±]
27.Kb1 Qxc3 28.Rc1! Qb4+ 29.Qb2 Qe4+ 30.Qc2! Qb4+



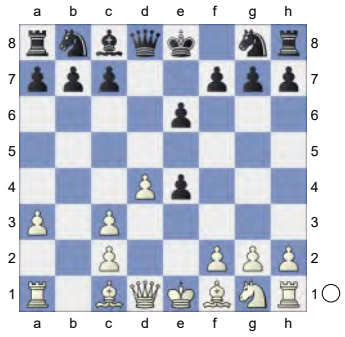
31.Qb2
[31.Ka2!? Kf8 32.Qc5+ Qxc5 33.Rxc5±]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

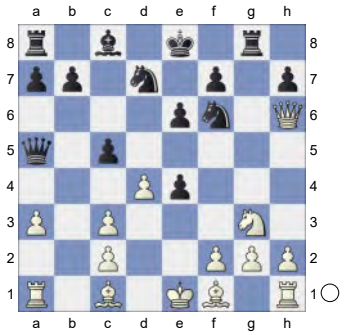
73 **C15**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2751**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2830**
Casablanca rapid (4) 19.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves DEVELOPMENTS The Dzindzi-Indian - Ideas and Trends The Dzindzi-Indian is a brainchild of the famous opening theoretician and my former coach GM Roman Dzindzichashvili. It's a fun and sharp opening known to be a bit risky at the elite level, but a great choice for playing for a win as Black. In this article we will cover the latest developments in this opening, focusing on the "refutation" lines with 6.h4! and 6.e4! Let's take a look! **1.e4** 0.14 **e6** 0.38 **2.d4** 0.41 **d5** 0.35 **3.Nc3** 0.32 **Bb4** 0.68 **4.a3** 0.00 '?!' Inaccuracy. e5 was best.
[4.e5 c5 5.a3 Ba5 6.b4 cxd4 7.Qg4 Kf8 8.Nb5 Bb6]
4...Bxc3+ 0.00 **5.bxc3** 0.00 **dxe4** 0.00



6.Qg4 0.00 **Nf6** 0.00 **7.Qxg7** 0.00 **Rg8** 0.00 **8.Qh6** 0.00 **c5** 0.00 '=' **9.Ne2** 0.00 **Nbd7** 0.66/20
[9...cxd4= 0.00/22 10.Nxd4 *(10.cxd4 Nc6±)* 10...a6]
10.Ng3± 0.69 **Qa5** 0.91
[10...b6 11.Bb5 Rg6 12.Qe3 Qc7 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Qxe4 Bb7 15.Qf4

e5 16.dxe5 Bxg2 17.Rg1 0-0-0 18.Be3 Nxe5 19.Rxg2 Rxg2 20.Qf5+ Kb8 21.Bf4 f6 22.Qxf6 Rg4 23.Kf1 Rxf4 24.Qxf4 Ng6 25.Qxc7+ Dzindzi Indian-N,N _2486 2022]



11.Bd2 0.93

[11.Qd2 Nb6 12.dxc5 Qxc5 13.Qd4 Qxd4 14.cxd4 Bd7 15.c4 Rc8 16.c5 Nbd5 17.Bd2 h5 18.Ne2 b6 19.Rc1 Bb5 20.cxb6 Rxc1+ 21.Nxc1 Bxf1 22.bxa7 Kd7 23.Kxf1 Ra8 24.h4 Rxa7 25.Rh3 Ra4 1-0 Nepomniachtchi,I (2728)-Sjugirov, S (2670) RUS-chT blitz 2015 (11.9)]

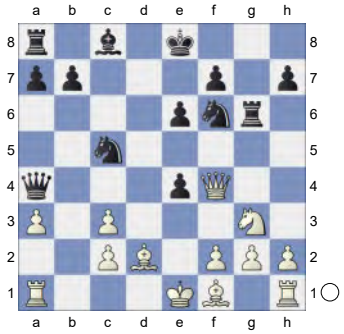
11...Qa4 1.11 **12.dxc5** 0.84 White is better. **12...Rg6N** 0.96

[12...Qxc2 13.Bb5 Qb2 14.Bxd7+ Bxd7 15.0-0 Rg6 16.Qe3 Bc6 17.c4 0-0-0 18.Bc3 Qc2 19.Rac1 Qd3 20.Be5 Ng4 21.Qf4 Nxe5 22.Qxe5 f5 23.Rc3 Qd2 24.Re3 Qd4 25.Qxd4 Rxd4 26.Rc3 Rd2 27.Re1 1-0 Balashov,Y (2505)-Yandemirov,V (2535) ch Elista 1994 (6) e3 28.Rcxe3 f4 29.R3e2 Rxe2 30.Nxe2 Rxg2+ 31.Kf1 e5 32.Nc3 Rg5 33.h4 Rh5 34.Nd5 Rxh4 35.f3 Rh1+ 36.Ke2 Rxe1+ 37.Kxe1 Kd7 38.Nf6+ Ke7 39.Nxh7 Bxf3 40.Ng5 Bc6 41.Ke2 Kf6 0-1 Lareo,F-Lemaire,P Gausdal 1993]

13.Qf4 0.59/19

[13.Qe3± 1.08/21]

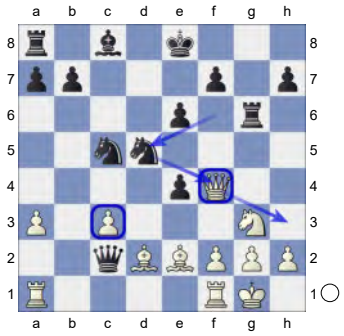
13...Nxc5 0.87



14.Be2 0.00/24 '?!' Inaccuracy. c4 was best.

[14.c4!± 0.78/20 b6 15.Be2 Ba6 16.Bb4 0-0-0 17.Bxc5 bxc5 18.0-0 Qc6 19.Rad1 Rxd1]

14...Qxc2= 0.01 aiming for ...Bc8-d7. The position is equal. **15.0-0** 0.00 **Nd5** 0.00

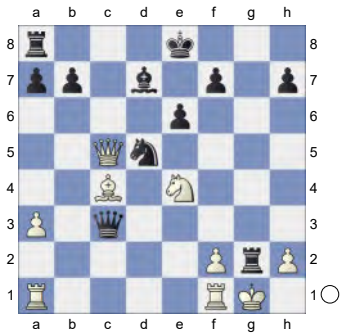


A dynamic duo of knights. **16.Qd6** 0.00 **Qxd2** 0.00 **17.Qxc5** 0.00 **Qxc3** 0.00

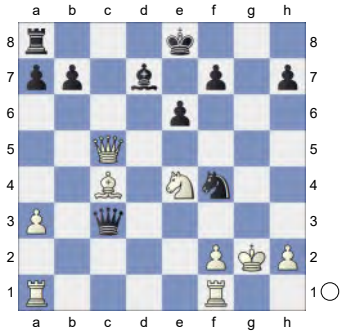
[17...Nxc3 18.Bb5+ Nxb5 *(18...Bd7 19.Bxd7+ Kxd7 20.Nxe4±)* 19.Qxb5+ Bd7 20.Qxb7±]

18.Bc4 0.00 Ra1-c1! would now be deadly. **18...Bd7!** 0.00 ...Ra8-c8 is the strong threat. **19.Nxe4** 0.00 **Rxg2+** 0.00

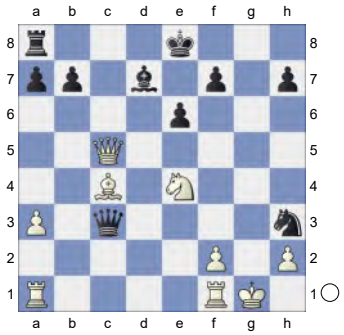
(Diagram)



Decoy **20.Kxg2** 0.00 **Nf4+** 0.00



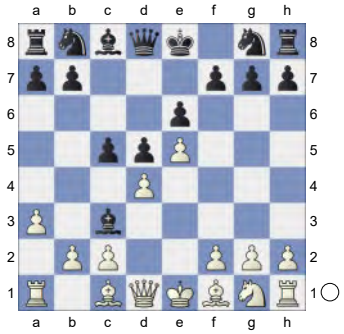
21.Kg1 0.00 **Nh3+** 0.00 **22.Kg2** 0.00 **Nf4+** 0.00 **23.Kg1** 0.00 **Nh3+** 0.00



Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
½-½

74 **C18**
□ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2748**
■ **Hamitevici,Vladimir** **2445**
Titled Tue 23rd Apr Late blitz (10)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f6 The modern move. Der moderne Zug. **8.Bb5+ Kf7** Black is weak on the dark squares

[8...Kf8 9.Nf3 Qa5 10.Rb1 a6 *(10...Qxc3+ 11.Bd2 Qxc2 12.Rc1 Qe4+ 13.Qxe4 dxe4 14.Rxc5 Nc6 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Ng1 Ne7 17.Bb4 Kf7 18.Ra5 c5 19.Rxc5 a5 20.Bxa5 Ba6 21.Kd2 Rhc8 22.Rxc8 Rxc8 23.Nh3 Nc6 24.Bc3 Rd8 25.exf6* ½-½ 10.e4 ♗g6 11. ♗d3 ♖e8_13 (2437)-Pelt,A (2622) Melody Amber (rapide) 2005 (1.1)*)* 11.Be2 Qxc3+ 12.Bd2 Qxc2 13.Rc1 Qe4 14.Qg3 Nd7 15.exf6 gxf6 16.Qd6+ Ne7 17.0-0 Rg8 18.Rfe1 Qg6 19.Nh4 Qf7 20.Bh6+ Ke8 21.Bh5 Qxh5 22.Rxe6 Qf7 23.Nf5 1-0 5.f3 c6 6. ♕d2 b5 (2617)-Verolme,M (2566) chJ Alma-Ata 1991]

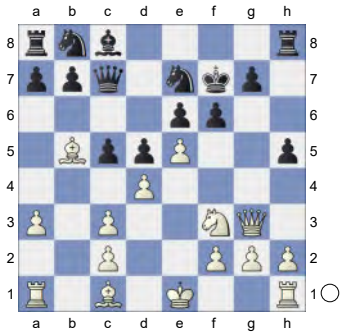
9.Nf3 h5 10.Qg3N

[10.Ng5+ fxg5 11.Qf3+ Nf6 12.exf6 g6 13.a4 31. Winawer 6.bxc3 Qc7 7. Qg4-Winawer 6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f6 #]

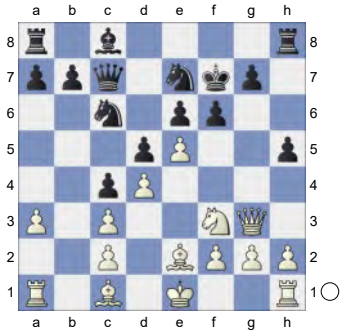
10...Ne7N

[Vorgänger: 10...c4 1.36/20 10...Ne7 0.59 11.Nh4? -0.34/21 *(11.Bf4!±* 1.36/20 And now exf6 would win. *h4 12.Nxh4* Remove Defender*)* 11...Ne7!∓ 12.Bf4 f5! 13.Bg5 a6 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.Ng6 Qd8 16.Nxh8+ Qxh8

17.Bxc4 -1.00/20 *(17.Ba4= -0.28/19)*
17...dxc4 0-1 Neumann,M-Czech,L (2200) Hermannen op 1997 (2)]

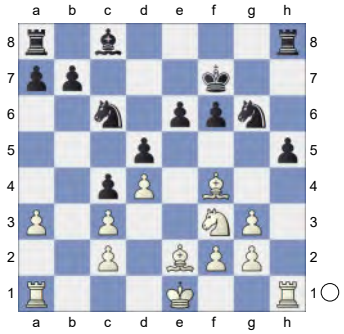


White is slightly better. **11.Bd3**
[11.exf6 simplifies Qxg3 12.hxg3 gxf6 13.Be2]
11...c4 12.Be2
[12.exf6 simplifies Qxg3 13.hxg3 gxf6 14.Be2]
12...Nbc6 1.45/21
[⊼12...Ng6 0.77/21]

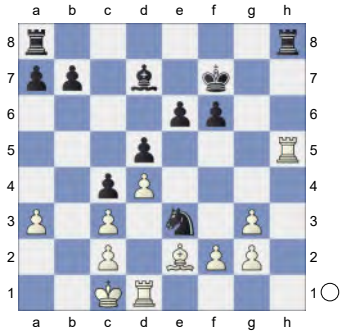


13.exf6!± Qxg3 14.hxg3
[14.fxg3?! gxf6 15.Bf4 Bd7=]
14...gxf6 15.Bf4 0.12/22
[15.g4+- 1.68/21]
15...Ng6

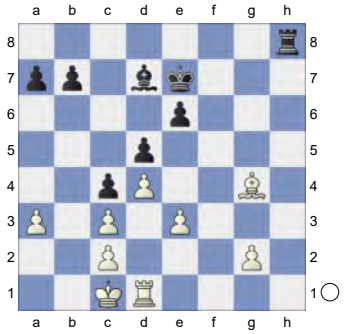
(Diagram)



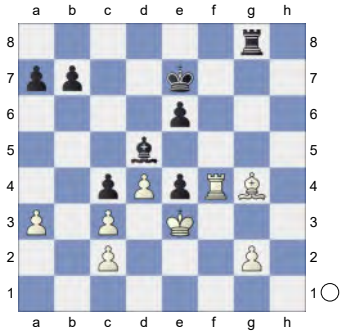
16.Be3 Bd7 17.0-0-0 Nce7 0.40/23
[17...b5= 0.01/23]
18.Nh4 0.00/33
[18.Rh2± 0.40/23]
18...Nxh4= 19.Rxh4 Nf5! 20.Rxh5 Nxe3



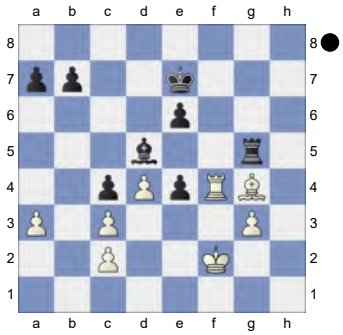
21.fxe3 Rxh5 22.Bxh5+ Endgame. KRB-KRB **22...Ke7 23.Bf3 f5 24.g4 fxg4 25.Bxg4 Rh8**



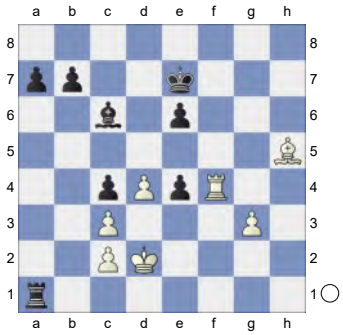
26.Rf1 Be8 27.e4 dxe4 28.Kd2 Rg8 29.Rf4 Bc6 30.Ke3 -0.93/23
[30.Bh3!= -0.12/24]
30...Bd5 -0.38/29
[30...Rg5∓ -0.93/23 Threatens to win with ...Ra5. 31.Kd2 a6]



31.Kf2∓ Rg5 32.g3? -1.87/25
[32.Be2∓ -0.31/21]

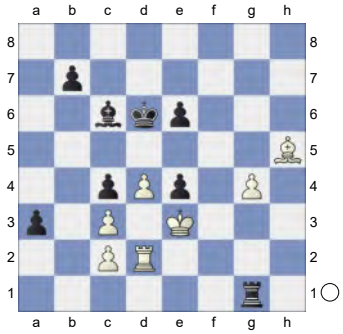


32...Bc6!-+ Strongly threatening ...Ra5.
33.Ke3? -4.45/22
[33.Be2 -1.72/22 was necessary.]
33...Ra5 34.Kd2 Rxa3 35.Bh5 Ra1



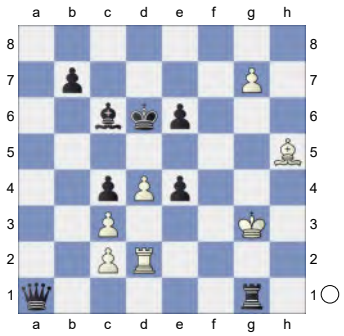
...a5 would now be deadly. **36.Rf7+ Kd6 37.Rf2 Rg1 38.g4 a5 39.Ke3 a4 40.Rd2 a3**

(Diagram)



(→ ...a2) **41.Kf2 Rc1** -19.27/22
[⌓41...e3+ -#21/22 42.Kxe3 a2 43.Kf4 a1Q *(43...a1B? 44.Re2-+)* 44.Kg5 Qc1 *(44...Qxc3 45.Re2 Qxd4 46.c3 Qg7+ 47.Bg6 Qe7+ 48.Kh6 Rxg4 49.Rd2+ Kc7 50.Rh2 Qg5+ 51.Kg7 Qxg6+ 52.Kh8 Qg8#; 44...Qa5+ 45.Kh6 Qxc3 46.Re2 Qxd4 47.Kh7 Be4+ 48.Kg8 Ke7 49.Rxe4 Qxe4 50.Kg7 Qe5+ 51.Kh6 Kf8 52.Bg6 Rh1+ 53.Bh5 Qg7#)* 45.Kh6 Qxd2+ 46.Kg6 Be4+ *(46...Qxc3 47.Kh7 Qh3 48.Kg6 Be8+* Skewer, Deflection *49.Kg7 Qxh5 50.c3 Rxg4+ 51.Kf8 Qh8#)* 47.Kg7 Qg5+ *(47...Qxc2 48.g5 Rxg5+ 49.Kf6 Rxh5 50.d5 Qxc3+ 51.Kf7 Rh7+ 52.Kg8 Qh8#)* 48.Kh8 Rf1 *(48...Bxc2 49.Bf7 Rh1+ 50.Bh5 Qxg4 51.d5 Rxh5#; 48...Kd5 49.Bf7 Rh1+ 50.Bh5 Bf5* Deflection *51.gxf5 Rxh5#)* 49.Bf7 Rxf7 50.d5 Rh7#]
42.g5 a2 43.g6 a1Q
[43...a1B 44.g7 e3+ *(44...Bxc3? 45.g8Q+-)* 45.Kxe3-+]
44.g7 Rf1+ 45.Kg3 Rg1+

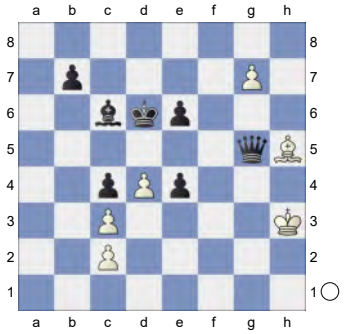
(Diagram)



46.Rg2 Qe1+ 47.Kh2 Rxg2+ 48.Kxg2 Qd2+ -36.67/20

[⌓48...e3+ -#14/20 49.Kh3 Qh1+ *(49...Qxc3? 50.Be2-+)* 50.Kg3 Qxh5 51.g8Q Qf3+ 52.Kh4 Qh1+ 53.Kg5 Qg2+ 54.Kf4 Qf3+ *(54...Qxg8* is a self mate. *55.Kxe3 Qg2 56.d5 exd5 57.Kf4 Ke6 58.Ke3 Kf5 59.Kd4 Qg1#)* 55.Kg5 Qg3+ Skewer 56.Kh5 Qxg8 57.d5 e2 *(57...Bxd5* leads to mate. *58.Kh4 e2 59.Kh3 e1Q 60.Kh2 Qh8#)* 58.dxc6 e1Q 59.cxb7 Qh1#]

49.Kh3 Qg5



What a bad dream for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.84/Black=0.31

0-1

75 **C19**

□ **THE_KILLER1** **2747**

■ **Zlatin** **2541**

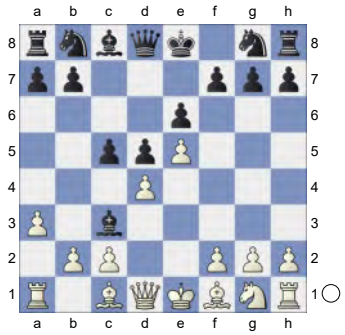
Blitz 31.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4

Riazantsev,A: 'Inf 86/(306)' 1990/91 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.a4N

[7.Qg4

A) 7...Qc7

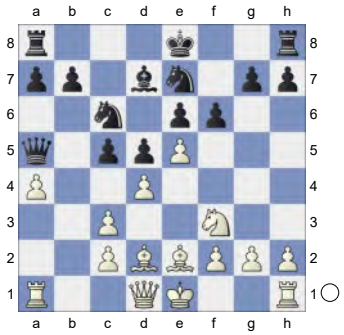
A1) 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 Bd7 13.Qxc3 Nf5 14.Rb1 d4 15.Qd3 0-0-0 16.Rg1 Nce7 *(16...Na5 17.Rb4 Bc6 18.Ng3 Nxg3 19.hxg3 Rg6 20.Be2 Bd5 21.Rxd4 Nc6 22.Ra4 Bxg2 23.Qc3 Bd5 24.Be3 b6 25.Qb2 Ne7 26.Bf2 Rh8 27.Rd4 Nc6 28.Rd2 Na5 29.Rd3 Kb8 30.Rc3 Qe7 31.Bc5* Antoszkiewicz,G (2180)-Eisenacher,H Germany_103446 1991 UltraCorr3a [RK] 1-0 (33)*)* 17.Rb4 Nd5 18.Rc4 Bc6 19.Nxd4 Nb6 20.Rxc6 bxc6 21.Qa6+ Kb8 22.Nxf5 exf5 Renet,O (2480)-Huebner,R (2600) Cologne 1989 CBM 016

[Knaak,Rainer] 0-1 (31);

A2) 8.Bd3 cxd4 9.Ne2 dxc3 10.Qxg7 Rg8 11.Qh6 Nbc6 12.Bf4 Bd7 13.0-0 Ng6 14.Bg3 Ncxe5 15.Rab1 f5 16.Rb3 Qd6 17.Rxb7 Qf8 18.Qe3 Nxd3 19.cxd3 Lupi,F-12) Black Plays 8...b6 with 1 Bucharest 2014 200 Traps In The Opening [Sh Riga 11/1977];

B) 7...0-0 8.Bd3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Nbc6 10.Nf3 f5 11.exf6 Rxf6 12.Qh5 Nf5 13.c4 Qa4 14.cxd5 Ncxd4 15.Ng5 h6 16.Ne4 Rf8 17.0-0 b6 18.Ng3 Ba6 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.Bxa6 Qxa6 21.Rae1 Qb7 Nijboer,F (2556)-Riazantsev,A (2543) Hoogeveen 2002 CI1-130 [Riazantsev,Alexander] ½-½]

7...Qa5 8.Bd2 Bd7 9.Nf3 Nbc6 10.Be2 f6

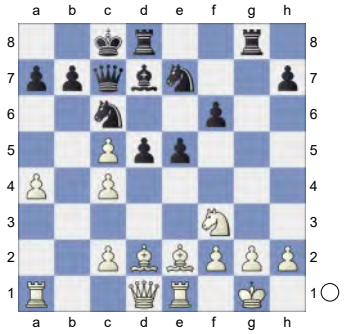


11.exf6 gxf6 12.c4 Qc7 13.dxc5 0-0-0 14.0-0 White is better. **14...Rhg8 15.Re1** 0.31/21

[15.cxd5± 0.79/17 Nxd5 16.a5]

15...e5±

(Diagram)



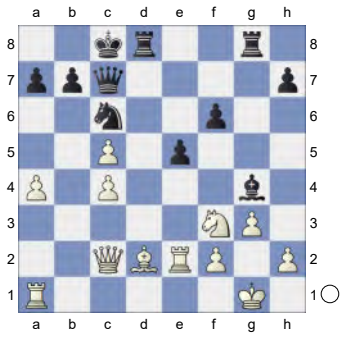
16.cxd5 Nxd5 17.c4 -0.65/22

[17.Qc1± 0.47/19]

17...Bh3 0.56/21 **18.g3** -0.48/23

[White should play 18.cxd5± 0.56/21 Bxg2 19.Bg5! Bxf3 20.Bxf3 Rxg5+ 21.Kh1]

18...Nf4 Pair of Knights! **19.Qc2 Nxe2+ 20.Rxe2 Bg4**



21.Bc3! Qd7 -0.01/22

[21...Ne7!∓ -0.38/19 22.Re3 Qxc5]

22.Re3= Qe6 23.a5 Black should prevent a6.

[23.Qxh7? Bf5 24.Qh6 Rh8-+]

23...Qxc4 0.55/21

[23...a6= 0.01/21]

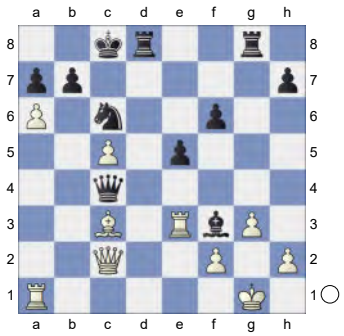
24.a6 Threatens to win with Nd2.

[24.Qxh7!? Rd7 25.Nd2!±]

24...Bxf3 1.33/22

[24...Rg7± 0.46/19]

(Diagram)

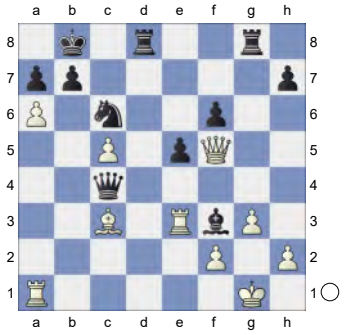


25.Qf5+!±

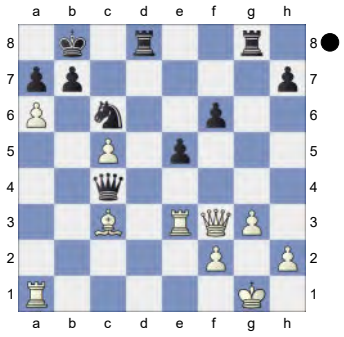
[Don't blunder 25.Rxf3? Nd4 26.Qxh7 *(26.axb7+? Kb8-+)* 26...Nxf3+-+]

[And not 25.axb7+ Kb8 26.Bxe5+ *(26.Rxf3? Nd4-+)* 26...Nxe5∓]

25...Kb8



Strongly threatening ...Nd4. **26.Qxf3**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.33

1-0

76 **C18**

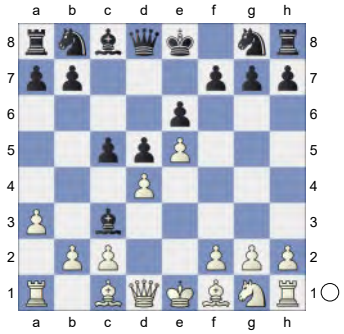
☐ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2745**

■ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2667**

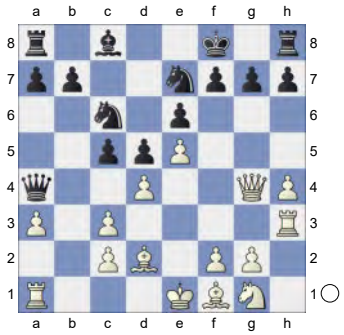
AI Cup Play In rapid (5) 18.09.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'Fritz 8 (10s): 'C18: Défense française (variante Winawer avec 5...Fxc3) '" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



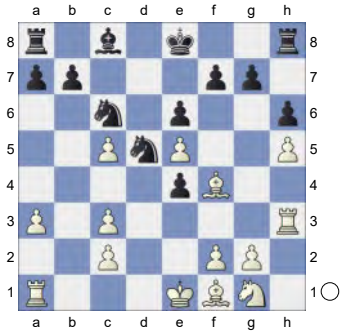
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Kf8 8.h4 Qa5 9.Bd2 9.Nbd2 is the hot move. 9.Sbd2 ist der hippe Zug. **9...Qa4 10.Rh3 Nbc6**



11.h5!? Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **11...h6 12.Qf4 Ke8** White is slightly better.

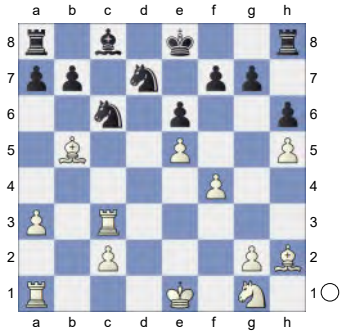
[12...Bd7 13.dxc5 Qxf4 14.Bxf4 Rc8 15.Rb1 Na5 16.Be3 Bc6 17.f4 Nc4 18.Bc1 f6 19.Nf3 Kf7 20.exf6 gxf6 21.Nd4 Rc7 22.Nxc6 Nxc6 23.g4 N6a5 24.g5 Rxc5 25.g6+ Kg7 26.f5 Re8 27.fxe6 0-1 Macieja,B (2613)-

Socko,B (2583) POL-ch 62nd Poznan 2005 (13)]
[12...b6]
13.dxc5 Qe4+N 1.75/22
[13...Qxc2]
[13...Qxf4± 0.83/19 14.Bxf4 g5 *(14...f6 15.Nf3 b6 16.cxb6 axb6 17.Bd3 Ba6 18.Kd2 Kf7 19.Rhh1 Bxd3 20.cxd3 g5 21.hxg6+ Nxg6 22.Rxh6 Rxh6 23.Bxh6 Ngxe5 24.Nxe5+ Nxe5 25.Bf4 Nd7 26.Bd6 e5 27.Rh1 Nc5 28.Bxc5 bxc5 29.Ra1* 1-0 Izotov,V (2379)-Tomasic, M (1994) FIDE World CH 1996 (2) *)*]
14.Qxe4+- dxe4 15.Bf4 0.67/21
[15.f4+- 1.76/19]
15...Nd5 1.72/21
[15...g5
A) 16.hxg6 Nxg6 17.Bxh6 *(17.Rxh6 Rxh6 18.Bxh6 Ncxe5±)* 17...Ncxe5;
B) 16.Bh2]

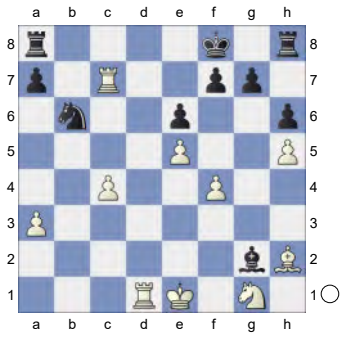


16.Bh2 e3
[16...f5 17.exf6 gxf6 18.c4 Nde7 19.Re3 f5 20.Bd6]
17.f4 Nxc3 18.Rxe3 Na4 19.Bb5 Nxc5 20.Rc3 Nd7

(Diagram)



21.Rd1 Nb6
[21...Ndb8 22.Rcd3 *(22.Nf3)* 22...Ke7 *(22...Bd7 23.Bxc6 bxc6 24.Nf3)* 23.Bg3]
22.Bxc6+
[22.Rxc6 bxc6 23.Bxc6+ Ke7 *(23...Bd7 24.Rxd7)* 24.Bxa8 Nxa8 25.Nf3 Bb7]
22...bxc6 Black is weak on the dark squares **23.Rxc6** 0.33/22 White is much more active. The black rooks are passive.
[23.Ne2± 1.50/20]
23...Bb7 24.Rc7 Bxg2 25.c4 Repels Nb6-d5. Strongly threatening Bh2-g3. **25...Kf8?** 2.70/19
[25...Rc8!± 0.51/20 26.Rdd7 *(26.Rxc8+ Nxc8)* 26...Rxc7 27.Rxc7]
[25...Be4 26.Bg3]

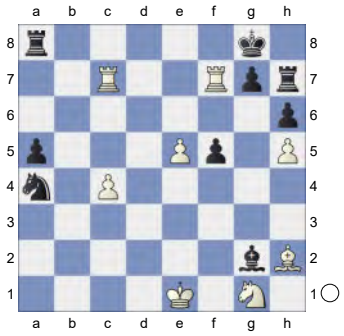


This move loses the game for Black.
26.a4! a5 27.Rd6 Nxa4
[27...Rb8 28.Rxb6]
28.Rdd7 Kg8 29.Rxf7 Rh7 30.f5

Black must now prevent Ng1-e2.

30...exf5? 4.98/21

[30...Nc5 1.86/19 is more resistant.]



31.e6

[31.Rxf5 Nb6±]

31...Nb2

[31...Re8 32.Rfe7]

32.Ke2 Bh2-e5! would now be deadly.

[32.Rxf5 g5+-]

32...Be4? 5.03/20

[32...a4 33.Be5 a3 34.Rxg7+ Rxg7 35.Rxg7+ Kf8 36.Bf6]

[32...Nxc4 33.Rxc4 Bd5 34.Rcc7 Bxe6 35.Rfe7]

[32...f4 2.89/20 33.Rxf4 *(33.Bxf4 Nxc4 34.Nf3 Bh3+-)* 33...g5]

33.Be5 White is clearly winning.

33...Nd3

[33...Bd3+ 34.Ke1 Nxc4 35.Rxg7+ Rxg7 36.Rxg7+ Kf8 37.Bf6]

34.Nf3 Deflection

[34.Bxg7? Nf4+ 35.Ke3 Nxe6-+]

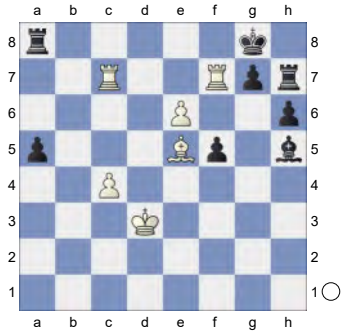
[34.Rxg7+ Rxg7 35.Rxg7+ Kf8 *(35...Kh8? 36.Bc3+-)* 36.e7+ Ke8 37.Rg8+ Kxe7 38.Rxa8 Nxe5 39.Rxa5 Nxc4±]

34...Bxf3+ 7.81/19

[⌓34...a4 4.44/20 35.Ke3 *(35.Bd6 a3; 35.Bxg7? Nf4+ 36.Kf2 Nxe6-+; 35.Rxg7+ Rxg7 36.Rxg7+ Kf8±)* 35...a3 *(35...Nxe5 36.Nxe5 a3 37.Ng6 a2 38.Ra7; 35...Bxf3 36.Kxd3 f4+-)* 36.Rxg7+ Rxg7 37.Rxg7+ 1-0 Eljanov,P (2671)-Bartel, M (2626) Dortmund GER Grand Prix 2021 (4) Kh8 *(37...Kf8 38.Bf6 Nc5 39.e7+ Ke8 40.Ne5 f4+ 41.Ke2)* 38.Bd4 Bxf3 *(38...a2 39.Nh4)* 39.Kxf3 Rf8 40.Ra7+ Kg8 41.Rxa3]

35.Kxd3 Bxh5

[35...a4 36.Rxg7+ Rxg7 37.Rxg7+ Kf8 38.Bf6]



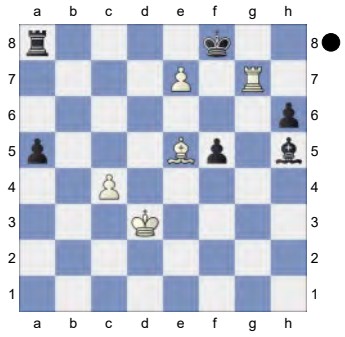
36.Rxg7+

[36.Rxf5? perishes. Bg6 37.Rcf7 *(37.Ke4? Rf8-+* Pin *)* 37...a4-+ *(37...Bxf5+? 38.Rxf5 a4 39.Bd6-+)*]

36...Rxg7 37.Rxg7+

[Stronger than 37.Bxg7 Re8=]

Vorgänger: **37...Kf8 38.e7+**

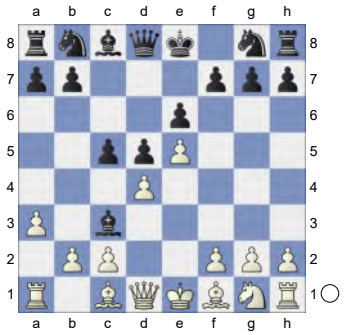


Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.63

1-0

77 **C18**
□ **Karjakin,Sergey** **2743**
■ **Rapport,Richard** **2763**
7th Gashimov Mem Rapid (1.1) 18.12.21
[John Watson]

John Watson,MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** John Watson,MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.Qd1 This resembles other main-line Winawer lines, and has been played by some strong players (and already played by Karjakin). White has weakened the kingside and returns to defend the center.

[8.dxc5 John Watson,MH Nxe5 9.Qg3 Nc6±]

8...Bd7!? Vastrukhin likes this move order, planning ...0-0-0 and not committing the queen yet. It does seem to make sense once White's queen is away from the kingside.

[8...Qa5 9.Bd2 c4 is the order played in the instructive game Kuzubov-Ponomarios in the Archives. Ponomariov has been the most prominent grandmaster to play 6...Nc6 on a consistent basis.]

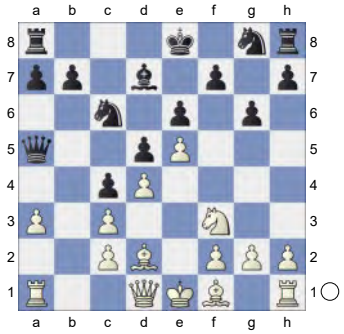
9.Nf3

[9.a4 f6!? might be one reason for 8... Bd7 since, unlike 9 Nf3, 9 a4 doesn't support e5.]

[9.h4 is a logical move with various possible answers, e.g., Qa5 *(9...h6)* 10.Bd2 0-0-0!? 11.h5!? *(11.a4)* 11...gxh5 12.Rxh5 f6∞ John Watson, MH: '∞!']

[9.dxc5 John Watson,MH Nxe5 10.Nf3 Qc7=]

9...Qa5 10.Bd2 John Watson,MH: 'White is slightly better.' **10...c4**



11.h4 Direct.

[11.a4 0-0-0 12.Qb1 is sound but not very threatening, for example,

A) 12...f6∞;

B) 12...h6 13.Be2 *(13.h4 f6)* 13...g5∞;

C) 12...f5!? 13.Be2 h6 14.h4 Nge7 15.Rh3 Rdg8 16.Kf1 -0.29/22 *(16.Qc1±* 0.34/20 John Watson,MH *)*

C1) 16...g5!? -0.29/22 John Watson,MH: '=!' 17.hxg5 hxg5 18.Bxg5 *(18.Nxg5* John Watson,MH *Rxh3 19.Nxh3 Nxd4* Pin *)* 18...Rxh3 19.gxh3 John Watson,MH: ' Black must now prevent Qb1-b2.' Rxg5! 20.Nxg5 Qxc3∞;

C2) 16...Rg7 0.30/20 John Watson,MH: '16...g6-g5 -0.30';

C3) 16...Nd8!? 0.56/19 17.Qb4 John Watson,MH: '±' Nec6

C3a) 18.Qxa5 0.59/24

John Watson,MH: ' ±' John Watson,MH: ' stays ahead.' Nxa5 19.Bc1 *(19.Ng1* John Watson,MH*)* 19...Nf7 20.Ba3 b6=;

C3b) 18.Qd6?! -0.82/25 18...Nf7 *(18...g5! 19.hxg5 Nf7)* 19.Qa3 g5 John Watson, MH: '!' John Watson,MH: ' ... g5-g4 would now be deadly.' 20.hxg5? hxg5 21.Rxh8 John Watson,MH: '!' Rxh8 22.Kg1 -1.78/23 *(22.g3!∓* -0.58/20 John Watson,MH*)* 22...g4? -0.39/21 *(22...Qd8!-+* -1.78/23 John Watson,MH: '-+' John Watson,MH: ' Threatens to win with ...g5-g4.' *23.Nh2* John Watson,MH *g4)* 23.Ng5 John Watson,MH: ' ∓' Nfd8∞ 0.17/21 Jaeggi,D (2325)-Vastrukhin,O (2401) Lichess.org INT 2021 *(23...Nxg5∓* -0.44/20 John Watson,MH *24.Bxg5 Rg8)*]

11...h6 12.a4

[12.g3 0-0-0 13.Bg2 f5 *(13...f6)* 14.a4 Re8 15.Qc1 Nd8 16.Qa3 Nf7 17.Qb4± 0.43/24 *(*Better is *17.Ng1±* 0.85/19 John Watson,MH*)* 17...Qxb4 0.88/19 *(17...Qc7; 17...Qd8±* 0.43/24 (John Watson,MH) might be stronger. *)* 18.cxb4± Bologan,V (2640)-Vastrukhin,O (2392) Sochi 2016]

12...0-0-0 13.Qc1 John Watson,MH: 'N'

[13.g3 John Watson,MH Kb8 14.Bg2 Ka8 15.0-0 f5 16.exf6 Nxf6 17.Qc1 g5 18.hxg5 hxg5 19.Bxg5 Rdf8 20.Bxf6 Rxf6 21.Qe3 Be8 22.Ng5 Bg6 23.Rac1 Bf5 24.Rfe1 Qxa4 25.f3 Qa5 26.g4 Bg6 27.f4 Nd8 ½-½ Giri,A (2764)-Rapport,R (2740) Danzhou 13th rapid 2022 (1) 28.Qg3 Rhf8 29.Nh3 Qc7 30.Re3 a6 31.f5 Qxg3 32.Rxg3 exf5 33.Nf4 fxg4 34.Nxd5 Rd6 35.Rxg4 Ka7 36.Ne3 b5 37.Rg5 Be8 38.Ra1 Rg6 39.Re5 Bc6 40.d5 Bb7 41.Rf1 Rfg8 42.Re7 Kb6 ½-½ Grube,J (2764)-Salman,F (2740) (ol) 46/46 Thessaloniki 1988 (1)]

13...f6

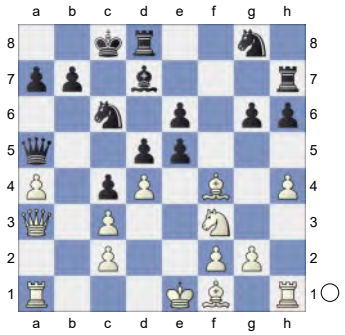
[13...f5 14.Qa3 Nge7 15.g3 *(15.Ng1!? Rdg8 16.Ne2)* 15...Rh7 16.Bg2 Kb8 17.Ke2 Nc8 18.Rhb1 Rg8 19.Rb5 Qd8 Van Weersel,A (2176)-Rajlich,I (2419) Warsaw 2012]

14.Qa3 Rh7 15.Bf4!?

[15.Be2]

15...fxe5!?

[15...Rf7 is safer, when 16.Bg3 fxe5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Bxe5 Ne7= might follow John Watson,MH: '=!']



16.Nxe5 Nxd4 17.0-0-0! A clever trick.

[17.Kd2 (John Watson,MH) keeps more tension. Nc6 18.Qd6 Nf6 19.f3]

17...Nc6

[17...Nf5? 1.72/22 John Watson,MH: '17...Nd4-c6 0.03' 18.Bxc4 1.27/19 *(18.g4!+-* 1.72/22 John Watson,MH *Nfe7 19.Bxc4)* 18...dxc4? 2.75/20 *(18...Qxa4±* 1.27/19 (John Watson, MH) is a better defense. *19.Qxa4 Bxa4)* 19.g4 John Watson,MH: '+-!' Nge7 20.gxf5 Nxf5 21.Nxc4 Qxa4

22.Qc5++-]

18.Nxg6

[18.Bxc4! John Watson,MH: '!?' ' Hoping for Bc4-d3.' Qc7 John Watson, MH: '!' *(18...dxc4?* John Watson,MH *19.Nxc4 Qa6 20.Nd6+ Kc7 21.Nb5+ Kc8 22.Qd6+-)* 19.Nxg6 John Watson,MH: ' ±' e5 20.Bxd5 exf4 21.Nf8 John Watson,MH: '!' Re7 22.Nxd7 Rexd7 23.Be6 Nf6 John Watson,MH: ' ! ' 24.Rhe1 with ongoing pressure. John Watson, MH: 'with ongoing pressure. Prevents Qc7-e5']

18...b5 0.85/21

[18...Nf6∞]

[18...Rf7= 0.19/22 (John Watson,MH) keeps the balance.]

19.Ne5 0.46/22

[19.Be2± 0.85/21 John Watson,MH]

19...Nge7

[19...Qxa4

A) John Watson,MH: ' White should try' 20.Qxa4 0.57/26 John Watson, MH: '±' bxa4 21.Nxc6 *(21.Nxd7* John Watson,MH *Rhxd7 22.Kb2)* 21...Bxc6 22.Re1±;

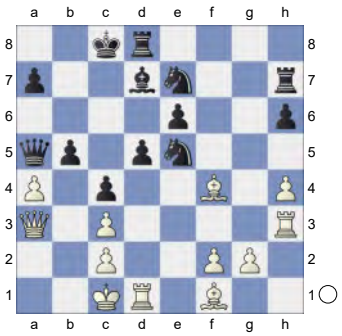
B) 20.Qd6 0.00/20 20...Nf6!]

20.Rh3? 0.02/23

[20.Qc5! 0.61/21 John Watson,MH: '±' bxa4 *(20...Qxc3* John Watson,MH: ' Strongly threatening ...Qc3-a1+.' *21.axb5 Qa1+ 22.Kd2 Qd4+ 23.Qxd4 Nxd4 24.Rb1±; 20...a6* John Watson,MH *21.axb5 Qxb5 22.Nxd7 Rxd7 23.Qxb5 axb5 24.Re1)* 21.Qxa5 Nxa5 22.g3± John Watson,MH: '±!']

20...Nxe5

[20...Qxa4 (John Watson,MH) simplifies 21.Qxa4 bxa4 22.Nxd7 Rxd7 23.Re3 Nd8]



21.Bxe5 Nc6 John Watson,MH: ' The board is on fire.' **22.Bh2**

[22.Bd6 (John Watson,MH) simplifies Qxa4 23.Qxa4 bxa4 24.Re3]

22...Rf7 23.Rf3 Rxf3

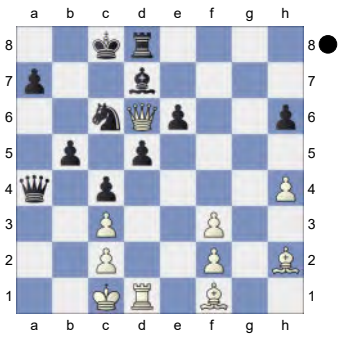
[23...Qxa4? John Watson,MH 24.Qxa4 bxa4 25.Rxf7+-]

24.gxf3 Qxa4

[Don't play 24...bxa4?! John Watson, MH 25.Bf4±]

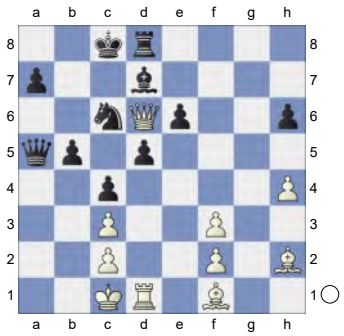
25.Qd6?! -1.04/21 John Watson,MH: '

[25.Qxa4 0.00/23 John Watson,MH: '=' John Watson,MH: ' was the only way to keep the balance.' bxa4 26.Bd6∞ John Watson,MH: ' Wards off Rd8-f8' *(26.Bf4* John Watson,MH *)*]

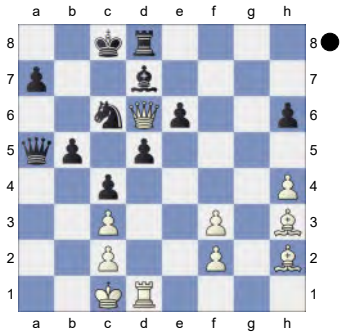


' **25...Qa5!**

(Diagram)

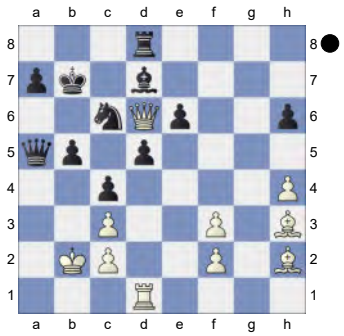


John Watson,MH: ' ∓!' **26.Bh3?!** -2.75/21 John Watson,MH: '
[26.Kb2 -1.16/20 John Watson,MH: '∓' Kb7 John Watson,MH: ' And now ... Qa5-b6 would win.' 27.Qa3 -2.44/20 John Watson,MH: '?' *(27.Qc5∓ -0.74/18 John Watson,MH)* 27...Qb6 John Watson,MH: '-+' 28.Bd6 a5!-+]

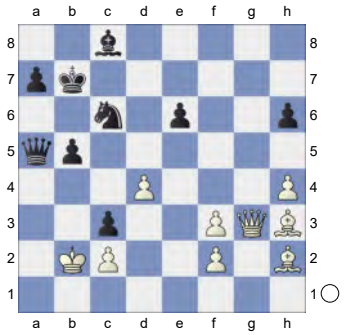


This move loses the game for White.'
26...Kb7 John Watson,MH: '-+!'
[Weaker is 26...Qxc3 John Watson, MH 27.Qc7#]
27.Kb2 -4.98/24 John Watson,MH: '?' John Watson,MH: '
[27.Qc5 -2.92/21 (John Watson,MH) was necessary.]

(Diagram)

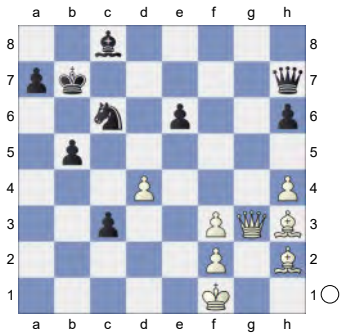


' **27...d4** John Watson,MH: '!'
[27...b4 28.cxb4 Nxb4-+]
28.Rxd4
[28.Qa3 John Watson,MH Qxa3+]
28...Bc8!
[But not 28...Nxd4 John Watson,MH 29.Qxd4 b4 30.cxb4 Qxb4+ 31.Kc1-+]
29.Qg3 -6.01/21
[29.Qc5 -3.50/20 John Watson,MH Nxd4 30.cxd4]
The end might be **29...Rxd4** John Watson,MH: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.66/Black=0.17 (very precise) ' **30.cxd4 c3+**



31.Kb1 Qb4+ 32.Kc1 John Watson, MH: ' Qg3-c7+ is the strong threat.' **32...Qb2+ 33.Kd1** John Watson,MH: ' Intending Qg3-c7+ and mate.' **33...Qb1+ 34.Ke2** John Watson,MH: ' aiming for Qg3-c7+.' **34...Qxc2+ 35.Kf1 Qh7-+**

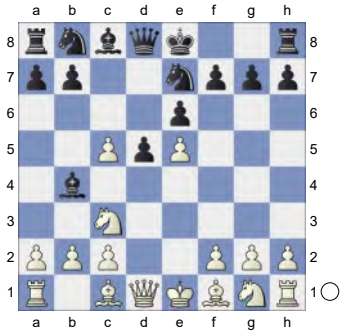
(Diagram)



John Watson,MH: ' Against Qg3-c7+'
0-1

78 **C17**
□ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2739**
■ **Mekhitarian,Krikor Sevag** **2537**
Aimchess Play In m rapid (1.2) 12.06.23
[TA]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.dxc5 Ne7



6.Nf3 Nd7
[6...Nbc6 7.Bd3 Ng6 *(7...d4 8.a3 Ba5 9.b4 Nxb4 10.axb4 Bxb4 11.0-0 Bxc3 12.Rb1 h6 13.Nd2)*]
7.Bd3
[7.a3 Bxc3+ *(7...Bxc5 8.Na4)* 8.bxc3 Nxc5 9.Bd3 Bd7 10.0-0 Rc8
A) 11.Bg5 0-0 12.Nd4 f6 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Bh6 Rf7 15.f4 Nxd3 *(15...Ne4 16.Qg4+ Kh8 17.Qh5 Qe8 18.c4 Ng8)*
A1) 16.Qxd3 Kh8 17.Rae1 *(17.f5 e5 18.Ne6 Qe8)* 17...Ng8;
A2) 16.cxd3 Rxc3 17.Qg4+ *(17.Rb1 Qc8)* 17...Kh8 18.Qh5 *(18.Nxe6 Qb6+)* 18...Qe8;
B) 11.Nd4 Qc7 12.f4 0-0;
C) 11.Ng5 Nxd3 12.Qxd3 *(12.cxd3 Rxc3 13.Qh5 Ng6)* 12...Qc7;
D) 11.Bd2 Ba4 12.Qe2 0-0 *(12...Qc7)*]
7...Nxc5
[7...Nc6
A) 8.0-0
A1) 8...Ndxe5 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.Bf4 Bxc3 11.bxc3 Nxd3 12.cxd3 0-0 13.Bd6 *(13.Qh5)* 13...Re8 14.d4 b6 15.f4;
A2) 8...Nxc5 9.Nb5 Nxd3 10.Qxd3 h6 11.c3 Be7 12.Re1 a6 13.Nbd4 Bd7 *(13...Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Bc5 15.Qg3; 13...Qc7)* 14.Bf4 *(14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.c4 a5 16.b3 a4)* 14...0-0 15.a4;
B) 8.Bf4 d4 *(8...f6 9.exf6 Qxf6 10.Bd2 Bxc5 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bg5 Qf7)* 9.a3 Ba5
B1) 10.Bg5 Qc7 11.0-0 dxc3 12.b4 Nxb4 13.axb4 Bxb4 14.Nd4 Qxe5 *(14...0-0 15.Nb5 Qxe5 16.Qg4)* 15.Nf5;
B2) 10.b4 dxc3 11.bxa5 Nxc5
B2a) 12.Bb5 Qxa5 13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14.Qd6 Nd7 15.0-0 *(15.Qxc6 Rb8 16.0-0 Bb7 17.Qd6 Qd5)* 15...Qc5 16.Qd3 h6 17.Rfd1 0-0 18.Nd4;
B2b) 12.0-0 Nxd3 13.Qxd3 Qxd3 14.cxd3 Nxa5 *(14...Ne7 15.Rfc1 Nd5 16.Be3 Bd7 17.Ng5 0-0 18.Ne4 Rfc8 19.Nd6 Rc7*

20.Rab1 b6)]

[7...Qc7 8.0-0 Bxc3 9.bxc3 Nxc5 10.c4 Bd7 11.cxd5 Nxd5 12.Ba3 Nc3 13.Qd2 Qa5 14.Bb2 N5a4

A) 15.Rab1 Nxb2 *(15...b6 16.Bxc3 Nxc3 17.Rb3 Rc8 18.Qg5 0-0 19.Bxh7+ Kxh7 20.Qh5+ Kg8 21.Ng5; 15...Bc6 16.Ba3 Nc5 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Rb3 Na4 19.Qg5)* 16.Rxb2 b6 17.Qg5;

B) 15.Bxc3 Qxc3 *(15...Nxc3 16.Rab1)* 16.Qg5 0-0 17.Qh4 *(17.Bxh7+ Kxh7 18.Qh5+ Kg8 19.Ng5 Qxc2)* 17...h6 18.Qe4]

8.0-0 Bxc3

[8...Bd7 9.Nb5 Nxd3 10.Qxd3 a6

A) 11.Nd6+ Bxd6 12.exd6 Nf5 13.Nd4 Bb5 *(13...Nxd6 14.Qg3 Qf6 15.Qxd6 Qxd4 16.Re1)* 14.Nxb5 axb5 15.Qxb5+ Qd7 16.Qd3 Qxd6;

B) 11.Nbd4

B1) 11...0-0 12.Ng5 Ng6 13.h4 *(13.Qh3 h6)* 13...Be7 14.Re1 Rc8 *(14...h6 15.Ngxe6)* 15.c3;

B2) 11...Nc6 12.Bg5 *(12.c4 Ne7 13.Bg5 dxc4 14.Qxc4 Qb6 15.a3 Bc5 16.Nb3 Rc8 17.Nxc5 Qxc5 18.Qg4 Qc4)* 12...Qc7 13.c3 h6 *(13...Bc5)* 14.Bf4 Be7 15.Qe3 g5 *(15...0-0 16.Bxh6 gxh6 17.Qxh6 Nxe5 18.Rae1 Ng4 19.Qh3 f5 20.Nxe6 Bxe6 21.Rxe6 Bf6)*]

9.bxc3 Bd7 10.Re1! is now more promising than 10.Na4. im Vergleich zu 10.Sa4 vielversprechender.

[10.c4 Bc6 11.Be2 dxc4 12.Be3 Qxd1 13.Rfxd1 Na4 14.Bxc4 Nb2 15.Rd4 Nf5 *(15...Nxc4)* 16.Rf4 Nxc4 17.Rxc4 0-0 18.Nd4 *(18.Rc1 Rfc8 19.Nd4 Nxe3 20.fxe3 Bd5)* 18...Nxe3 19.fxe3 Bd5]

[10.Nd4 0-0 11.Bg5

A) 11...h6 12.Bd2 *(12.Bh4)* 12...Qc7

A1) 13.f4 Rac8 14.Qf3 Ne4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.Qxe4 Rfd8 *(16...Nf5 17.Nxf5 exf5 18.Qe3 b6)* 17.Rf3 *(17.Rab1 b6; 17.g4 Qc5 18.f5 exf5 19.gxf5 Nxf5 20.Rxf5 Bxf5 21.Qxf5 Rxd4)* 17...Nf5;

A2) 13.Re1 Rac8 14.Qg4 Nf5 15.Nxf5 *(15.Bxf5 exf5 16.Nxf5 Bxf5 17.Qxf5 Rfe8; 15.Rad1 Rfe8)* 15...exf5 16.Bxf5 Bxf5 17.Qxf5 Rfe8 18.Qg4 Ne4 19.Bxh6 Qxe5 20.f3 *(20.Bd2 Qf6)* 20...Qxc3 21.fxe4 Rxe4 22.Rxe4 *(22.Qxg7+ Qxg7 23.Bxg7 Kxg7 24.Red1 Rxc2 25.Rxd5 Ree2 26.Rg5+ Kh6 27.Rg8 Rxa2 28.Rf1 Re7)* 22...Qxa1+ 23.Kf2 f5 24.Qg6 fxe4 25.Qe6+ Kh7 26.Qxc8 Kxh6;

B) 11...Qe8 12.Re1 *(12.Qg4 Ng6 13.Rae1)* 12...h6 13.Bd2 Ng6 14.Qh5 f5 15.exf6 *(15.c4 dxc4 16.Bxc4 Ne4 17.Qe2 Nxe5 18.Bb3)* 15...Rxf6 16.Re3 Qf7 17.Rf3 Nxd3 18.cxd3 e5 19.Rxf6 Qxf6 20.Nf3

B1) 20...Bc6 21.d4 *(21.Re1 Rf8 22.Re2 d4 23.cxd4 Bxf3 24.Qxf3 Qxf3 25.gxf3 exd4 26.Re4 Rd8 27.Bb4 Rd5)* 21...e4 22.Ne5 Nxe5 23.dxe5 Qe6 24.Bf4 Rc8;

B2) 20...Bb5 21.Re1 Bxd3 22.Nxe5 Nxe5 23.Qxe5 Qxe5 24.Rxe5 Bc4]

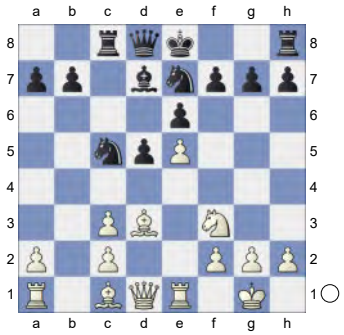
[10.Be3 Rc8 11.Qb1 b6 12.Qb4

Ng6 13.a4 0-0 14.a5 Qc7 15.axb6 axb6 16.Bxg6 fxg6 17.c4 *(17.Rfb1 b5)* 17...dxc4

A) 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.Qxc5 Rxc5 20.Rfd1 Bc6 21.Nd4 Bd7 *(21...Bd5 22.Ra6)* 22.Nf3;

B) 18.Qxc4 Bc6 19.Ng5 *(19.Bxc5 Bd5; 19.Nd4 Bd5 20.Qb4 Qxe5 21.Qxb6 Qe4)* 19...Qxe5 20.Rfe1 h6 21.Nh3 Ra8 22.Rab1 Ra4]

10...Rc8



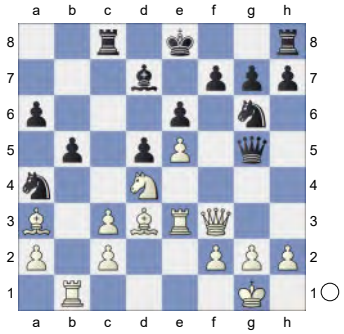
11.Rb1 a6

[11...b6]

12.Ba3 b5 13.Nd4 Ng6 14.Re3

[14.Qd2 Na4 15.Bb4 a5 *(15...Ne7 16.Re3 0-0)* 16.Ba3 *(16.Bd6 Nxc3 17.Rb3 b4 18.a3)* 16...Nxc3 17.Nxb5 Bxb5 18.Rxb5 *(18.Bxb5+ Nxb5 19.Rxb5)*]

14...Na4 15.Qf3 Qg5



16.Rbe1

[16.Bb4 Nc5 17.Qd1 Nf4 *(17...0-0 18.Nb3; 17...Nxe5 18.Nf5)* 18.g3

A) 18...Nfxd3 19.cxd3 0-0 20.Nf3 *(20.Nb3 Na4)*;

B) 18...Nh3+ 19.Kf1 h5 20.Qf3 h4 21.Qg2 hxg3 22.Rxg3]

16...Nc5 17.g3

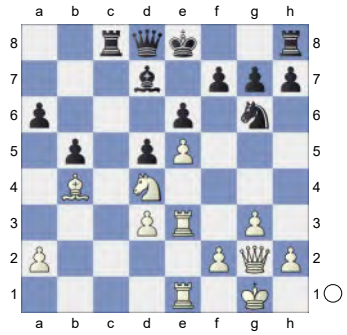
[17.Bb4

A) 17...Nf4 18.h4 Qxh4 *(18...Qh6 19.g3 Nfxd3 20.cxd3)* 19.g3 Nh3+ 20.Kg2 Qh6 21.Rh1;

B) 17...Nh4 18.Qh3;

C) 17...0-0 18.Nb3 Nxd3 19.cxd3 Rfe8 20.Qd1]

17...Nxd3 18.cxd3 Rxc3N 19.Bb4 Rc8 20.Qg2 Qd8



21.Nb3

[21.f4 a5 22.Bd6 Qb6 23.Qb2 *(23.Nb3 a4)* 23...b4 24.f5 *(24.Kh1 Rc3 25.Nf3 d4)* 24...exf5 25.e6 Bxe6 26.Kh1 Qxd6 27.Nxe6 d4 28.Nxd4+ Kf8]

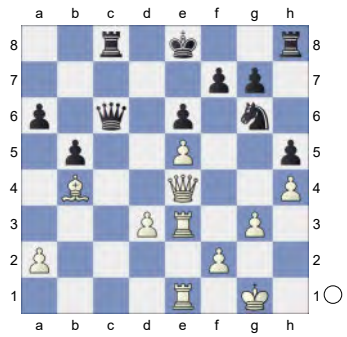
21...d4

[21...Qb6 22.d4 Rc4 23.Bc5 *(23.a3)* 23...Qd8 24.f4 Ne7]

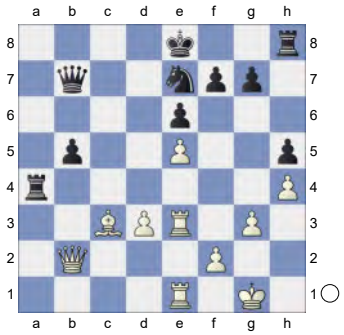
22.Nxd4 Qb6 23.Qe4

[23.Re4 a5 24.Bd6 Bc6 25.Nxc6 Qxc6 26.Qf3 Ne7]

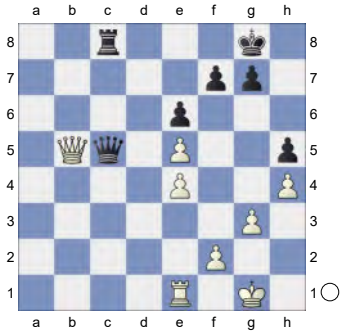
23...h5 24.h4 Bc6 25.Nxc6 Qxc6



26.Qd4
[26.Ra1]
26...Qb7
[26...Qd7 27.Qxd7+ *(27.Qb6 Rc6 28.Qb8+ Rc8 29.Qb6)* 27...Kxd7 1-0 Kuybokarov,T (2587)-Cheng,B (2547) Doeberl Cup 59th 2022 (8) 28.Rf3 Ke8 29.a4 *(29.d4 Ne7 30.Ra3 Rc6)* 29...Ne7 30.axb5 axb5 31.Ra1]
27.a4 a5 28.Bxa5 Ne7 29.Qb2 Ra8 30.Bc3 Rxa4

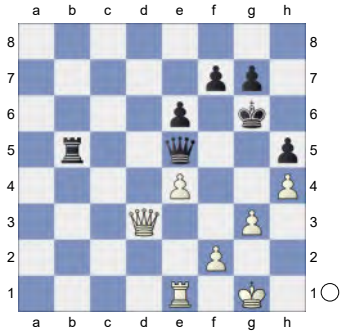


31.Re4
[31.Bb4 Nd5]
31...Rxe4 32.dxe4
[32.Rxe4 0-0 33.Bb4 Re8 34.Bxe7 Rxe7 35.Rb4 Qf3]
32...0-0 33.Bb4 Rc8 34.Bxe7 Qxe7 35.Qxb5 Qc5

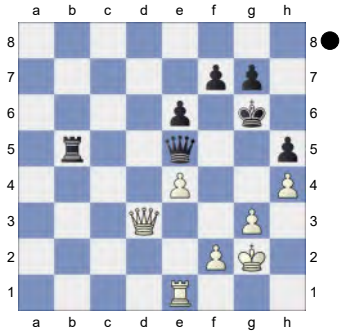


36.Qd7 Rb8 37.Qd6 Rb5 38.Qd8+ Kh7 39.Qd7 Kg6 40.Qd3
Predecessor: **40...Qxe5**

(Diagram)



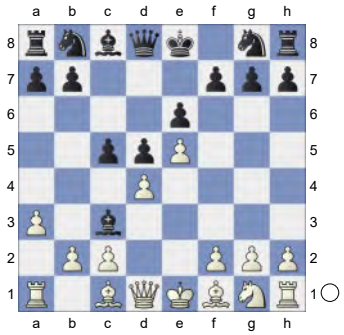
41.Kg2



1-0

79 **C18**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2737**
■ **Lagarde,Maxime** **2606**
European Corporate 2024 (4.5) 22.11.24
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



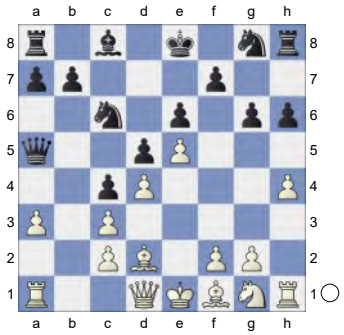
6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.Qd1

[8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Qg3 Nd7∓]

8...Qa5 9.Bd2 c4 0.66/16

[9...Qa4= 0.17/17 is more appropriate.]

10.h4 White is slightly better. **10...h6**



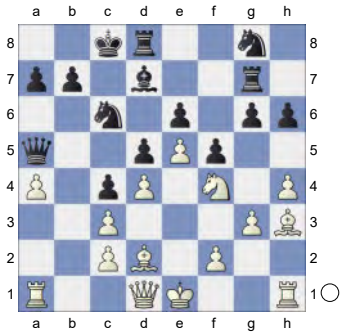
11.a4 Bd7 12.Nh3

[12.Nf3 0-0-0 13.g3 Kb8 14.Bg2 Ka8 15.0-0 f5 16.exf6 Nxf6 17.Qc1 g5 18.hxg5 hxg5 19.Bxg5 Rdf8 20.Bxf6 Rxf6 21.Qe3 Be8 22.Ng5 Bg6 23.Rac1 Bf5 24.Rfe1 Qxa4 25.f3 Qa5 26.g4 Bg6 Giri,A (2764)-Rapport,R (2740) Danzhou 2022 Mega2023 Update 07 [John Watson] ½-½ (75)]

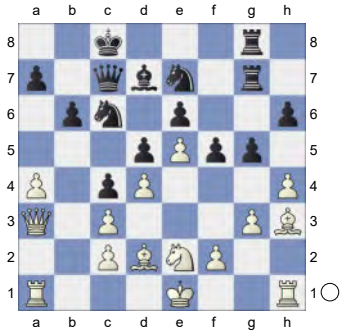
12...0-0-0 13.Nf4N

[13.Qc1 g5 14.Be2 f6 15.f4 gxf4 16.Nxf4 fxe5 17.Ng6 Rh7 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Ne7 20.Qa3 Nf5 21.Bf3 Qc7 22.Bf4 h5 ½-½ (22) Koutsogiannopoulou,T (2484)-Bungo, G (2368) Yerevan ARM 2023 The Week in Chess 273 [John Watson]]

13...Rh7 14.g3 Rg7 15.Bh3 f5



16.Ne2 g5 17.Qb1 Nge7 18.Qb5 Qc7 Strongly threatening ...Nxd4! **19.Qc5 b6 20.Qa3 Rdg8**

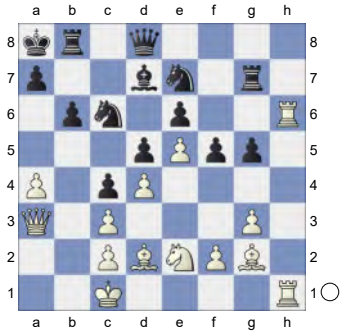


21.0-0-0 Kb7 22.Bg2 Ka8 23.hxg5 hxg5 24.Rh6 Rb8 1.02/19

[⌓24...Nc8 0.71/20]

25.Rdh1± Qd8 1.47/19

[Black should play 25...Rbg8 1.04/20]

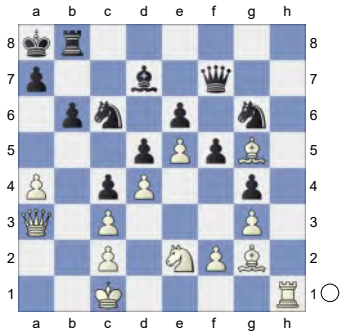


26.Rh7 Qg8 27.Rxg7 Qxg7 28.Rh5 g4 29.Bg5 Qf7

[29...Be8 30.Bf6! Qf7 31.Nf4]

30.Rh1 Threatens to win with Nf4.

30...Ng6

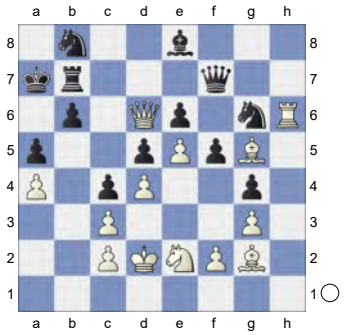


31.Bf6 a5 32.Kd2 0.40/20

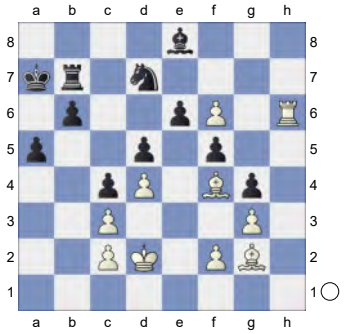
[32.Kb2± 0.91/18]

32...Ka7 33.Qd6 Rb7 34.Rh6 Nb8

35.Bg5 Black must now prevent Bxd5! &Bianco is much more active. The black rooks are badly placed. **35...Be8** 2.38/19
[35...Bc6± 1.29/21]

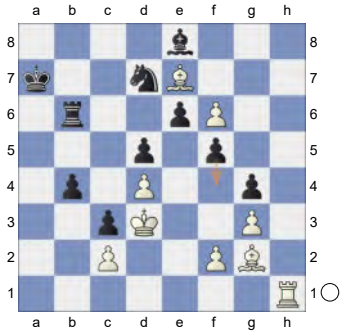


36.Qd8? 0.25/23
[Only move: 36.Nf4!+- 2.38/19 Nxf4 37.Bxf4 *(37.gxf4 Bd7±)*]
36...Bxa4 37.Qf6 -0.01/24
[37.Nf4± 0.31/21 might be stronger. Nxf4 38.Bxf4]
37...Be8= 38.Nf4⇄ White has counterplay **38...Nxf4 39.Bxf4 Qxf6 40.exf6 Nd7**

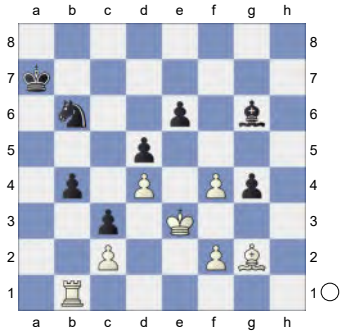


41.Bd6 b5! 42.Be7 0.19/20
[42.Kc1± 0.50/23]
42...b4 43.cxb4 axb4 44.Rh1 -0.01/20
[44.Kc1± 0.34/21 is superior.]
44...c3+ 0.67/19
[Black should try 44...Bg6!= -0.01/20]
45.Kd3 -0.01/19
[45.Ke3± 0.67/19]
45...Rb6

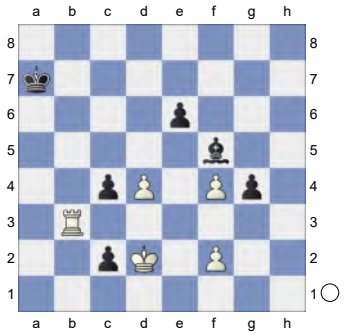
(Diagram)



46.Rb1 f4 47.gxf4 next f5! is good for White. **47...Bg6+ 48.Ke3 Nxf6?** 2.15/28 This move loses the game for Black. **49.Bc5+-**
[Wrong is 49.Bxf6? Bxc2 50.Re1 b3-+]
[Inferior is 49.Rxb4 Nd7=]
49...Nd7 50.Bxb6+ Nxb6

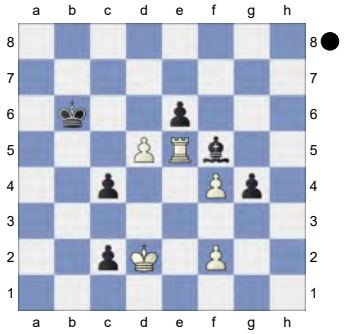


Endgame KRB-KBN **51.Bf1 Bxc2 52.Rxb4 Bf5 53.Rb3 c2 54.Kd2 Nc4+?** 6.20/27
[54...Kb7 2.72/25 55.Bd3 Kc7 56.Kxc2 Kc6 57.Bxf5 exf5]
55.Bxc4 White is clearly winning.
55...dxc4



56.Rb5 Ka6 57.Re5 aiming for d5.

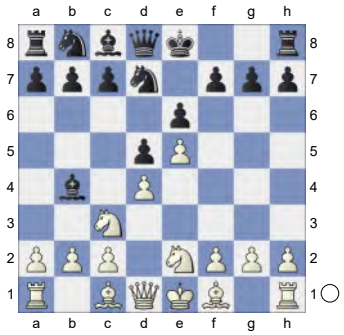
57...Kb6 58.d5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.30
1-0

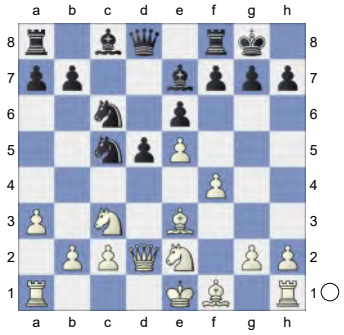
80 **C15**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2737**
■ **Rapport,Richard** **2740**
13th Hainan Danzhou GM rapid (7.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7**

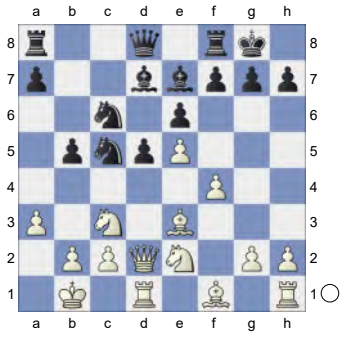


6.a3 Be7 7.Be3 c5 8.f4 Nc6
[8...b6 9.g3 Nc6 10.Bh3 0-0 11.0-0 f5 12.g4 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Nc5 15.Kh1 Ne4 16.Rg1 Bb7 17.gxf5 exf5 18.Qh5 Bc5 19.Bxc5 bxc5 20.Bxf5 Rxf5 21.Qxf5 Nxc3 22.Qe6+ Kf8 23.Rg5 ½-½ Zamlutti Junior,R (2656)-Pape,J (2580) ARG-ch sf 98th 2023]

9.dxc5 White has an edge. **9...Nxc5 10.Qd2!?** An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **10...0-0**

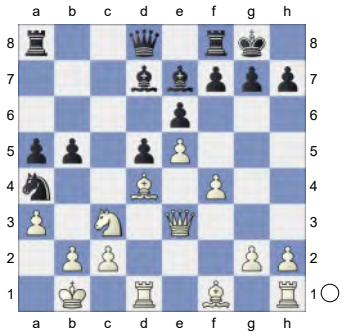


11.0-0-0N
[Predecessor: 11.Nd4 Bd7 *(11...a6 12.Be2 Qc7 13.0-0 b5 14.Nxc6 Qxc6 15.f5 f6 16.Bd4 fxe5 17.Bxe5 Ne4 18.Nxe4 dxe4 19.f6 Bxf6 20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.Qe3 e5 22.c4 bxc4 23.Rac1 Be6 24.b3 Kh8 25.Bxc4 f5* 0-1 Fernandes,F (2202)-Medina Garcia Antonio (2462) New (8)*)* 12.Be2 a5 13.0-0 a4 14.Kh1 b6 15.Rad1 Qb8 16.Qe1 Nxd4 17.Bxd4 1-0 (51) Quesada Perez,Y (2601)-Bajarani,U (2468) Charlotte 2019]
11...Bd7 12.Kb1 b5



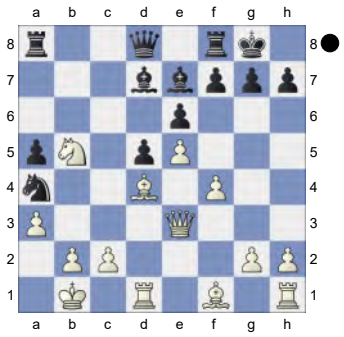
...Ra8-b8 would now be deadly. **13.Nd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 a5** 0.81/20
[14...Ne4= 0.20/19 remains equal. 15.Nxe4 dxe4]
15.Qe3 0.01/21
[15.f5± 0.81/20]
15...Na4 1.22/21
[15...Qb6= 0.01/21 16.f5 Rfc8

(16...exf5? loses. 17.Nxd5 Qe6 18.Nxe7+ Remove Defender Qxe7 19.Bxc5+-; 16...b4 17.f6±)]



16.Nxb5±

[16.Bxb5? too greedy. Nxc3+ 17.Bxc3 Bxb5-+]



Black must now prevent b2-b3. **16...Rb8 17.Nd6 Qc7 18.b3** 1.08/21

[⌓18.Rd3 1.52/21]

18...Bxd6 1.54/21

[Better is 18...Nb6 1.08/21]

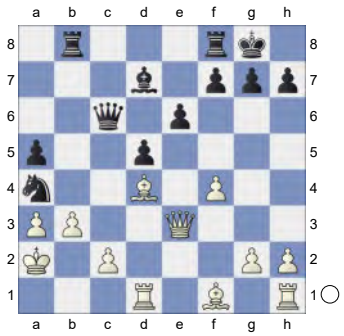
19.exd6 Qxd6 20.Ka2→ 0.74/21

White has strong attack.

[⌓20.Qe5 1.19/23 Qxe5 21.Bxe5]

20...Qc6? 3.65/22

(Diagram)



Loses the game. **21.Bd3+-**

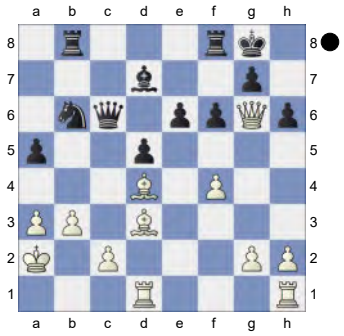
Active counter play! Black is weak on the dark squares

[21.bxa4 is a self mate. Qxc2+ 22.Ka1 Qxd1+]

21...Nb6 22.Qh3 h6 5.10/21

[22...f5 3.03/21 might work better. 23.g4 a4]

23.Qg3 f6 24.Qg6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.65

1-0

81 **C18**

□ **Aronian,Levon** **2735**

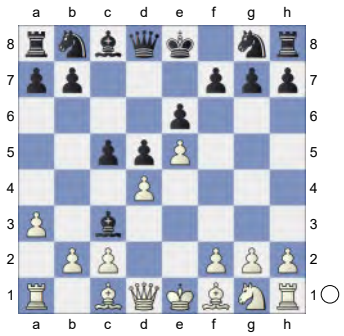
■ **Andreikin,Dmitry** **2729**

Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.38)

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.h4 Ne7 9.h5

[9.dxc5 Nd7=]

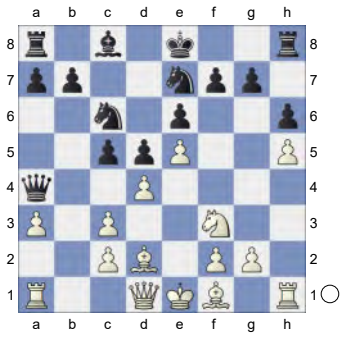
9...h6 0.87/19

[9...b6!± 0.44/18]

10.Nf3

[10.dxc5?! Nd7=]

10...Nbc6



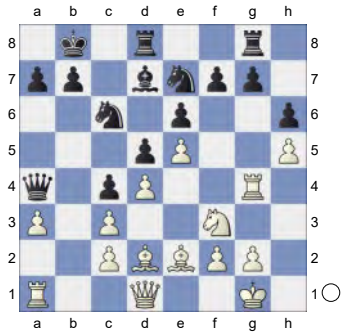
is the legacy move (10...b6). ist old school (10...b6). **11.Rh4** White is slightly better. **11...c4 12.Rg4N** Nowadays more popular than 12.Rf4. Heutzutage beliebter als 12.Tf4.

[12.Rf4 Bd7 13.Nh4 *(13.g3 Rf8 14.Nh4 a6 15.Bh3 Rg8 16.Kf1 Nd8 17.Ng2 Ndc6 18.Ne3 b5 19.Kg1 Qa5 20.Kh1 Rh8 21.Qg4 Rg8 22.Qf3 Nd8 23.g4 Rh8 24.Rg1 g5 25.hxg6 Nxg6 26.Rf6 Qxa3 27.Nf5 exf5* 1-0 6.cd5 ♘d5 7.♕c2_52567 (2597)-Ewetzky,O (2372) Saint Louis (m/1) 154/116 2022 (7.5)*)* 13...Nf5 14.Nxf5 exf5 15.Be2 *(15.g4 fxg4 16.Be2 Nd8 17.Bxg4 Ne6 18.Rf3 Ng5 19.Rg3 0-0-0 20.Bxg5 hxg5 21.Kd2 f5 22.Bf3 g4 23.Bxd5 Qb5 24.Qh1 b6 25.Rb1 Qa5 26.Bxc4 f4 27.Rgg1 Ba4 28.Rb4 Kb8 29.Rxg4 Rd7* 1-0 Khalifman,A (2653)-Shulman, Y (2565) FIDE World Cup 2005 (2.3)*)* 15...Ne7 16.Rh4 0-0-0 17.Qc1 b6 18.Rb1 Kb7 19.Rb4 Qc6 Lagno,K (2542)-Hoang,T (2467) 118/(84) Belgrad 2013]

12...Rg8 13.Be2!N A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 13.Qb1 Bd7 14.Rf4 0-0-0 15.Qb2 Rdf8 16.Rb1 b6 17.g4 -0.57/21 *(17.Be2=* 0.14/21 *)* 17...f6 0.00/20 *(17...g5!∓* -0.57/21 *18.hxg6 fxg6 19.Rxf8+ Rxf8)* 18.Bh3 -0.70/19 *(18.Be3=* 0.00/20 *)* 18...fxe5!∓ 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.dxe5 ½-½ (49) Becerra Rivero,J (2539)-Sambuev,B (2522) Calgary 2017]

13...Bd7 14.Kf1 0-0-0 15.Kg1 Kb8



16.Rf4 Rdf8 17.g4 -0.61/21

[17.Nh2± 0.34/21]

17...g6 0.04/21

[17...f6∓ -0.61/21]

18.hxg6= Nxg6 19.Rf6 h5 0.42/22

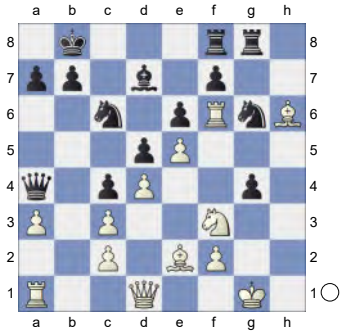
20.Bh6±

[D o n ' t p l a y 20.gxh5 Nf4+ *(20...Ngxe5+? loses. 21.Ng5+-)* 21.Kh1 Nxh5=]

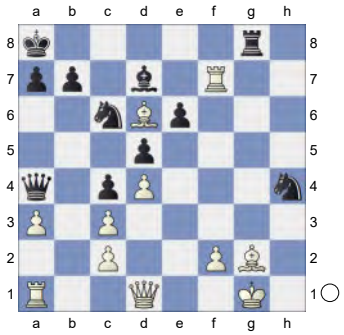
20...hxg4 0.93/21

[Black should play 20...Rc8!± 0.40/21]

(Diagram)

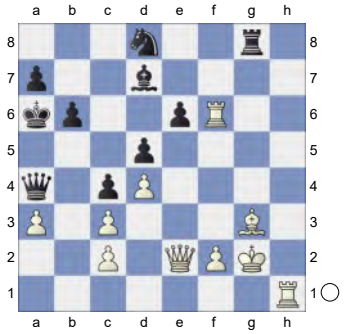


21.Bxf8± White stays focused until the end. **21...gxf3** 1.63/19
[21...Nxf8± 0.48/19 22.Nh4 Be8]
22.Bd6++- **Ka8** **23.Bxf3** **Ngxe5+** 2.08/18
[⌓23...Qa5 1.69/18]
24.Bg2 A strong pair of Bishops.
24...Ng6 **25.Rxf7** **Nh4?** 4.61/21
[25...Bc8 2.01/21 26.Rh7 Qb5]

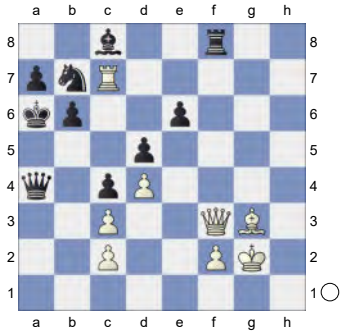


26.Bg3 2.71/19
[⌓26.Qg4 4.61/21 Rd8 27.Qxh4]
26...Nxg2 **27.Kxg2** **Nd8?** 3.63/21
[27...Be8 1.96/20 was worth a try. 28.Rf6 Bg6 29.Rxe6 Bxc2]
28.Rf6 **b6** **29.Qe2** **Kb7** **30.Rh1** Inhibits Bd7-e8. **30...Ka6**

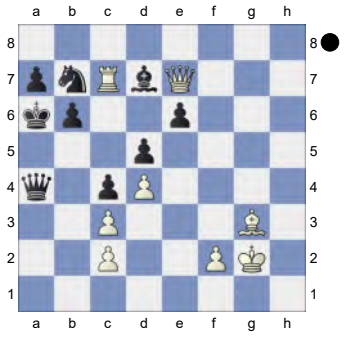
(Diagram)



31.Rh7 **Bc8** **32.Rc7** **Nb7** 3.63/21
[⌓32...Bb7 2.40/22 33.Rh6 Qxa3]
33.Rff7 **Qxa3** **34.Qf3** **Qa4?** 5.38/22
[34...Rh8 3.03/21 35.Be5 Deflection Rh6]
35.Rf8 **Rxf8**

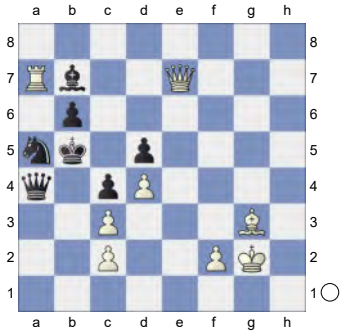


36.Qxf8 Black is weak on the dark squares **36...Bd7** **37.Qe7**

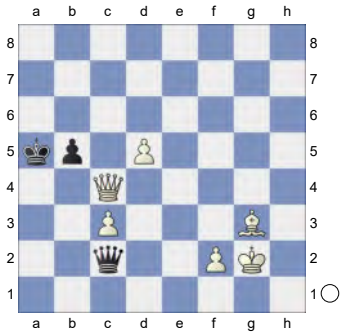


Deflection **37...Bc6** **38.Qxe6** **Na5** **39.Qe7** **Kb5?** 8.58/23
[39...Bb7 3.01/24 40.Qe2 Qa3]
40.Rxa7 **Bb7**

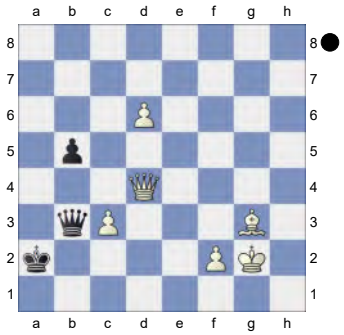
(Diagram)



41.Rxb7 Nxb7 42.Qxb7 Qxc2 43.Qxd5+ Ka6 44.Qxc4+ Ka5 45.d5 b5

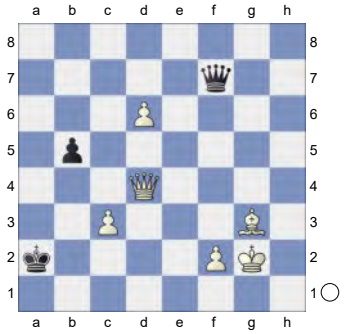


46.Qc7+ 16.94/22
[⌓46.Bc7+ #4/19 Ka6 47.Qc6+ Ka7 48.Qb6+ Ka8 49.Qb8#]
46...Ka4 47.Qf4+ Kb3 48.Qb4+ Ka2 49.Qd4 Qb3 50.d6

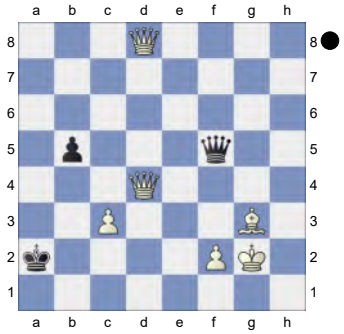


White wants to mate with d6-d7. **50...Qf7**

(Diagram)



51.d7 Qf5 52.d8Q



Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/ Black=0.66
1-0

82 **C17**
□ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2733**
■ **Shirov,Alexei** **2730**
Grand Slam Final 2nd (2) 07.09.2009
[Kitty Kat]

C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines
Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356'' Chandler,Murray G: 'Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359'' **1.Nc3 e6 2.e4 d5 3.d4 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**
[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4*

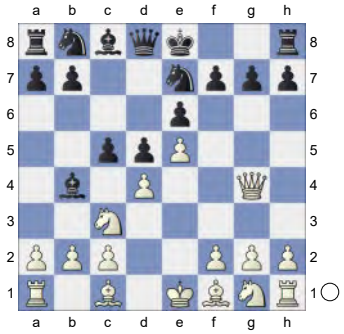
Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62); *5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½ (45) *)* 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]

[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray G] 1-0]

5.Qg4

[5.a3]

5...Ne7



6.Nf3

[6.a3]

[6.dxc5 Nbc6+- 7.Bd2 *(7.Qxg7 Rg8)* 7...0-0]

6...Nbc6

[6...cxd4]

7.Bb5 -0.33/20

[7.Bd2 -0.20/21 7.dxc5 0.18 0-0 *(7...cxd4 8.Nxd4 Nxe5 9.Qxg7 N7g6* ...Bf8 is the strong threat. *10.Qh6 Qb6)*]

[7.a3 Bxc3+! 8.bxc3 Nf5]

[7.Qxg7 Rg8 8.Qxh7 cxd4∓]

[7.a3= 0.28/20 Nxd4 8.Nxd4 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 cxd4 10.Rb1 *(10.Qxg7 Rg8=; 10.cxd4 Qc7=; 10.Bb5+ Bd7=)*]

7...Bd7 0.28/20

[7...Nf5 0.08/17 7...0-0 -0.23]

[7...0-0 8.Bxc6 *(8.0-0)*]

[7...Qa5]

[7...cxd4∓ -0.33/20 8.0-0 dxc3 9.Qxb4 cxb2 10.Qxb2 0-0]

8.Bxc6=

[8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Nxd4 10.Bxd7+ Kxd7∓]

8...Bxc6 9.Bd2 -0.13/19

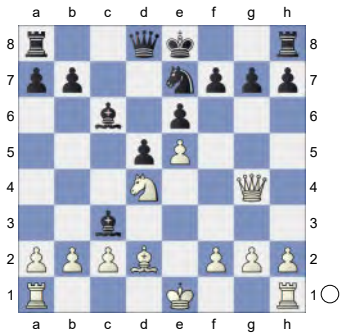
[9.Qxg7 Rg8 White's plan is quite traditional: to move the b-pawn forward, deflecting the black king, and then invade Black's defenseless kingside. 10.Qxh7 Qc7 *(10...cxd4 11.Nxd4 Rxg2 12.Kf1 Rg4 13.Nce2)* 11.Be3?! This plan (to capture the g2 pawn and give up the knight for White's b-pawn) fails as the resulting endgame is winning for White. However, Black's position is difficult in any case. 0-0-0 12.Qxf7 cxd4 13.Bxd4 Rdf8! 14.Qxe6+ Bd7]

[White should play 9.Qxg7± 0.60/21 Rg8 10.Qxh7]

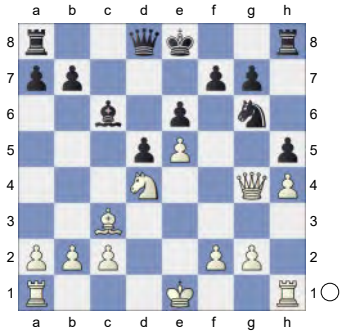
9...cxd4 The position is equal. **10.Nxd4 Bxc3** 0.62/20

[10...Qb6 Black's a2 knight is now doomed to an exchange. 11.Be3 Threatens to win with Nxe6! Qc7 0.50/20 *(11...Bc5=* 0.19/19 *12.0-0-0 0-0)* 12.Qxg7± Rg8 13.Qxh7

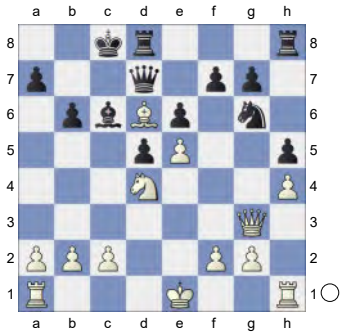
Otherwise it can be trapped! Rxg2]
[10...0-0= -0.03/19]



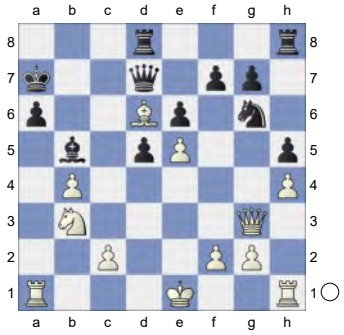
11.Bxc3± White leaves nothing to chance now. **11...Ng6** **12.h4!** And now h5 would win. &Bianco is more active. **12...h5**



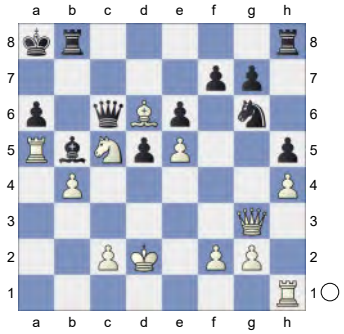
13.Qg3 Black must now prevent Nxe6!
13...Qd7 1.25/18
[Better is 13...Bd7 0.77/18]
14.Bb4± 0-0-0 1.85/19
[14...Rh6± 1.29/18 15.Bd6 b6]
15.Bd6+- b6 2.06/22
[⊼15...b5 1.66/16 16.0-0 Kb7]



16.a4 Kb7
[16...a5 2.56/20 16...Kb7 1.95]
17.b4 aiming for b5.
[17.a5! b5 18.a6+!]
17...a6 2.12/20 Prevents b5.
[17...Bxa4± 1.32/19 18.c4 Rc8]
18.a5 Bb5N GM Alexey Shirov improves on his own play against Kramnik.
[18...b5]
19.axb6 Kxb6!? To avoid pressure like in Kramnik-Shirov, Black must go for tactical complications, probably analysed at home. **20.Nb3!**
[Don't take 20.Qc3?! Rc8 21.Qe3 *(21.Qa3 Kb7±)* 21...Kb7]
20...Ka7 2.97/21
[⊼20...Rc8 1.95/19 21.Nc5 Qa7]

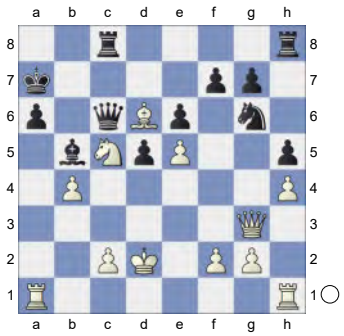


21.Nc5 Qc6 22.Kd2 Rc8? 9.86/20
[22...Ka8? 23.Ra5 Rb8

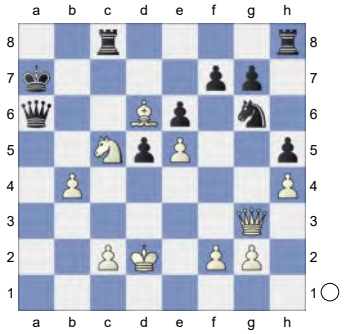


24.Nxa6! Bxa6 25.Rha1+-]
[22...Kb6 2.64/19 23.Ra3 *(23.Qa3 Rxd6 24.Qa5+ Ka7±)* 23...d4]

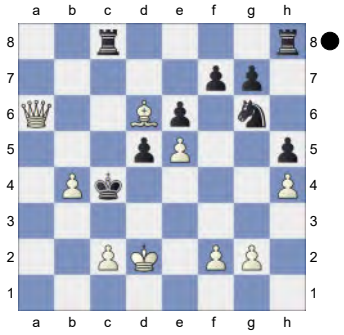
(Diagram)



23.Rxa6+!!+- **Bxa6?!** A serious inaccuracy. **24.Ra1** Threatening mate with Qd3. **24...Qb5** **25.Rxa6+** '1/2 Jones,P (2139)-Hassim,U (2193)/ LSS 2008/Telechess CBM 131' - definitely too early! **25...Qxa6**



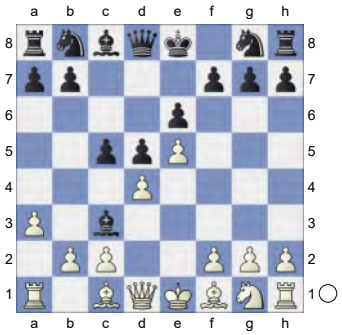
26.Nxa6± The bishop is stronger than the knight in positions with a passed pawn or potential passed pawn. Black's strong d5 knight gives him only partial compensation. **26...Kxa6** **27.Qa3+** **Kb5** **28.Qa5+** **Kc4?!** **29.Qa6+**



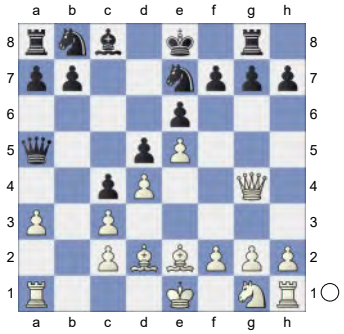
Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.74
1-0

83 **C19**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2728**
■ **Rapport,Richard** **2720**
GRENKE Chess Classic 2024 rapid (5.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Beliavsky,A: 'Inf 68/(262)'
1.e4 **e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** **Bb4** **4.e5** **c5** **5.a3** **Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 **Ne7** **7.Qg4** **Qc7** **8.Bd3** **Qa5** **9.Bd2**
[9.Qxg7? Qxc3+ *(9...Rg8? 10.Qxg8+ Nxg8 11.Bd2-+)* 10.Ke2 Rg8-+]
9...c4! **10.Be2**
[10.Qxg7 Rg8 11.Qxh7 cxd3 12.Qxd3 Bd7∓ *(12...Rxg2 13.h4∓)*]
10...Rg8
[10...Nf5 11.Nf3 *(11.h4 Nc6 12.h5 h6 13.Qf4 Bd7 14.Nf3 Rf8 15.g4 Nfe7 16.g5 Nf5 17.Nh4 Nxh4 18.Qxh4 Ne7 19.gxh6 Nf5 20.Qf4 gxh6 21.Bg4 Rh8 22.Bxf5 exf5 23.Qh4 Be6 24.Rb1 b6 25.Qf6 Kd7* ½-½ Ye,F (1638)-Zhou,Y (1252) CHN-ch sf Hefei 2023 (10)*)* 11...Nc6 12.Qh5 h6 13.0-0 Bd7 14.Rfb1 0-0-0 15.Qxf7 g5 16.Be1 g4 17.Nd2 Rhg8 18.h3 Rdf8 Almasi,Z (2655)-Beliavsky,A (2620) Magyarorszag 68/ (262) 1996]



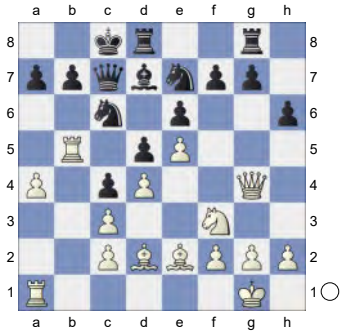
White is slightly better. **11.a4N**

[11.Qh3 h6 12.a4 Nbc6 13.Bh5 Bd7 14.Ne2 g6 *(14...Rf8 15.Qf3 Nf5 16.Bg4 0-0-0 17.Bxf5 exf5 18.Nf4 Be6 19.Nh5 Rg8 20.Qe3* #4 34. Winawer 7.Qg4 Qc7 Main Li-Winawer 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Bd3 c4*)* 15.Bg4 h5 16.Bf3 0-0-0 17.Bg5 Rasmussen, P-N,N URS-ch Soviet Union 1983]

11...Nbc6 12.Nf3 0.04/23

[12.h4± 0.60/20]

12...Bd7 13.0-0 h6 14.Rfb1 0-0-0 15.Rb5 Qc7



16.Qf4 -0.44/18

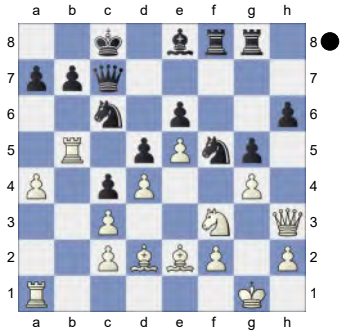
[16.Qh3= 0.00/20 is more appropriate.]

16...g5∓ 17.Qxf7 Nf5

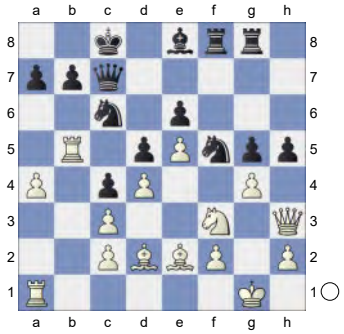
[17...Rdf8!? 18.Qh5□ Rh8±]

18.g4 Rdf8 19.Qh5 Be8 20.Qh3

(Diagram)



h5 0.73/21



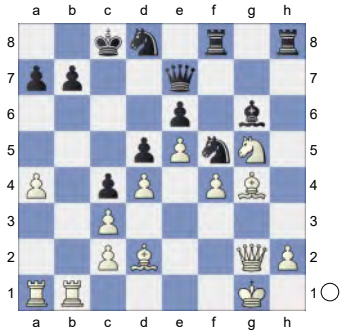
21.Nxg5!±

[21.gxf5? g4 22.Qf1 gxf3+ 23.Kh1 fxe2 24.Qxe2 Rxf5-+]

21...hxg4 22.Bxg4 Qe7 23.f4 Rh8 24.Qg2 Nd8 25.Rbb1 0.10/22

[25.Bc1!± 0.80/20 And now Bc1-a3 would win. Bxb5 26.Ba3 Skewer, Deflection *(26.axb5 Qe8=)*]

25...Bg6



26.Rf1 0.00/22

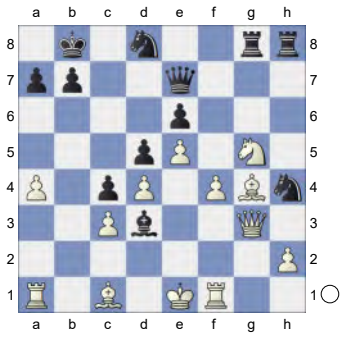
[26.Bc1± 0.39/21 deserves consideration.]

26...Kb8= 27.Bc1 Black must now prevent Bc1-a3. **27...Rfg8 28.Kf2** -0.83/21

[28.a5= 0.00/21 remains equal.]

28...Nh4!∓ Excellent horsemanship.

29.Qg3 Bxc2 30.Ke1 Bd3

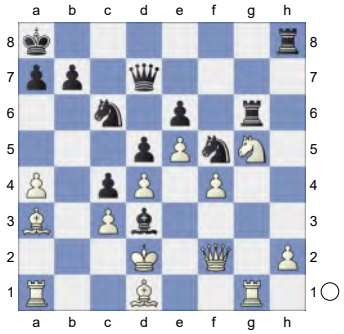


Black has strong compensation. **31.Rg1 Ka8 32.Qf2 Nf5 33.Ba3 Qd7 34.Bd1 Nc6** -0.63/21

[Better is 34...Nf7∓ -1.24/20 Threatens to win with ...Nf7xg5. 35.Bc1 Qe8]

35.Kd2∓ Rg6

[35...Na5 seems wilder. 36.Bb4 b6 37.h3 Rb8]

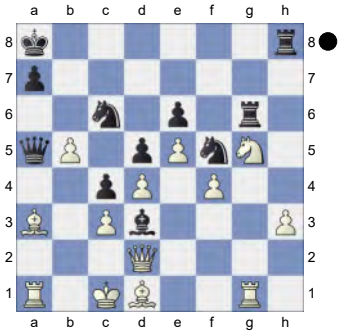


36.Kc1 Qc7 37.h3 Qa5 38.Qd2 -1.40/21

[⊼38.Qb2 -0.86/21]

38...b5∓ 39.axb5

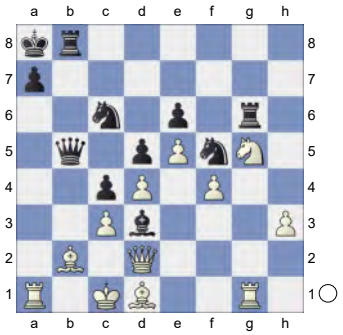
(Diagram)



Rb8! 40.Bb2

[40.bxc6? Qxa3+ 41.Rxa3 Rb1#]

40...Qxb5



41.Ba4 Qb7 -0.89/19

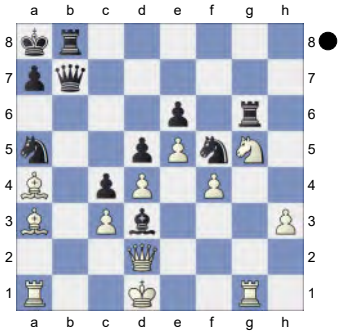
[⊼41...Qb6 -1.31/23 42.Kd1 Na5 *(42...Qxb2 43.Bxc6+ Rb7 44.Qxb2* Pin *)*]

42.Kd1 Na5 -0.29/18

[42...Qxb2 43.Bxc6+ Rb7 44.Qxb2 Pin]

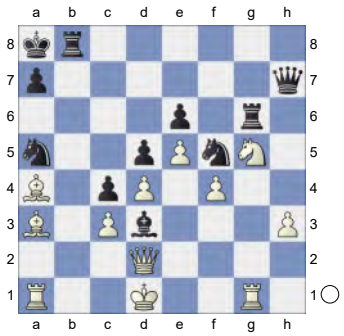
[Black should play 42...Qb6∓ -0.86/20]

43.Ba3=



Qh7? 2.27/24

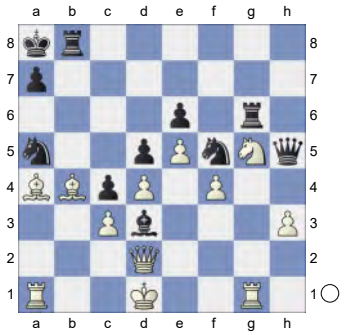
(Diagram)



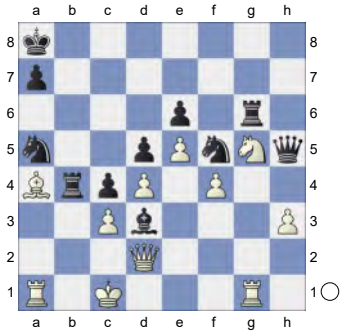
44.Bb4!+-

[44.Nxh7 Rxg1+=]

44...Qh5+



45.Kc1! Rxb4



46.cxb4 Nxd4 47.Kb2

[47.bxa5 Ne2+ 48.Kd1 Nxg1+ 49.Ke1 Qe2+ *(49...Nxh3 50.Bc6+ Kb8 51.Qb4+ Kc7 52.Qb7+ Kd8 53.Nf7#; 49...Nf3+? 50.Nxf3+-)* 50.Qxe2 Nxe2=]

47...Nab3 48.Bxb3 0.79/18

[48.Qe3+- 2.48/22 has better winning chances. Ba4xb3 is the strong threat. Qe2+ 49.Qxe2 Deflection Nxe2 50.Bxb3 cxb3 51.Rgf1]

48...Nxb3± 49.Qf2 0.42/15

[49.Qe3± 0.79/23 Nxa1 50.Rxa1]

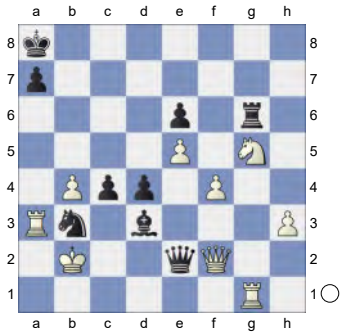
49...d4? 4.62/22 Black is on the road to losing.

[Black should try 49...Nxa1± 0.42/15 50.Rxa1 d4]

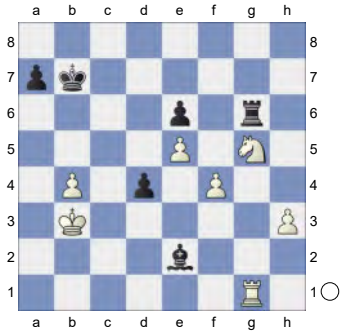
50.Ra3 2.50/21

[⌓50.Qg2+ 4.62/22 Kb8 51.Qc6 Nxa1 *(51...Qe2+? 52.Ka3+-)* 52.Nxe6 c3+ *(52...Rxg1 53.Qc7+ Ka8 54.Qc8#)* 53.Ka3]

50...Qe2+



51.Qxe2 Bxe2 52.Rxb3 cxb3 53.Kxb3+- Endgame. aiming for Ng5-f3! KRB-KRN **53...Kb7**

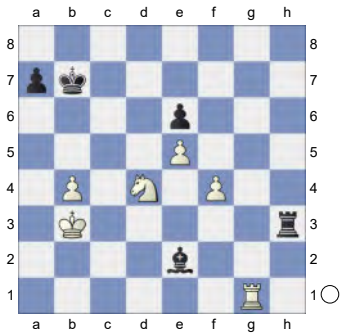


54.Nf3! Discovered Attack **54...Rh6** 3.02/24

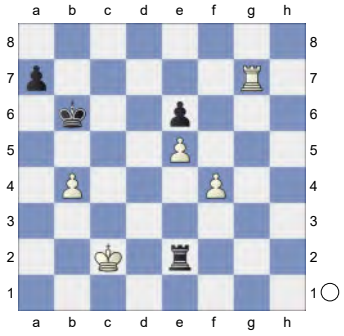
[⌓54...Rxg1 1.99/23 55.Nxg1 Bh5]

55.Nxd4 Rxh3+

(Diagram)

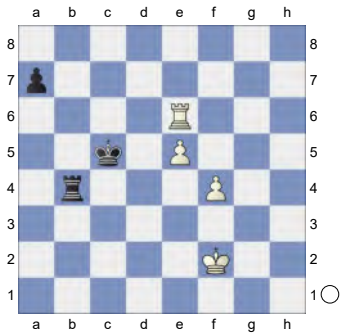


56.Kb2 Rh2? 4.00/24
[56...Bc4 1.94/18 might work better. 57.Rg7+ Kb6]
57.Kc3? 1.55/17
[57.Rg7++- 4.00/24 and the rest is easy. Kc8 58.Kb3 *(58.Nxe6 Bg4+ 59.Kc3 Bxe6=; 58.Rxa7 Bb5+ 59.Kc1 Rh1+ 60.Kd2 Rh2+ 61.Ke3 Rh3+ 62.Kf2 Bc4+-)*]
57...Rh3+± 58.Kc2 Rh2 5.02/21
[58...Bc4 1.75/19 is more resistant. 59.Rg7+ Kb6 60.Nxe6 Rf3 *(60...Bxe6?* is the wrong capture. *61.Rg6+-)*]
59.Rg7+ White is clearly winning.
[Inferior is 59.Nxe6 Bg4+ 60.Kc3 Bxe6=]
59...Kb6 60.Nxe2 Rxe2++-

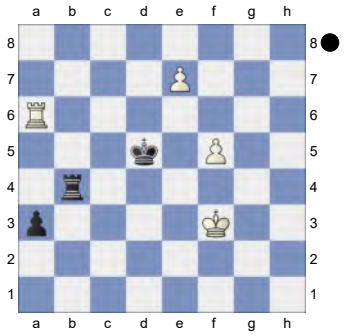


KR-KR **61.Kd3 Rf2 62.Ke3 Rb2 63.Rg6 Rb3+ 64.Kf2 Rxb4 65.Rxe6+ Kc5**

(Diagram)



66.Kf3 a5 67.Ra6 a4 68.e6 Kd5 69.f5 a3 70.e7

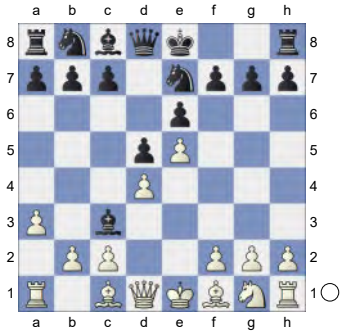


Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.36
1-0

84 **C19**
□ **Wei,Yi** **2726**
■ **Xu,Xiangyu** **2626**
Shenzhen Nanshan Men 2023 rapid (2.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



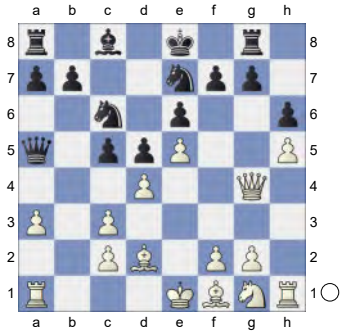
6.bxc3 c5 7.h4 Qa5 8.Bd2 Nbc6 9.h5 h6

[9...Bd7 10.h6 gxh6 11.Rb1 0-0-0 12.Rb5 Qa4 13.Qb1 Na5 14.Rxc5+ Kb8 15.Rh3 b6 16.Rf3 Ka8 17.Rb5 Nc4 18.Rb4 Nxa3 19.Rxa4 Nxb1 20.Ra1 Nxd2 21.Kxd2 Rdf8 22.Bd3 Rhg8 23.g3 h5 24.Ne2 1-0 Morozevich,A (2762)-Lputian,S (2634) TCh Sochi RUS 2007 (8)]

10.Qg4 Rg8N

[10...cxd4 11.cxd4 Qa4 12.c3 Rg8 13.Qf4 b6 14.Rh3 Ba6 15.Rf3 Rf8 16.Bxa6 Qxa6 17.Qg4 Rg8 18.Ne2 Qb7 19.Qf4 Rf8 20.Qg4 Rg8 21.Rb1 Qd7 22.Kf1 Na5 23.Qf4 Rf8 24.Qg3 Nc4 25.Bc1 ½-½ Loheac Amoun,F (2525)-Gade,M (2535) SU 1987 Qa4 26.Ke1 Qc2 27.Ra1 Nf5 28.Qg4 0-0-0 29.Ng3 Nxg3 30.Rxg3 Rg8 31.Qe2 Qxe2+ 32.Kxe2 Rdf8 33.f4 g6 34.hxg6 Rxg6 35.Kf3 b5 36.Ra2 Kc7 37.Rxg6 fxg6 38.g4 Kd7 39.Rh2 Rh8 40.f5 ½-½ Rogers,I (2525)-Farago,I (2535) II 43/370 Wijk aan Zee 1987]

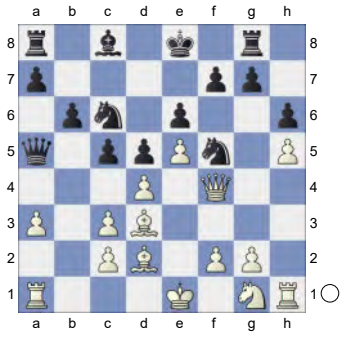
(Diagram)



is currently scoring better than 10...Nf5. wohl besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Bd3 Nf5** White is better. **12.Qf4 b6N** 1.41/22

[Vorgänger: 12...c4 13.Be2 0.52/23 *(Better is 13.Bxf5± 1.24/25* Threatens to win with Bf5-h3. *exf5 14.a4)* 13...Bd7 14.Nf3 0.37/23 *(White should try 14.Bg4± 0.73/20)* 14...0-0-0± 15.g4 Nfe7 16.Nh4 Qa4 17.Bd1 Rdf8 18.Rg1 -0.45/22 *(18.Qg3=* 0.10/22 *)* 18...f6 0-1 Niekras,D (2291)-Jaroch,K (2207) Warsaw Najdorf Memorial op-A 15th 2017 (3)]

[⚟12...Bd7 0.99/22]



13.Nf3 0.98/20

[⚟13.a4! 1.41/22]

13...Ba6 2.19/23

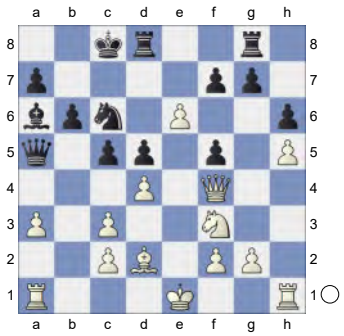
[13...Qa4± 0.98/20]

14.Bxf5+- exf5 15.e6

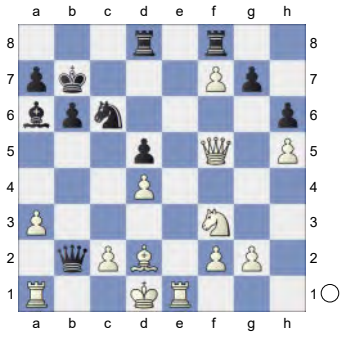
[15.Qxf5 Qb5 16.0-0-0 Ne7±]

15...0-0-0

(Diagram)

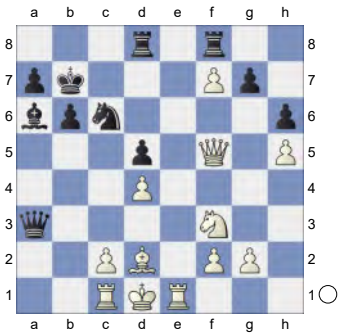


Dodges Qf4-c7+ **16.exf7**
[16.Qxf5?! fxe6 17.Qf7 *(17.Qxe6+ Kb7=)* 17...Bc4±]
16...Qb5? 2.64/18
[16...Rgf8± 1.03/20 was worth a try.]
17.Qxf5+
[17.fxg8Q? Qe2#]
17...Kb7 18.Kd1
[18.fxg8B? Qe2#]
[18.c4 Qxc4± 19.0-0-0 *(19.fxg8B? Qe2#; 19.Qd7+? Rxd7 20.0-0-0 Rxf7-+)* 19...Rgf8±]
18...Rgf8 19.Re1 cxd4 20.cxd4
Bd2-b4! is the strong threat.
[20.Nxd4 Nxd4 21.Re7+ *(21.cxd4 Rd7±)* 21...Ka8 22.cxd4 Qb2+-]
20...Qb2



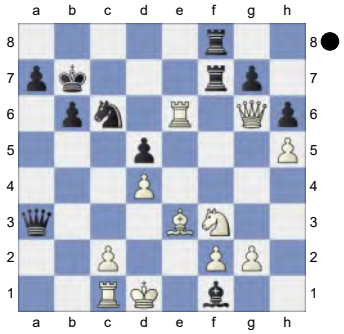
21.Rc1 Qxa3

(Diagram)

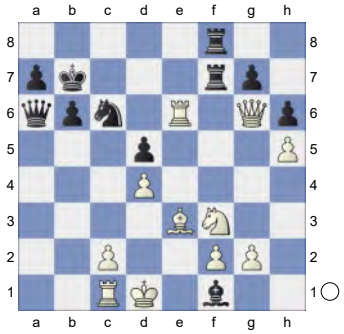


22.Re8 1.80/20
[⌓22.Ne5! 3.15/21]
22...Bf1? 3.42/21
[22...Qd6 1.80/20]
23.Qg6? 0.04/17
[White should play 23.Ne5+- 3.42/21 Nxd4 24.Qg6]
23...Rd7!= The board is on fire. **24.Re6?** 1.59/20
[24.Qxg7? Rdxf7 25.Qg6 Rxe8-+ *(25...Bxg2? 26.Qxg2 Rxe8 27.Ne5-+* Decoy *)*]
[24.Ne5= 0.08/23 Nxe5 25.dxe5 Rdxf7 26.Rxf8 Qxf8 27.Be3]
24...Rdxf7± 25.Be3? -2.46/20
[25.Rxc6± 1.59/20 is necessary to keep the advantage. Hoping for Rc1-b1. Rxf3 26.Rb1 Be2+ *(26...Rxf2 27.Rcxb6+* Demolition *axb6 28.Qxb6+ Kc8 29.Qb8+ Kd7 30.Rb7+* Skewer *Ke6 31.Qe5#)* 27.Ke1 *(27.Kxe2 Rxf2+ 28.Kd1 Rf1+* Skewer *29.Be1 Rxe1+* Back Rank *30.Kxe1 Qe3+ 31.Kd1 Rf1#)*]

(Diagram)

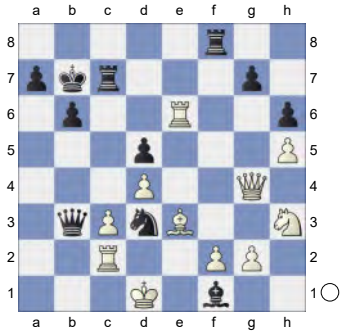


25...Qa6!

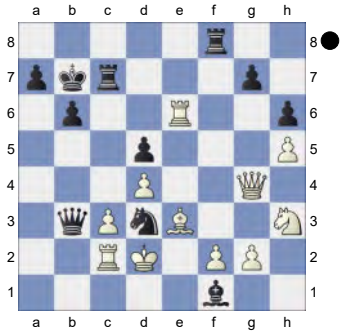


26.Ng1 Prevents Qa6-e2+.
[26.Rb1 Ne7]
26...Qc4 27.Qg4 -3.80/20
[⊼27.Ke1 -2.67/23 Nxd4 28.Re8]
27...Nb4 28.Nh3 -4.84/19
[⊼28.Bd2 -3.05/20 Bd3 *(28...Rxf2 29.Qxg7+ Ka8 30.Qe5∓)* 29.Bxb4 *(29.cxd3* gets mated. *Qb3+ 30.Ke1 Nxd3+ 31.Ke2 Rxf2+ 32.Ke3 Nxc1+* Discovered Attack (Check) *)*]
28...Rc7-+ 29.c3 -7.45/24
[⊼29.Ke1 -4.84/22 Bd3 *(29...Nxc2+ 30.Rxc2 Qxc2 31.Kxf1∓)* 30.Nf4 Nxc2+ 31.Rxc2 Bxc2 *(31...Qxc2? 32.Qd1-+)* 32.Qh4]
29...Nd3 30.Rc2 Qb3

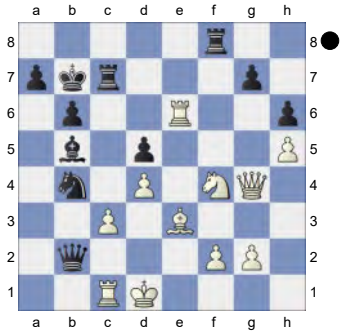
(Diagram)



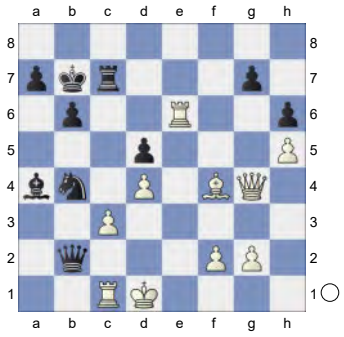
31.Kd2



Nb4! 32.Rc1
[32.Qd1 Bd3]
32...Bb5 33.Nf4 Qb2+ 34.Kd1



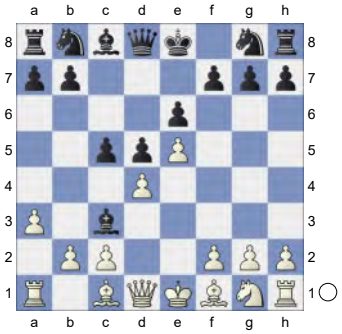
Rxf4! 35.Bxf4
[35.Rc6 Rxg4]
35...Ba4+



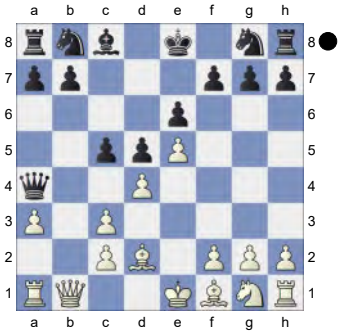
Weighted Error Value: White=1.07/ Black=0.39
0-1

85 **C18**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2726**
■ **Artemiev,Vladislav** **2697**
AI Cup Div 2 W rapid (2.3) 26.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qb1
[But not 8.dxc5 Ne7=]

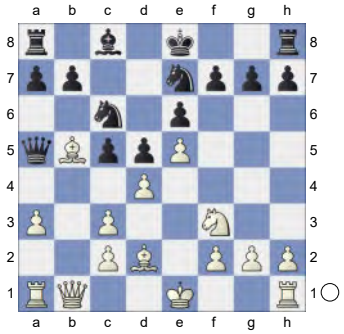


Bf1-b5+ is the strong threat. **8...Nc6N**
[8...a6 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Qb3 Qxb3 11.cxb3 Na5 12.Rb1 c4 13.b4 Nb3 14.Bf4 a5 15.Nd2 a4 16.Be2 Ne7 17.Nf1 Nc6 18.Kd1 f6 19.exf6 gxf6 20.Bh5+ Ke7 21.Ng3 e5 22.Re1 Kd6 23.dxe5+ fxe5 24.Bh6 Rg8 25.f4 e4 26.Kc2 Ne7 27.Rbd1 Kc6 28.Bf7 Bg4 29.Bxg8 Rxg8 30.Rd2 Nxd2 31.Kxd2 Nf5 32.Nxf5 Bxf5 33.g3 d4 34.cxd4 Kd5 35.Kc3 b5 36.Re3 Bh3 37.Bg5 h5 38.Bf6]
[8...c4 9.g3 *(9.Nh3 Nc6 10.Nf4 Bd7 11.Be2 0-0-0 12.0-0 f6 13.Nh5 fxe5 14.Nxg7 exd4 15.Bg5 Nge7 16.Bg4 e5 17.Ne6 Bxe6 18.Bxe6+ Kb8 19.f4 dxc3 20.fxe5 d4 21.Rf7 Rhe8 22.Bg4 d3 23.e6 Rd5* 0-1 Hannesson,G (2598)-14. ♗c4 ♖c4 15.g4_20763 (2598) 2nd Perez Marin Memorial 1999*; 9.h4 Nc6 10.h5 Bd7 11.h6 Nxh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 0-0-0 14.Rxh6 Rdg8 15.g3 Qa5 16.Kd1 Rg6 17.Qc1 Ne7 18.Bh3 Qd8 19.Qe3 Ba4 20.Kd2 Qf8 21.Rh5 h6 22.Rh1 Nc6 23.Nf4 Rgg8* 0-1 Gillespie,D (2198)-10.0-0 ♗d7 11. ♖c1 ♖c8_1 (2411) USSR 24/ 455 1977 (6)*)* 9...Nc6 10.Bg2 Bd7 11.Nh3 0-0-0 12.0-0 f6 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Ng5 Rhf8 15.Re1 Rde8 16.Bh3 Nd8 17.Re2 e5 18.dxe5 Bxh3 19.Nxh3 Qd7 20.Nf4 Ne4 21.Qb4 Nxd2 22.Rxd2 Rxf4 23.gxf4 1-0 Destruels Moreno,F (2602)-Pace, C (2427) Hampstead GM3 1998 (5. 2)]

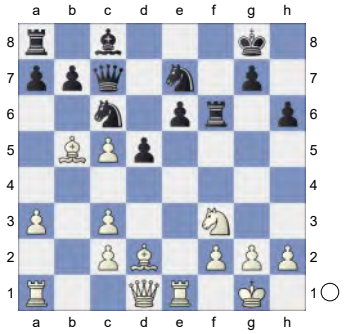
9.Bb5
[Reject 9.dxc5 Qe4+ 10.Be3 Qxe5=]

9...Qa5! is now more promising than 9... Ba6. im Vergleich zu 9...La6 vielversprechender. Black is weak on the dark squares **10.Nf3 Nge7**

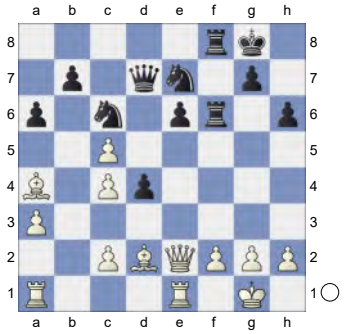
(Diagram)



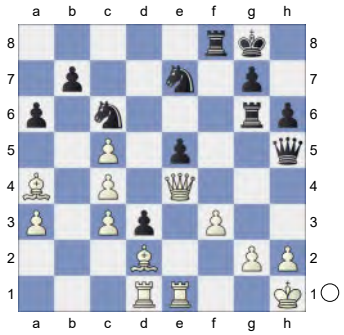
White is slightly better. **11.dxc5 0-0**
12.0-0 Qc7 13.Re1 f6 1.33/21
[13...Ng6 14.Bxc6 0-1 Robertson,J (2119)-Weaving,R (2314) BCF-chT1b 1718 (4NCL) 2017 (4.76) bxc6 15.Qc1 Rb8 16.Be3 Ba6 17.Bd4 Rb7 18.h4 Qe7 19.g3 Rfb8 20.h5 Nf8 21.h6 g6 22.a4 Rb2 23.c4 R2b7 24.cxd5 exd5 25.e6 Nxe6 26.Be5 Rc8 27.Bd6 Qf6 28.Re3 g5 29.Qa3 Qxh6 30.Rae1 Bc4 31.Ne5 d4 32.Ng4 Qh3 33.Re4 f5 34.Nf6+ Kf7 35.Qf3 Kxf6 36.Be5+ Kg6 37.Bxd4 fxe4 38.Qf6+ Kh5 39.Be3 Rf8]
[13...Bd7± 0.68/19]
14.exf6± Rxf6 15.Qd1 0.71/18
[⌓15.Bg5 1.50/20]
15...h6



16.c4N c4xd5 would now be deadly.
16...d4 17.Qe2 Bd7! 18.Ne5↑
Black is under pressure. **18...a6** 1.10/25
[Better is 18...Qxe5± 0.37/24 19.Qxe5 Nxe5 20.Rxe5 Nc6]
19.Nxd7 Qxd7 20.Ba4 Raf8

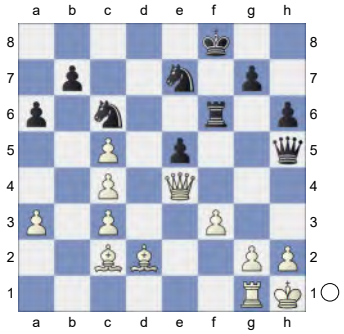


21.f3 Rg6 1.67/20
[21...g5]
[21...Ng6± 0.97/18 was necessary.]
22.Rad1 e5 1.84/20
[22...Qd8± 1.35/18 was called for. 23.Rb1 Qc7]
23.Kh1 Qf5 2.09/20
[⌓23...Nf5 1.71/21 24.Qe4 Qe7]
24.c3 d3 25.Qe4 Qh5 3.00/22
[25...Qxe4± 1.54/20 26.fxe4 *(26.Rxe4 Rd8)* 26...Rgf6]

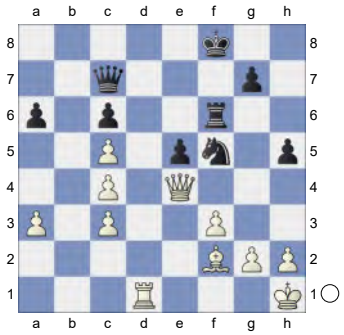


26.Be3 d2 27.Rg1
[Much less strong is 27.Rxd2?! Nf5 28.Qd5+ Kh7+-]
27...Rd8 28.Bc2 Rf6 29.Rxd2 Rxd2 30.Bxd2 Kf8

(Diagram)



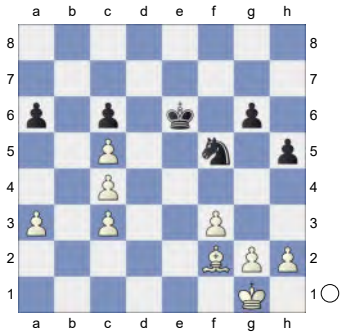
31.Be3 Qf7 32.Rd1 Nf5 33.Bf2 h5 34.Ba4 Qc7 35.Bxc6 bxc6



36.Re1 Kf7 37.Kg1 g6 38.Qxe5 Qxe5 39.Rxe5 Re6 4.42/28

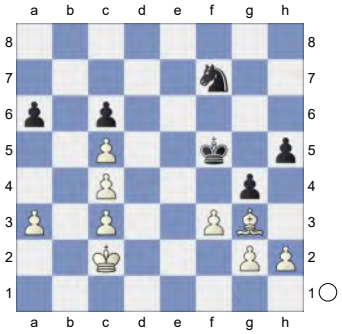
[39...Ng7 2.91/21 is a better defense. 40.Bg3 Ne6]

40.Rxe6+- Kxe6



Endgame. KB-KN **41.Kf1 Nh6 42.Ke2 Nf7 43.Bg3 Kf5 44.Kd3 g5 45.Kc2 g4**

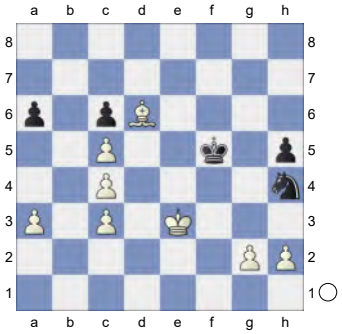
(Diagram)



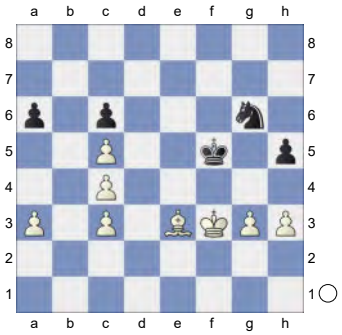
46.fxg4+ Kxg4 47.Bc7 Kf5 48.Kd3 Nh8 49.Ke3 White is clearly winning.

49...Ng6 50.Bd6 Nh4 6.82/27

[⌓50...Nh8 4.58/23 51.Bf4 Nf7]

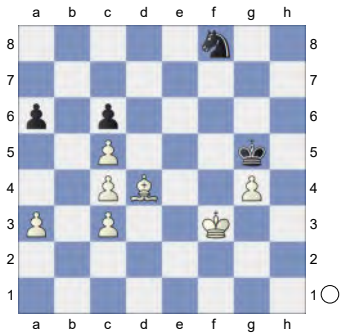


51.g3 Ng6 52.Kf3 Nh8 53.Bf4 Ng6 54.h3 Nh8 55.Be3 Ng6

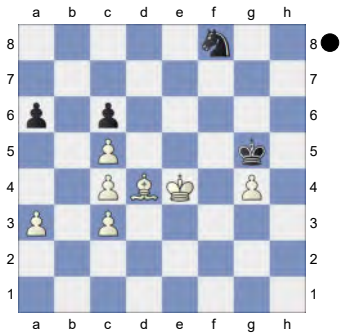


56.Bd4 Nf8 57.g4+ hxg4+ 58.hxg4+ Kg5 59.Be3+ Kf6 60.Bd4+ Kg5

(Diagram)



61.Ke4

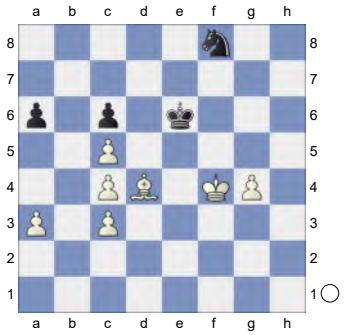


Black must now prevent Ke4-e5.

61...Nd7 7.93/22

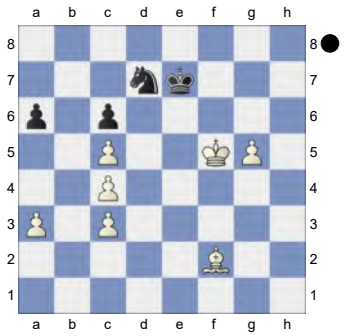
[⌓61...Ng6 4.70/22 62.Kf3 Nh4+ 63.Kg3 Ng6]

62.Bg1 Kg6 63.Kf4 Kf6 64.Be3 Nf8 65.Bd4+ Ke6



Vorgänger: **66.Kg5 Kf7 67.Kf5 Nd7 68.Bf2 Ke7 69.g5**

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.35. Loss on time!?

0-1

86 **C18**

□ **Timmerman,Gert Jan** **2725**

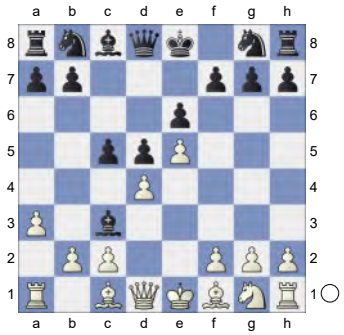
■ **Elwert,Hans Marcus** **2620**

corr NPSF jub50 1995

[Kitty Kat]

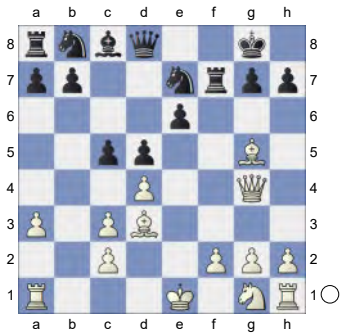
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7

(Diagram)

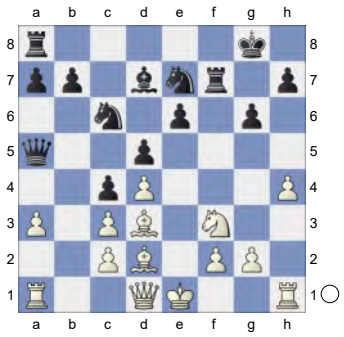


11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Nbc6 13.Nf3 Qa5 14.Bd2 Bd7

[14...c4 15.Be2 Nf5 16.0-0 Bd7 17.Ng5 Re7 18.f4 Rf8 19.a4 h6 20.Nh3 Rg7 21.Qe1 Nd8 22.Bf3 Nf7 23.Bc1 Re8 24.Nf2 h5 25.Kh1 N7h6 26.Nh3 Nf7 27.Nf2 N7h6 28.Nh3 Nf7 29.Bd2 Kukk,R (2591)-Myers,D (2400) ICCF email 2007 Myers [Myers] 1-0 (71)]

15.h4 c4

[15...e5 16.c4 Qa4 17.Ng5 dxc4 18.Be4 Bf5 19.Nxf7 Bxe4 20.Qg4 c3 21.Bg5 Bf5 22.Nh6+ Kf8 23.Bxe7+ Nxe7 24.Qg5 Kg7 25.Qxe7+ Kxh6 26.h5 Qe8 27.hxg6+ Kxg6 28.Qxh7+ Kf6 29.Rh6+ Kg5 30.Qg7+ Epishin,V (2635)-Adams,M (2655) Ter Apel 1995 CBM 047 [Stohl, Igor] ½-½ (35)]



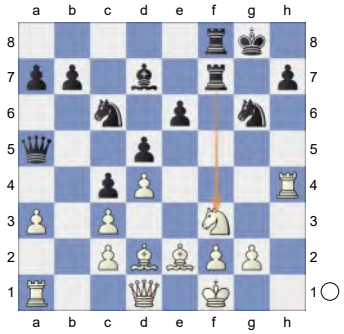
White has an edge. **16.Be2 Raf8N**

[16...Nf5 17.h5 e5 18.hxg6 hxg6 19.g4 Nd6 20.Ng5 Rg7 21.Kf1 Rf8 22.Kg2 Nf7 23.dxe5 Ncxe5 24.Rh3 Bc6 25.f3 Re8 26.Nxf7 Nxf7 27.f4 d4+ 28.Bf3 d3 29.cxd3 cxd3 30.c4 Qc7 31.Kf1 Cayon,R (2195)-Goncalves,L (2361) Biel 2006 Inf60 [Thipsay,Praveen Mahadeo; Thipsay, B] 0-1 (41)]

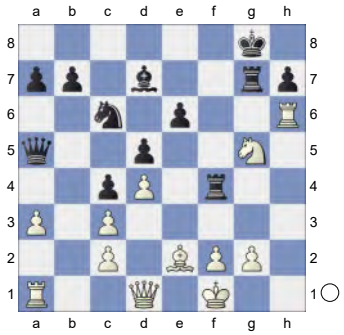
17.h5 gxh5 18.Rxh5 Ng6 19.Kf1 Nf4 0.27/19

[19...Nce7± 0.74/19]

20.Rh4 Ng6



21.Rh6 Nf4 22.Ng5 Rg7 23.Bxf4 Rxf4



24.Qd2! Qc7

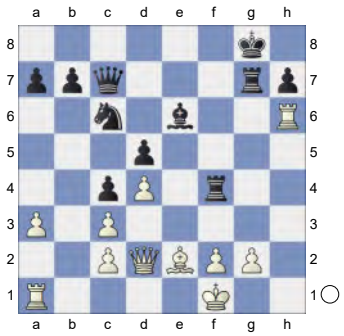
[24...Rxd4? 25.Qe3 Re4 26.Nxe4 dxe4 27.Rh5+-]

25.Nxe6 -0.01/25

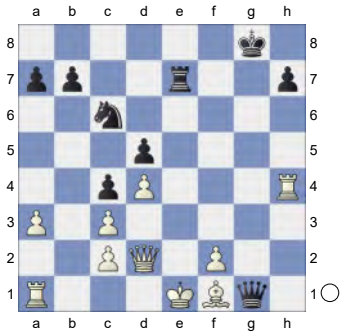
[25.Nf3± 0.40/18 feels stronger.]

25...Bxe6=

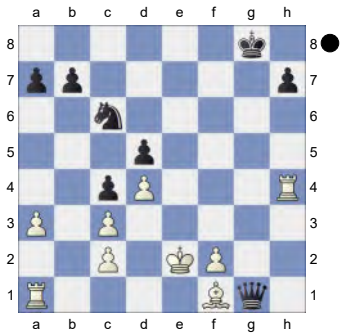
(Diagram)



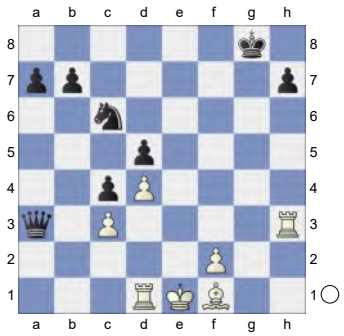
26.Rxe6 Bf3 is the strong threat.
26...Rh4!
[26...Rxf2+ 27.Kxf2 Qf7+ 28.Bf3 Qxe6 29.Qe3 Qxe3+ 30.Kxe3±]
27.Rh6
[Don't go for 27.Re8+? Kf7 28.Bf3 Rh1+ 29.Ke2 Rxa1-+]
27...Qh2 28.Rxh4 Qxg2+
[Don't take 28...Qxh4 29.Kg1±]
29.Ke1 Qg1+ 30.Bf1 Re7+



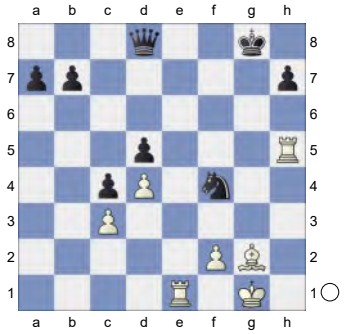
31.Qe2 Rxe2+ 32.Kxe2



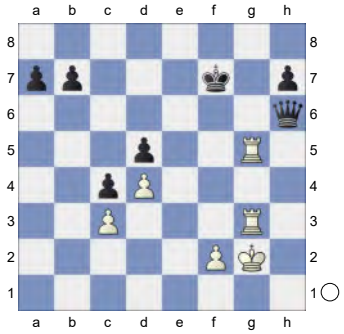
Qg6! 33.Rh3 Qxc2+ 34.Ke1 Qb2 -0.18/19
[34...Kh8∓ -1.17/21 White must now prevent ...Ne7. 35.Rg3 Ne7]
35.Rd1 Qxa3



36.Bg2⇄ White has counterplay
36...Ne7 37.Kf1 Qa5 -0.01/21
[37...Qd6!∓ -0.33/20]
38.Re1 The position is equal. **38...Ng6**
39.Kg1 Qd8 40.Rh5 Nf4

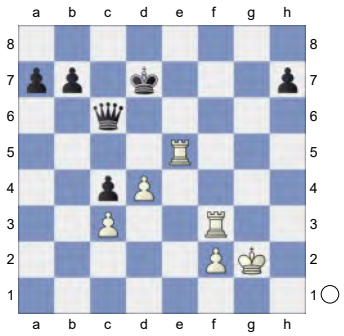


41.Rhe5 Hoping for Re8+. **41...Qd7**
42.R1e3 Kf7 43.Rg3 Inhibits Qg4.
43...Nxg2 44.Kxg2 Endgame KQ-KRR
44...Qd6 45.Reg5 Qh6

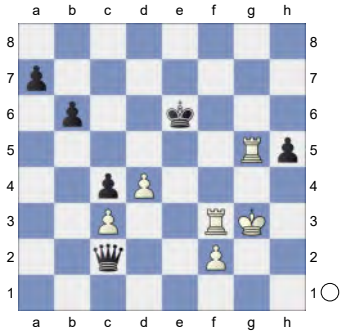


Against Rg7+ **46.Rxd5 Qc6**
Against Rd7+ **47.Rf3+ Ke7 48.Re3+ Kf7! 49.Rf3+ Ke7 50.Re5+ Kd7**

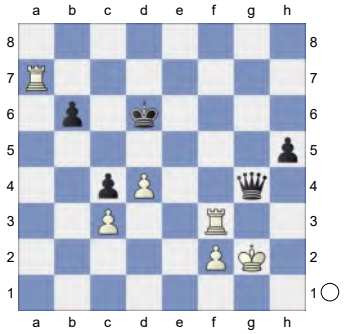
(Diagram)



51.Rg5 Qe4 52.Kg3 h5 53.Rf7+ Ke6 54.Rf4 Prevents h4+. Really sharp!
54...Qc2 55.Rf3
[55.Rxh5 Qxc3+ 56.Kg4 b6]
55...b6

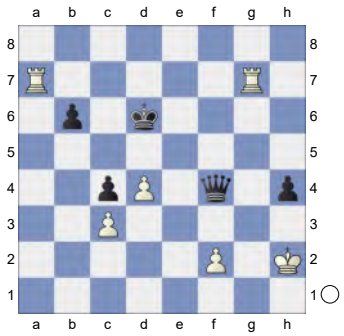


56.Kg2 Kd6 57.Rg7 aiming for Rf6+.
57...Qe4 Threatens to win with ...a5.
58.Rxa7 Qg4+ 59.Rg3 Qe4+ 60.Rf3 Qg4+

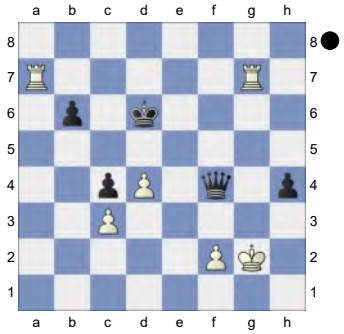


61.Rg3 Qe4+ 62.Kh2 h4 63.Rgg7 Qf4+ 64.Kg2 Qe4+ 65.Kh2 Qf4+

(Diagram)



66.Kg2 Qe4+ 67.Kh2 Qf4+ 68.Kg2

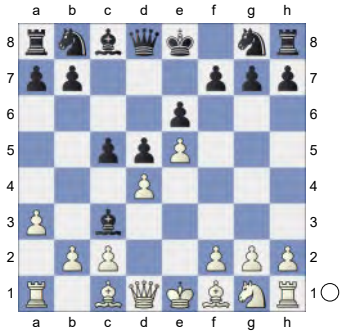


Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

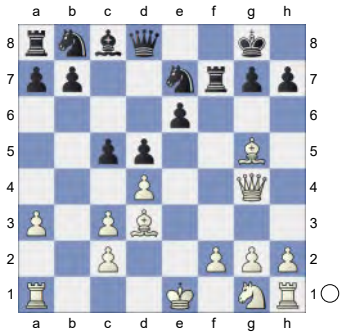
87 **C18**
☐ **Timmerman,Gert** **2725**
■ **Elwert,Hans Marcus** **2620**
NOR jub50 corr 15.10.1994
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7



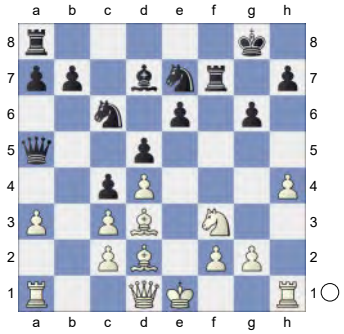
11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Nbc6 13.Nf3 Qa5 14.Bd2 Bd7

[14...c4 15.Be2 Nf5 16.0-0 Bd7 17.Ng5 Re7 18.f4 Rf8 19.a4 h6 20.Nh3 Rg7 21.Qe1 Nd8 22.Bf3 Nf7 23.Bc1 Re8 24.Nf2 h5 25.Kh1 N7h6 26.Nh3 Nf7 27.Nf2 N7h6 28.Nh3 Nf7 29.Bd2 Kukk,R (2591)-Myers,D (2400) ICCF email 2007 Myers [Myers] 1-0 (71)]

15.h4 c4

[15...e5 16.c4 Qa4 17.Ng5 dxc4 18.Be4 Bf5 19.Nxf7 Bxe4 20.Qg4 c3 21.Bg5 Bf5 22.Nh6+ Kf8 23.Bxe7+ Nxe7 24.Qg5 Kg7 25.Qxe7+ Kxh6 26.h5 Qe8 27.hxg6+ Kxg6 28.Qxh7+ Kf6 29.Rh6+ Kg5 30.Qg7+ Epishin,V (2635)-Adams,M (2655) Ter Apel 1995 CBM 047 [Stohl, Igor] ½-½ (35)]

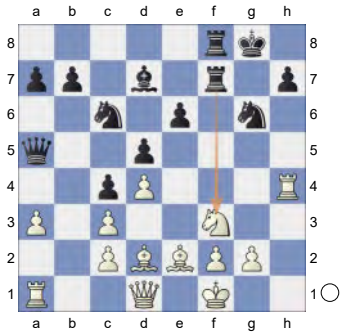
(Diagram)



White is slightly better. **16.Be2 Raf8N**

[16...Nf5 17.h5 e5 18.hxg6 hxg6 19.g4 Nd6 20.Ng5 Rg7 21.Kf1 Rf8 22.Kg2 Nf7 23.dxe5 Ncxe5 24.Rh3 Bc6 25.f3 Re8 26.Nxf7 Nxf7 27.f4 d4+ 28.Bf3 d3 29.cxd3 cxd3 30.c4 Qc7 31.Kf1 Cayon,R (2195)-Goncalves,L (2361) Biel 2006 Inf60 [Thipsay,Praveen Mahadeo; Thipsay, B] 0-1 (41)]

17.h5 gxh5 18.Rxh5 Ng6 19.Kf1 Nf4 20.Rh4 Ng6



21.Rh5 -0.01/16

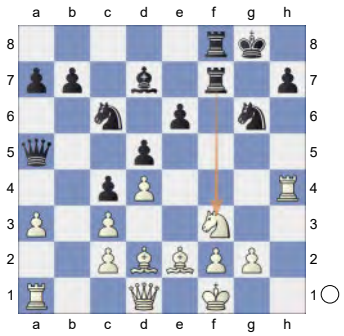
[White should play 21.Rh2± 0.72/19]

21...Nf4= 22.Rh4 -0.01/16

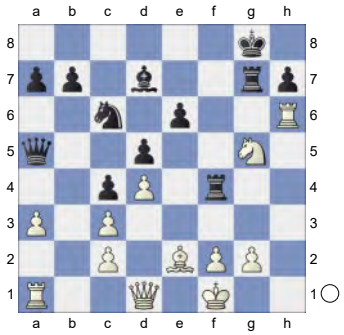
[22.Ng5± 0.77/17 Nxh5 23.Nxf7]

22...Ng6!

(Diagram)



Strongly threatening ...Rxf3! **23.Rh6 Nf4 24.Ng5 Rg7 25.Bxf4 Rxf4**



26.Qd2! Qc7

[26...Rxd4? 27.Qe3 Re4 28.Nxe4 dxe4 29.Rh5+-]

27.Nxe6 -0.01/25

[27.Nf3± 0.44/17]

27...Bxe6 28.Rxe6 Rh4!

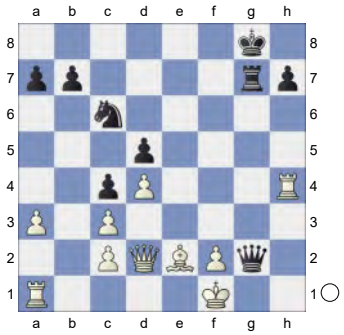
[28...Rxf2+ 29.Kxf2 Qf7+ 30.Bf3 Qxe6 31.Rh1±]

29.Rh6

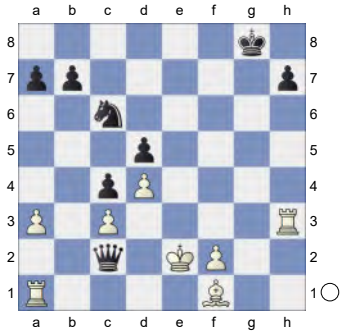
[Not 29.Re8+? Kf7 30.Bf3 Rh1+ 31.Ke2 Rxa1-+]

29...Qh2 30.Rxh4 Qxg2+

[Don't do 30...Qxh4 31.Kg1±]



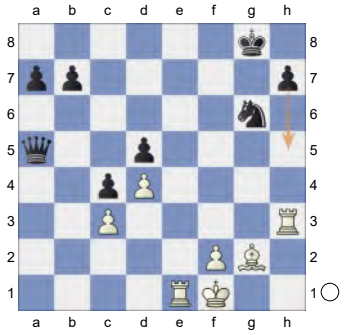
31.Ke1 Qg1+ 32.Bf1 Re7+ 33.Qe2! Rxe2+ 34.Kxe2 Qg6 35.Rh3 Qxc2+



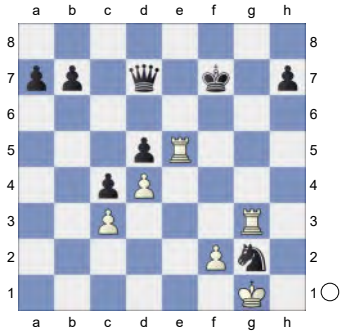
36.Ke1 Qb2 -0.01/21

[Better is 36...Kf8∓ -0.95/22]

37.Rd1 Qxa3 38.Bg2⇄ White is fighting back **38...Ne7 39.Kf1 Qa5 40.Re1 Ng6**

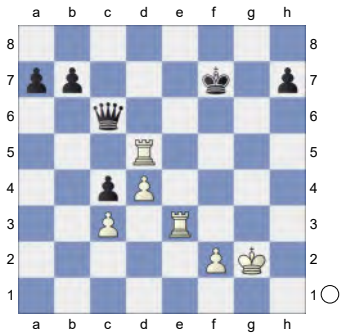


41.Kg1 Qd8 42.Rh5 Nf4 43.Rhe5 Qd7 aiming for ...Qg4. **44.R1e3! Kf7** Black wants to play ...Qg4. **45.Rg3** Prevents Qg4. **45...Nxg2**

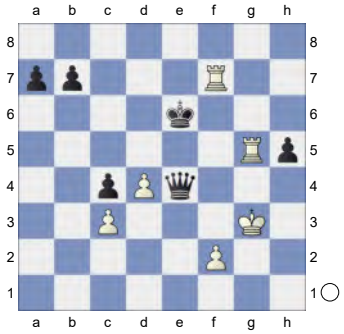


46.Kxg2 Endgame KQ-KRR **46...Qd6 47.Reg5 Qh6** Against Rg7+ **48.Rxd5 Qc6** Prevents Rd7+. **49.Rf3+ Ke7 50.Re3+ Kf7**

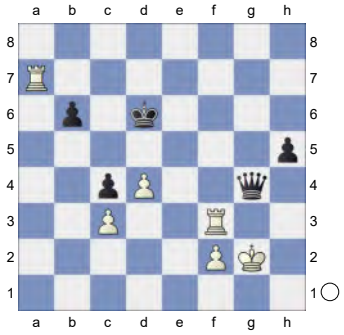
(Diagram)



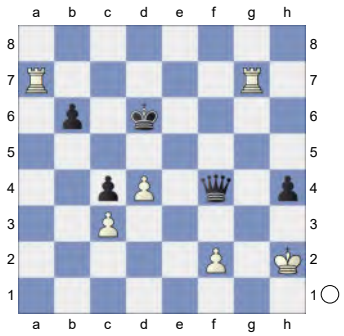
51.Rf3+ Ke7 52.Re5+ Kd7 53.Rg5
[53.Rc5!? Qe4 54.Re5=]
53...Qe4 54.Kg3 h5 Threatens to win with ...h4+. **55.Rf7+ Ke6**



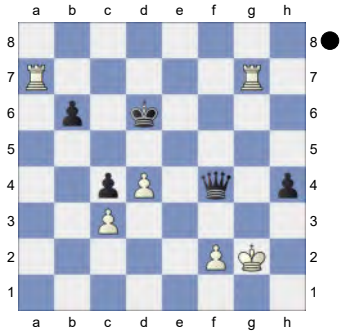
56.Rf4 Really sharp! **56...Qc2 57.Rf3**
[57.Rxh5 Qxc3+ 58.Kg4 b6]
57...b6 58.Kg2 Kd6 59.Rg7 Black must now prevent Rf6+. **59...Qe4** ...a5 is the strong threat. **60.Rxa7 Qg4+** 0.01/24
[60...Kc6!∓ -0.41/27]



61.Rg3 The position is equal. **61...Qe4+ 62.Rf3 Qg4+ 63.Rg3 Qe4+ 64.Kh2 h4 65.Rgg7 Qf4+**
(Diagram)



66.Kg2 Qe4+ 67.Kh2 Qf4+ 68.Kg2

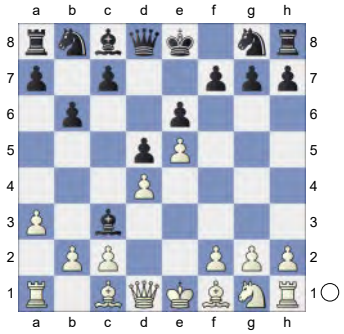


Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

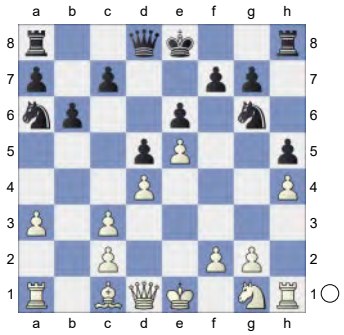
88 **C16**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2723**
■ **Rodshtein,Maxim** **2609**
Biel GM 43rd (8) 27.07.2010
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bxc3+

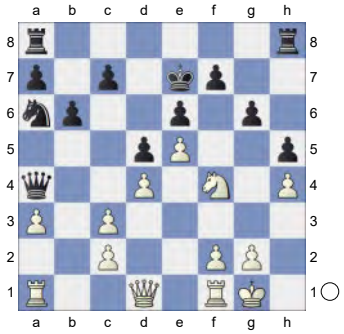
(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qd1 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6



11.Bg5 Qd7 12.Ne2 Qa4! 13.0-0 Ne7! 14.Nf4 g6 15.Bxe7 Kxe7



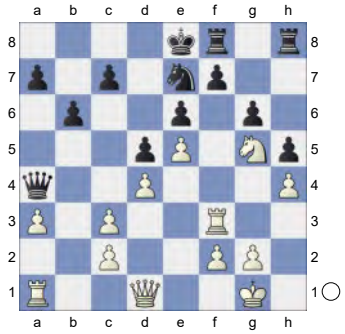
16.Nh3 Raf8 17.Ng5 Nb8 18.Re1 Nc6N

[18...Qc4 19.Qd2 c5 20.Re3 Nc6 21.Rd1 Qa2 22.Rf3 Ke8 23.dxc5 b5 24.Rf6 Qc4 25.Qe3 Ke7 26.g3 Rhg8 27.Nh7 Qe4 28.Qxe4 dxe4 29.Nxf8 Nxe5 30.Nh7 Rc8 31.Rf4 f5 32.Ng5 Rxc5 33.Nxe4 Di Nicolantonio,L (2408)-Hambleton,A (2446) Vandoeuvre 2015 EXT 2017 [ChessBase II] 1-0 (58) fxe4 34.Rxe4 Nc4 35.Ra1 Nb6 36.Rae1 Rc6 37.Re5 a6 38.Rg5 Kf6 39.Re3 Nc4 40.Rf3+ Kg7 41.g4 hxg4 42.Rg3 Kf7 43.R5xg4 e5 44.Rf3+ Ke7 45.Rfg3 Kf7 46.Rg5 Re6 47.Rf3+ Ke7 48.Rfg3 Di Nicolantonio,L (2376)-Rostovtsev,D (2305) Chess.com INT 2023 1-0 (58)]

19.Re3

[Reject 19.Qf3 Kd7=]

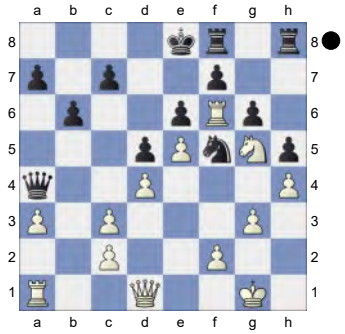
19...Ke8 20.Rf3 Ne7



21.Rf6 Nf5 0.56/22

[21...Ng8= 0.24/22 deserves consideration.]

22.g3

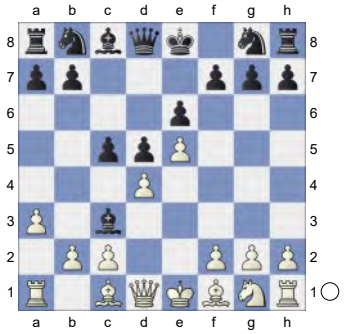


Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)

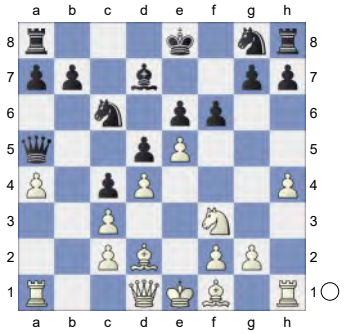
1-0

89 **C18**
□ **Aronian,Levon** **2722**
■ **Theodorou,Nikolas** **2622**
American Cup Blitz 2024 (5.3) 21.03.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.a4 Qa5 7...Qa5 scores better than 7...Nge7. 7...Da5 punktet besser als 7...Sge7. **8.Bd2 c4 9.h4 f6** White is slightly better. **10.Nf3 Bd7**

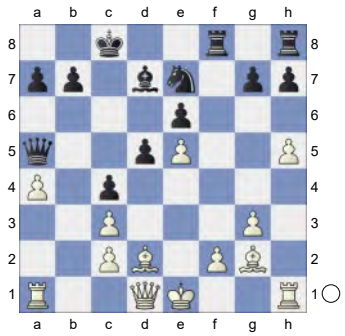


11.h5 0-0-0 12.g3N
[12.Qb1 fxe5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.dxe5 Ne7 15.Qb4 Qxb4 16.cxb4 Nc6 17.f4 Nd4 18.Ra2 Rhf8 19.c3 Nf5 20.Kf2 h6 21.g4 Ne7 22.Be3 b6 23.Kg3 Bc6 24.Bd4 Kc7 25.Bh3 a5 26.b5 Bd7 1-0 Kim,N (2557)-2.Bg5 Ne4 3.Bf4 d5 4.e3 (2401) 75/274 Dos Hermanas 1999 (4) 27.Rf1 Rf7 28.Raf2 Rdf8 29.Bg2 Bc8 30.Bf3 Rg8 31.Bd1 Bd7 32.Bc2 g6 33.hxg6 Nxg6 34.Rh1 Rfg7 35.Rxh6 Ne7 36.g5 Rf7 37.Rfh2 Nf5+ 38.Bxf5 Rxf5 39.Rf6 Rg7 40.Rxf5 exf5 41.e6 1-0 Kim,N (2557)-2.♗g5 ♘e4 3.♗f4 d5 4.e3 (2401) 75/274 Dos Hermanas 1999 (4)]

12...Rf8 13.Bg2N
[Vorgänger: 13.Bh3 g5 14.exf6 h6 0.70/22 *(14...Nxf6=* 0.17/23 *15.Nxg5 h6)* 15.Ne5± f6-f7 would now be deadly. Rxf6 1.48/23 *(* Black should play *15...Nxf6±* 0.51/20 *16.Ng6 Ne4)* 16.Nxc6± Bxc6 17.Qe2 Bd7 18.0-0 Rh7 1.94/19 *(18...Rf8±* 1.32/21 was worth a try.*)* 19.Qe5 1.42/21 ;0-1 Mussanti,D (2166)-Rodriguez Vila, A (2442) Rio Grande op 22nd 2022 (4) *(19.f4+-* 1.94/19 *)*]

13...fxe5 14.Nxe5 0.16/19
[White should try 14.dxe5± 0.68/22 Nh6 15.0-0]

14...Nxe5= 15.dxe5 Ne7

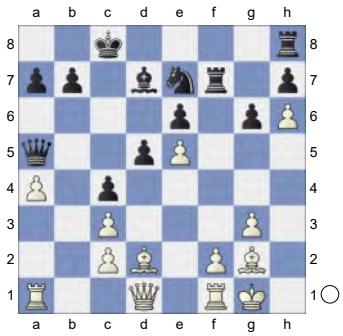


16.h6 -0.57/22
[16.Qc1= 0.02/20]

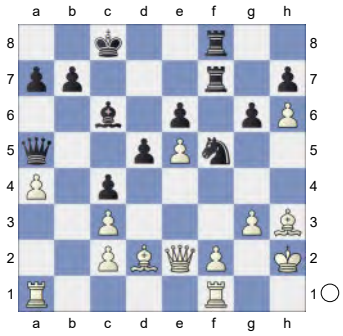
16...g6 0.07/22
[16...g5∓ -0.57/22]

17.0-0 Rf7 0.72/19
[17...Rhg8= 0.02/21]

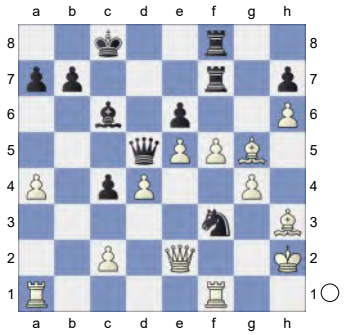
(Diagram)



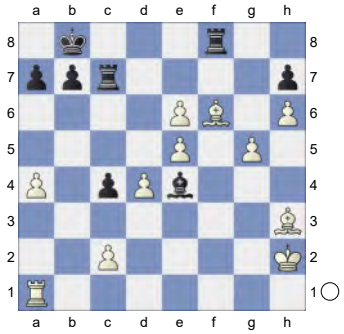
18.Qe2 0.02/18
[18.Qe1!± 0.72/19]
18...Rhf8 0.46/19
[18...Rg8= 0.02/18]
19.Bh3 0.00/22
[19.Qe1!± 0.46/19]
19...Nf5 20.Kh2 Bc6 0.61/22
[20...g5!= 0.16/19]



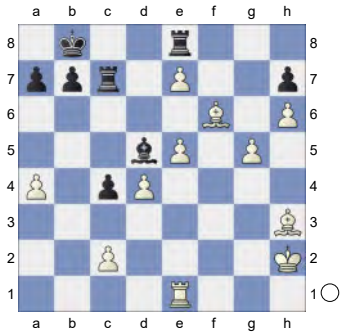
21.g4 Nh4 White must now prevent ... Nh4-f3+. **22.f4 g5** 2.23/18 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[22...Qd8± 0.98/18 keeps fighting.]
23.f5!+-
[23.fxg5? Nf3+ *(23...Bxa4? 24.Rf6+-)* 24.Kg3 d4-+ *(24...Bxa4? 25.g6+-)*]
23...d4? 4.16/19
[23...Qd8 2.59/20 24.Qe3 *(24.fxe6 Rf3=)* 24...d4 25.Qxg5 *(25.Qxd4? Rd7-+* Skewer, Deflection; *25.cxd4 c3+-)* 25...Nf3+ 26.Rxf3 Bxf3 27.Qxd8+ Remove Defender *(27.fxe6 Re7+-)* 27...Kxd8 28.Bg5+ *(28.fxe6 Re7+-; 28.cxd4 exf5 29.gxf5 Rxf5+-)* 28...Kd7 29.cxd4 Rg8]
24.cxd4 Qd5 5.59/19
[24...Qd8 2.93/19 is a better defense. 25.Qxc4 *(25.fxe6?* perishes. *Nf3+ 26.Rxf3 Rxf3-+)* 25...Re8]
25.Bxg5 White is clearly winning.
25...Nf3+



26.Rxf3! Deflection **26...Qxf3**
[26...b6 27.Raf1]
27.Qxf3
[27.Qxc4? gets mated. Qf2+]
27...Bxf3 28.fxe6 Rc7 29.Bf6 Be4
30.g5 White wants to mate with e6-e7+.
30...Kb8

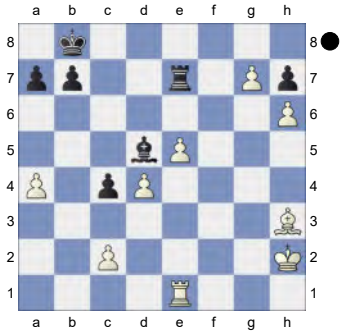


31.Re1 Bd5 32.e7 Re8



33.g6! Rcxe7

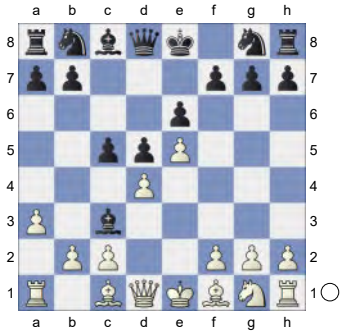
[33...hxg6 34.h7]
34.Bxe7 Rxe7 35.g7



Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.60
1-0

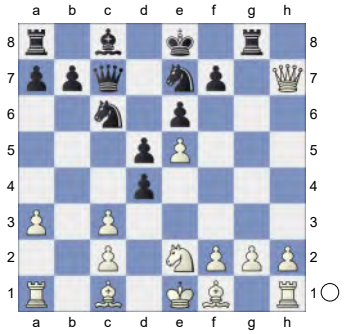
90 **C18**
□ **Andreikin,Dmitry** **2722**
■ **Jones,G.** **2702**
IMSA World Masters Rapid (10.8)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

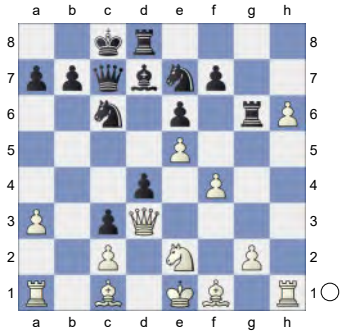


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6

(Diagram)

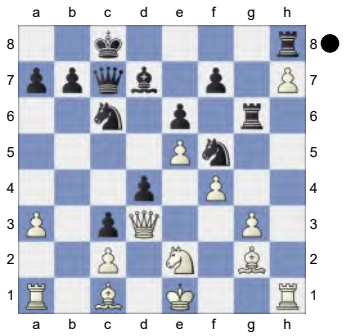


11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 d4 13.h4 Bd7 14.h5! 0-0-0 15.h6 White is better.
[15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Bb5 17.Qxa7 Bxf1 18.Rxf1 Qc4∓]
15...Rg6 1.07/19
[15...Be8± 0.69/17 deserves consideration.]

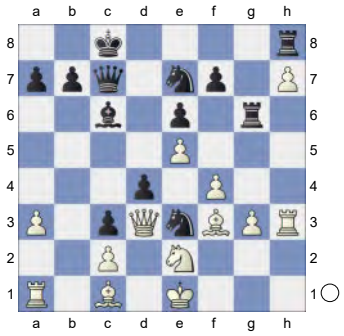


16.h7±
[16.Nxd4?! Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Bb5 18.Qxa7 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 Rxg2=]
16...Rh8 17.g3? -0.56/20
[17.Nxd4± 1.17/18 And now Nb5 would win. Nxd4 18.Qxd4]
17...Nf5 -0.12/20
[17...Qb6∓ -0.56/20 was preferrable.]
18.Bg2 -0.92/20
[18.Rb1= -0.12/20 keeps the balance.]

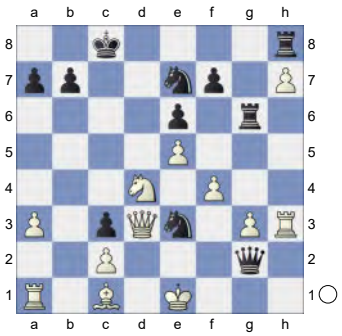
(Diagram)



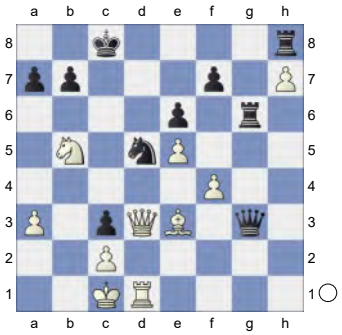
18...Nce7!∓ ...Bc6 is the strong threat.
[18...Rg7 19.Bf3=]
19.Bf3 -2.45/21
[Don't go for 19.Nxd4? Rxg3 20.Nxf5 Nxf5-+]
[19.Rb1∓ -0.53/19 Bc6 20.Bxc6 Nxc6 21.Qf3]
19...Bc6? -0.79/21
[19...Nxg3-+ -2.45/21 is more deadly. 20.Rh2 Nxe2 21.Bxe2 Nf5]
20.Rh3N
[20.g4 Rxg4 21.Bxg4 Bxh1 22.Nxd4 Nxd4 23.Qxd4 Rxh7 24.Qxa7 Be4 25.Be3 Rh1+ 26.Bg1 Nc6 27.Qe3 Qd8 28.Rd1 Qh4+ 29.Qf2 Rxg1+ 0-1 (29) Mondino,V (2514)-8.Nb5 (2479) tcec-chess.com INT 2021 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A]]
20...Ne3? 2.20/20
[20...Bxf3∓ -1.17/20 and life is bright. 21.Qxf3 Qc6]



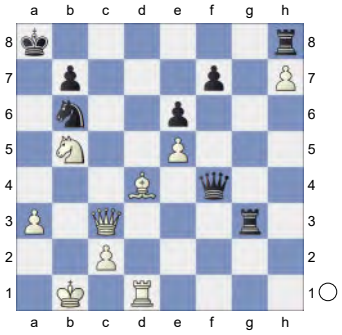
Against g4 **21.Bxc6 Qxc6 22.Nxd4 Qg2**
(Diagram)



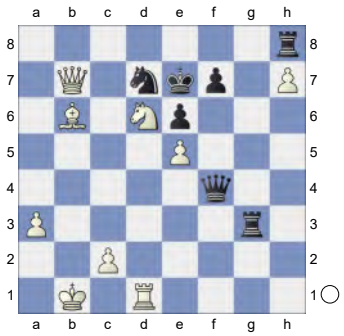
23.Bxe3 Qxh3 24.0-0-0↑ 1.48/21 White is in control.
[24.Qxc3++- 1.99/22 Kb8 25.0-0-0]
24...Nd5± 25.Nb5 Intending Qc4+ and mate. Dancing on a razor blade.
25...Qxg3? #14/19
[25...a6± 0.81/20 26.Nxc3 *(26.Nd6+ Kb8=)* 26...Rxg3 27.Nxd5 exd5 28.Qc3+ Kb8]



26.Qc4+ Kb8 27.Bxa7+ Ka8 28.Bd4 Qxf4+ 29.Kb1 Nb6 30.Qxc3 Rg3

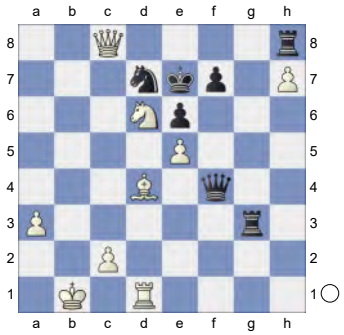


31.Qa5+ Kb8 32.Qa7+ Kc8 33.Nd6+ Kd8 34.Qxb7 Nd7 35.Qc8+ 19.08/5
[⌓35.Bb6+ #4/11 Ke7
(Diagram)

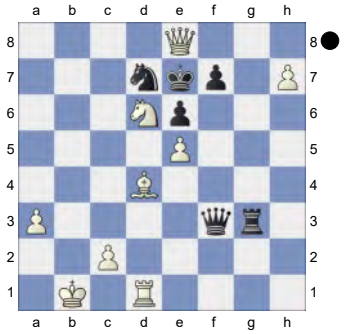


36.Nf5+! exf5 37.Bc5+ Ke8 38.Qxd7#]

35...Ke7+-



36.Qxh8 Qf3 37.Qe8#



Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/ Black=0.63

1-0

91 **C17**

☐ **Vidit,S.** **2720**

■ **Aronian,L.** **2747**

Chess.com Classic Pl/In m blitz (1.1)

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

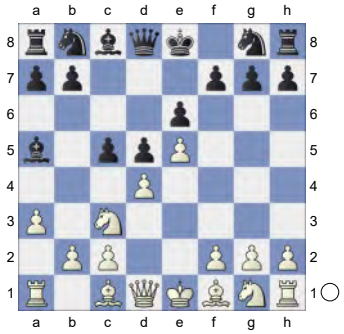
Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356' Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**

[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4* Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62)*; 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½ (45) *)* 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]

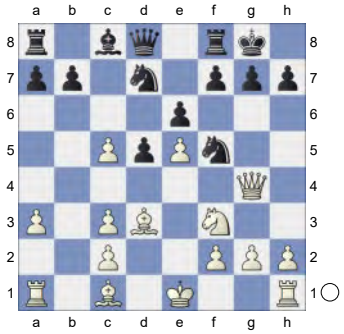
[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray

G] 1-0]

5.a3 Ba5



6.Qg4 Ne7 7.dxc5 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 0-0 9.Bd3 Nd7 10.Nf3 Nf5



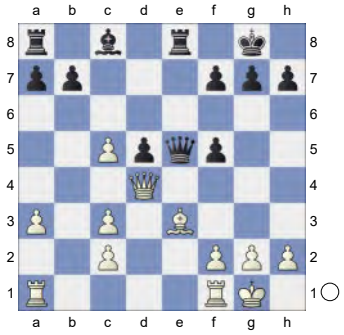
11.Bxf5 White is slightly better. **11...exf5 12.Qd4**

[Much weaker is 12.Qxf5 Nxe5! 13.Qf4 *(13.Qxe5 Re8∓)* 13...Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Qa5=]

12...Qc7 13.Be3

[Reject 13.Qxd5 Nxc5 14.0-0 Rd8∓]

13...Re8 14.0-0 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 Qxe5



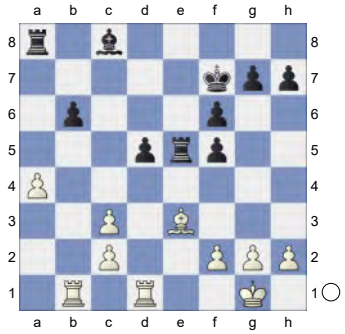
16.Qxe5 Rxe5 17.Rab1 f6 18.Rfd1 Kf7 19.a4 0.31/20

[⌓19.h4 0.63/19]

19...b6 20.cxb6 -0.01/21

[20.a5± 0.49/19]

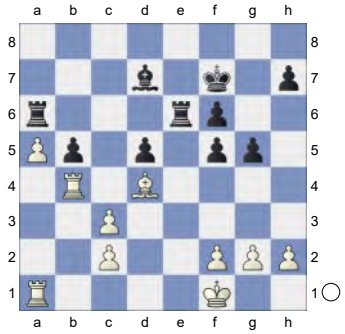
20...axb6=



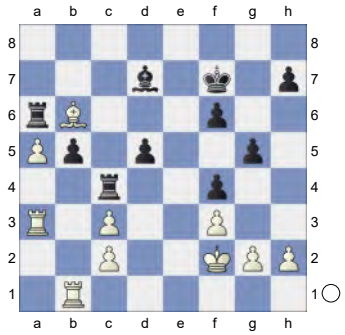
21.Rb4 Bd7 22.Ra1 b5 0.16/21

[⌓22...Re4 -0.28/21]

23.a5 Threatens to win with a6. **23...Ra6 24.Kf1 g5 25.Bd4 Ree6**



26.f3 f4 27.Rbb1 Re8 28.Kf2 Rea8 29.Bb6 Rc8 30.Ra3 Rc4

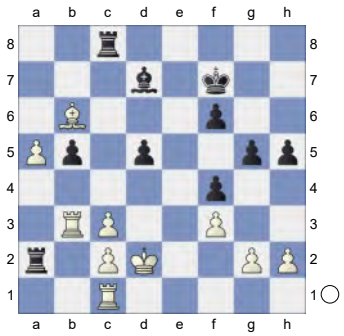


31.Ke2 Ra4 32.Rab3 0.01/21

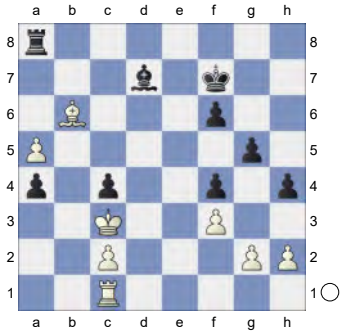
[32.Rxa4± 0.85/22 bxa4 33.Kd3]

32...Ra8 33.Kd2 Rc8 34.Re1 Ra2 35.Rc1 h5

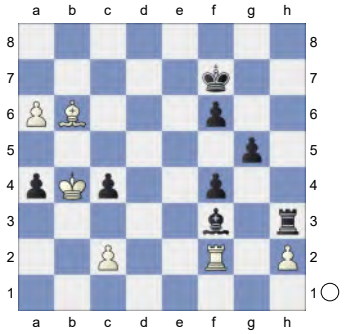
(Diagram)



36.Rbb1 Ra8 0.44/23
[36...Rc4= 0.01/21]
37.Ra1± **Ra4** **38.Rxa4** **bxa4** Endgame KRB-KRB **39.c4** **dxc4** **40.Kc3 h4**

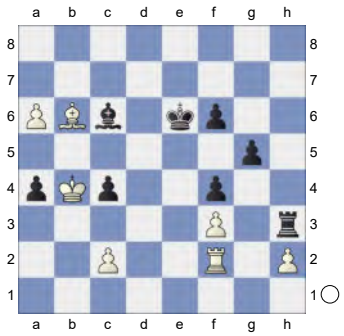


41.Kb4 h3 42.gxh3 Bc6 43.Rf1 -0.54/21
[White should play 43.Ra1= -0.01/18]
43...Rh8∓ 44.a6 Rxh3 45.Rf2 Ke6
[45...Bxf3?

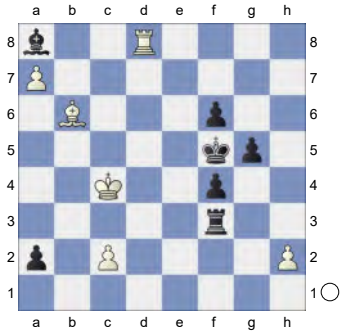


46.Rxf3! Rxh2 47.a7+-]

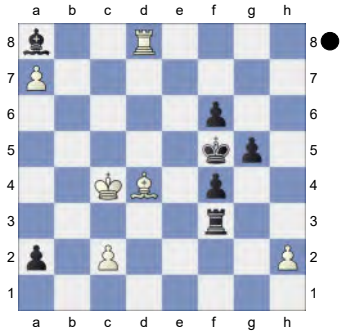
(Diagram)



46.a7 Kf5 47.Kxc4 Rxf3 48.Rd2 a3 Strongly threatening ...a2. **49.Rd6 Ba8 50.Rd8?** -2.93/19 This costs White the game.
[50.Bd4!= 0.01/19 and White stays safe.]
50...a2-+

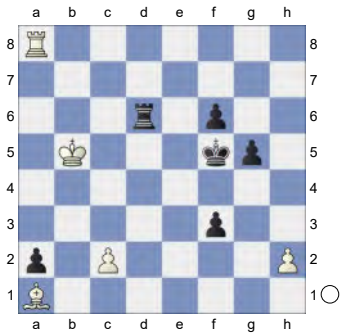


51.Bd4 -7.19/21
[51.Rd1 -2.18/20]

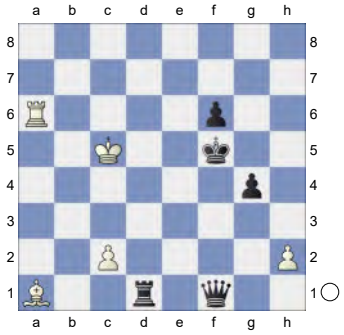


51...Ra3! Hoping for ...Ra4+. **52.Ba1**
[52.Rxa8 Ra4+]
52...Rxa7 White must now prevent ...f3. **53.Rf8 Ra6 54.Kb5 Rd6 55.Rxa8** KRB-KR **55...f3**

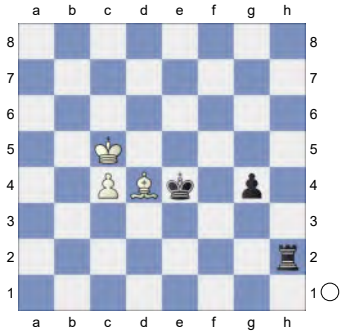
(Diagram)



And now ...f2 would win. **56.Ra3 g4**
...f2 is the strong threat.
[And not 56...Rd5+ 57.Kc4 Rd1 58.Rxf3+ Ke4 59.Rxf6∓]
57.Kc5 Rd1 58.Bd4 -9.20/21
[⌓58.Rxa2 -4.65/23 f2 59.Ra6]
58...a1Q 59.Bxa1 f2 60.Ra6 f1Q



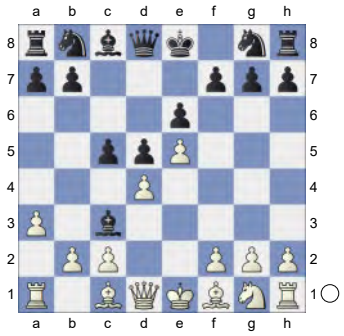
61.Rxf6+ Ke4 (-> ...Rd5+) **62.Rxf1?** -7.93/21
[62.Re6+ -3.74/22 Kf3 63.Rf6+ Kg2 64.Rxf1 Rxf1 65.Bg7]
62...Rxf1 63.Bd4 Rh1 64.c4 Rxh2



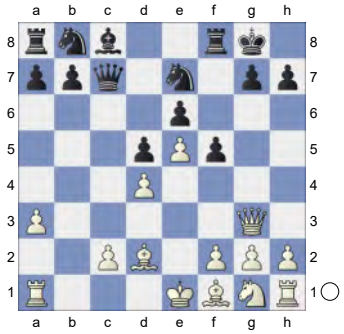
Weighted Error Value: White=0.61/ Black=0.29 (precise)
0-1

92 **C18**
□ **Karjakin,Sergey** **2720**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2810**
Corus Wijk aan Zee (10) 27.01.2010
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

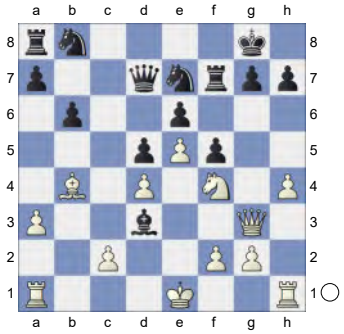


6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 cxd4 9.cxd4 Ne7 10.Bd2 0-0

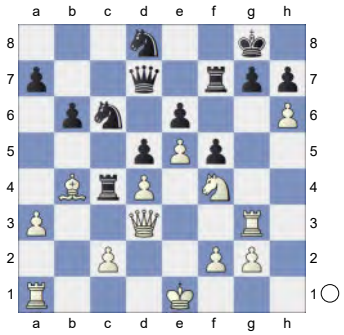


11.Bd3 b6 12.Ne2 Ba6 13.Nf4 Qd7 14.Bb4
[14.Nh5 Ng6=]
14...Rf7 0.59/22
[14...Rc8= 0.25/21 is more appropriate.]
15.h4± Bxd3

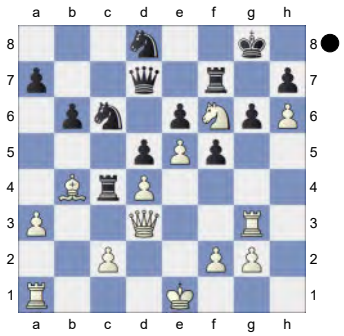
(Diagram)



16.Qxd3 Nbc6 White is better. **17.Rh3 Rc8 18.Rg3 Nd8 19.h5 Rc4 20.h6** Hoping for Rxg7+. **20...Nec6**

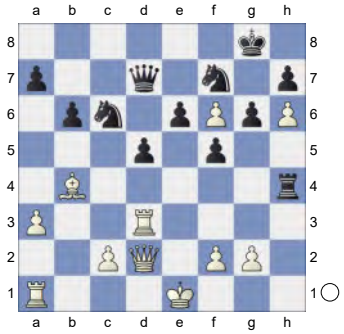


21.Nh5 -0.17/24
[21.Ne2± 0.33/22]
21...g6!=
[21...Nxb4 22.axb4 g6 23.Nf6+ Rxf6 24.exf6±]
[21...Rxd4 22.Rxg7+ Rxg7 23.Nf6+ Kh8 24.Nxd7 Rxd7 25.Qh3±]
22.Nf6+

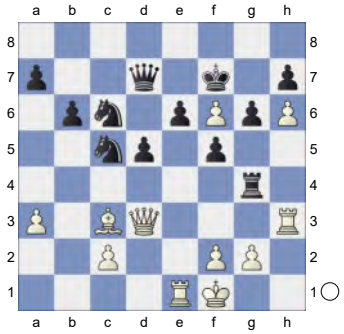


Rxf6! 23.exf6 Nf7 24.Qd2 Rxd4 25.Rd3 Rh4

(Diagram)

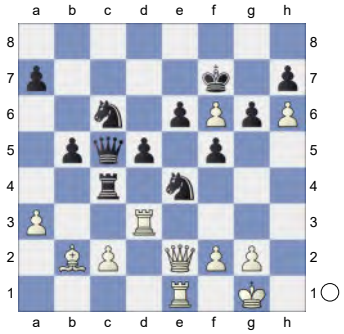


Black has compensation. **26.Rh3** Against Rh1+ **26...Rg4 27.Kf1 Nd6** 0.01/17
[27...Rd4!∓ -0.41/18 28.Qe3 e5]
28.Re1 -0.45/20
[28.Rd1= 0.01/17]
28...Kf7 0.56/17
[28...Ne4!∓ -0.45/20 29.Qe2 Kf7]
29.Bc3 -0.88/20
[29.Kg1± 0.56/17]
29...Ne4 The board is on fire. **30.Qd3** -1.18/21
[30.Qc1∓ -0.65/20]
30...Nc5



Pair of Knights! **31.Qd1 Rc4 32.Bb2 b5 33.Qe2 Qd6 34.Kg1** -1.40/20
[⌓34.Rc3 -1.06/18]
34...Ne4∓ 35.Rd3 Qc5

(Diagram)



36.Rc1 e5 37.Qe3 -2.34/22 This costs White the game.

[37.a4∓ -1.00/17]

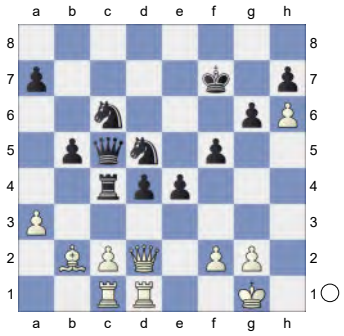
37...d4-+

[Not 37...Nxf6 38.Qxc5 Rxc5 39.Rc3 Rxc3 40.Bxc3∓]

38.Qe2 Nxf6

[Avoid the trap 38...Kxf6? 39.Kh2]

39.Rdd1 Nd5 40.Qd2 e4



41.Qg5 Nc7

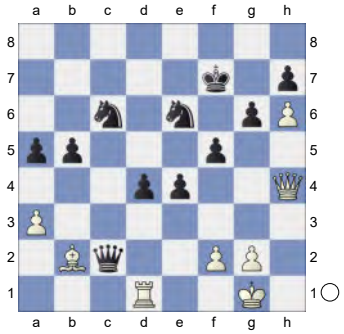
[But not 41...Rxc2? 42.Rxc2 Qxc2 43.Qc1 Qxc1 44.Rxc1-+]

42.Rd2 Ne6 43.Qh4 a5 44.Rcd1 Rxc2 Black is clearly winning. **45.Rxc2** -6.28/19

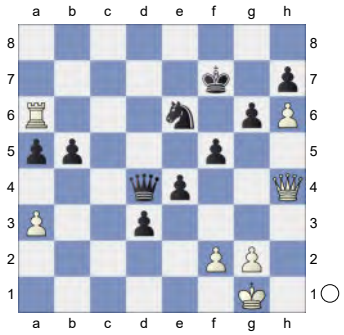
[⌓45.Qg3 -4.35/20 d3 46.Kh2]

45...Qxc2

(Diagram)



46.Rc1 Qxb2 47.Rxc6 d3 48.Ra6 Qd4



Prevents Ra7+.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.54/ Black=0.14 (very precise)

0-1

93 **C18**

□ **Vallejo Pons,Francisco** **2716**

■ **Goryachkina,Aleksandra** **2584**

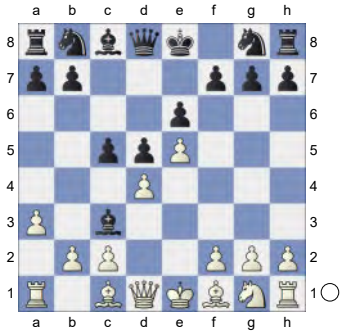
Crocus City Stars Blitz (3.3) 04.10.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

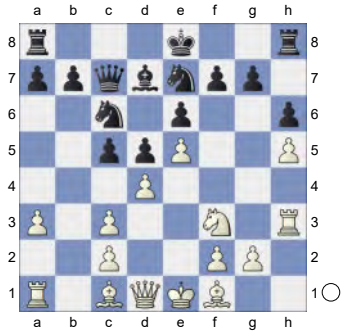
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)

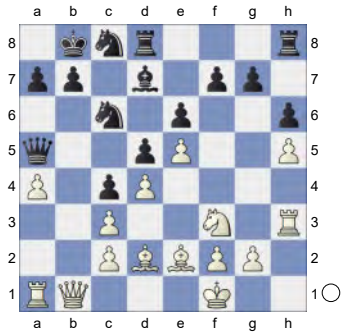


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7 8.Rh3
[8.h5 h6 9.Rb1 b6 10.Qg4 Rg8 11.Bb5+ Kf8 12.Bd3 Ba6 13.dxc5 Bxd3 14.cxd3 Nd7 15.d4 bxc5 16.Ne2 Rb8 17.Rxb8+ Qxb8 18.0-0 c4 19.Rd1 Qb1 20.Rd2 Nb6 21.Rb2 Qd3 22.Bd2 Ke8 Vachier Lagrave,M (2778)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2784) chess24.com INT 2020 [John Watson] ½-½ (62)]
8...Nbc6 9.Nf3N
[9.h5 h6 *(9...Bd7 10.h6 g6 11.Be2 Qa5 12.Bd2 Qc7 13.Nf3 cxd4 14.cxd4 0-0 15.c3 f6 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Bg5 Rf7 18.Rc1 e5 19.Rh1 e4 20.Nh2 Raf8 21.Be3 Nf5 22.Ng4 Nxe3 23.Nxe3 Rxf2 24.Kd2* Moscoso Paz,E (1518)-Arenas Lavado,L (1568) Callao 2023 0-1 (40)*; 9...cxd4 10.cxd4 h6 11.c3 Bd7 12.a4 f6 13.f4* C 18/18 *)* 10.Qg4 Nf5 11.Qf4 f6 12.exf6 Qxf4 13.Bxf4 gxf6 14.dxc5 e5 15.Bd2 Be6 16.Rb1 0-0-0 17.Bd3 Rdg8 18.Kf1 Rg4 19.Be2 Ra4 20.Bc1 a6 21.Rf3 Rg8 22.Rb4 Ra5 23.g4 Nfe7 Stammberger,J (2285)-Albrecht,R (2356) BdF 1992 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Albrecht] 1-0]
9...Bd7 10.h5 h6

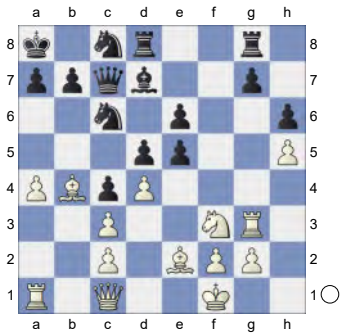
(Diagram)



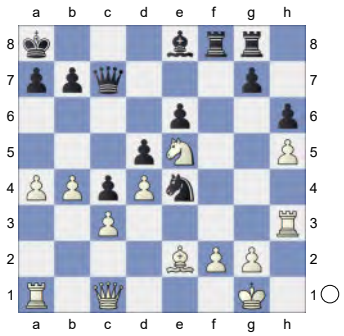
White is slightly better. **11.a4** -0.53/21
[11.Rb1⩲ 0.36/17]
11...Qa5 0.35/19
[11...cxd4∓ -0.53/21 12.Ba3 Nxe5 13.Qxd4 Nxf3+ 14.Rxf3 Nf5]
12.Bd2⩲ c4 13.Qb1 0-0-0 0.64/20
[⌓13...Rb8 0.33/19]
14.Be2 Kb8 15.Kf1 0.41/18
[15.Qb2± 0.72/18]
15...Nc8



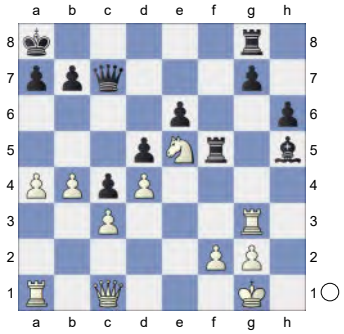
16.Bc1 0.25/20
[16.Qb2⩲ 0.67/18]
16...Ka8 0.56/20
[16...Qxc3? 17.Bd2 Qxa1 18.Qxa1+-]
[16...Nb6= 0.25/20]
17.Rg3 Rhg8 18.Ba3 -0.01/23
[18.Qa2⩲ 0.51/20]
18...f6 0.44/21
[18...Qxc3= -0.01/23 might be stronger. 19.a5 Qxa5]
19.Bb4 -0.03/24
[19.Qe1⩲ 0.44/21]
19...Qc7= 20.Qc1 fxe5
(Diagram)



21.Nxe5 Nxb4 0.61/22
[21...Nxe5= -0.03/21 22.dxe5 a5]
22.cxb4⩲ Rdf8 23.c3 &Bianco is more active. **23...Nd6 24.Kg1** 0.21/21
[24.Bf3⩲ 0.59/21 feels stronger.]
24...Be8 25.Rh3 Ne4

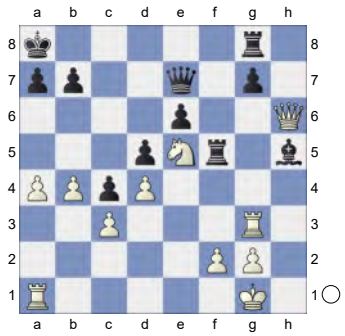


26.Bf3 Ng5 27.Rg3 Nxf3+ 28.Nxf3 Bxh5 29.Ne5 Rf5 1.07/23
[29...Be8= -0.01/23]

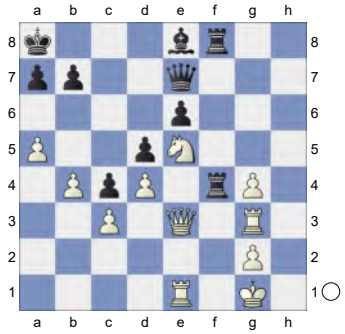


30.Qxh6!⩲ Pin **30...Qe7**

(Diagram)



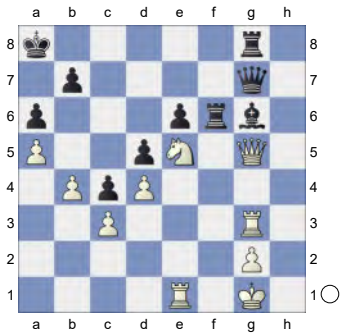
31.Qe3 Rgf8 32.f3 g5 1.33/23
[32...Be8⩲ 0.70/23]
33.a5 Rf4 1.87/23
[33...Rh8⩲ 1.38/21 was worth a try. 34.Rh3 Rff8]
34.Re1 1.01/21
[White should play 34.a6+- 1.87/23]
34...g4 1.86/23
[34...Rh8⩲ 1.01/21 keeps fighting.]
35.fxg4+-
[Don't do 35.Nxg4?! Bxg4 36.Rxg4 Rxg4 37.fxg4 Qh4⩲]
35...Be8



36.g5 Qg7 2.56/22
[⌓36...a6 1.86/22 37.Rf3 Re4]
37.g6 1.41/22
[Better is 37.Rf3+- 2.56/22 Rxf3 38.Nxf3 *(38.gxf3 Qh7⩲)*]
37...a6⩲ 38.Rh3 0.69/24
[38.Qc1⩲ 1.46/21]
38...Bxg6⩲ 39.Rg3 0.26/25
[39.Qg3⩲ 0.66/26 R4f6 40.Re3]
39...R4f6 0.64/24
[39...R8f6= 0.26/25]
40.Qg5

[Reject 40.Rxg6 Rxg6 41.Nxg6 Qxg6=]

40...Rg8



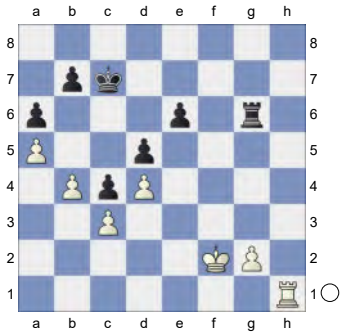
41.Nxg6 -0.01/26

[41.Ree3!± 0.74/25 aiming for Ref3. Qf8 42.Re1 *(42.Nxg6 Qf7±)*]

41...Rxg6 0.63/22

[41...Qf7= -0.01/26]

42.Qxg6 Qxg6 43.Rxg6 Rxg6± Endgame KR-KR **44.Kf2 Kb8 45.Rh1 Kc7**



46.Rh7+ 0.01/23

[46.Rg1!± 0.74/23]

46...Kc6= 47.Kf3 b6 0.59/23

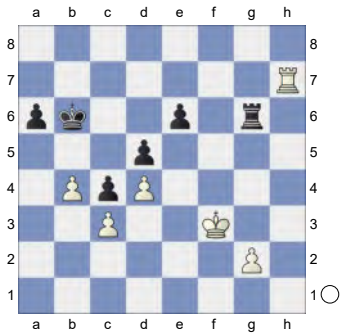
[47...Rf6+= 0.01/22 48.Ke3 Rg6]

48.axb6 Threatens to win with b7.

48...Kxb6 0.96/24

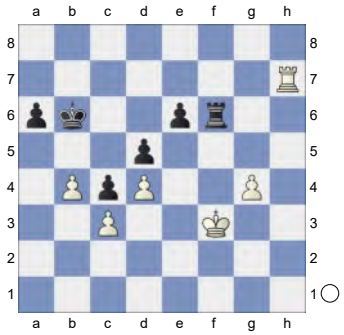
[48...Rf6+!± 0.63/26 is more appropriate. 49.Ke3 Kxb6]

(Diagram)



49.g4!± Rf6+ 1.56/24

[⌓49...a5 1.03/21]

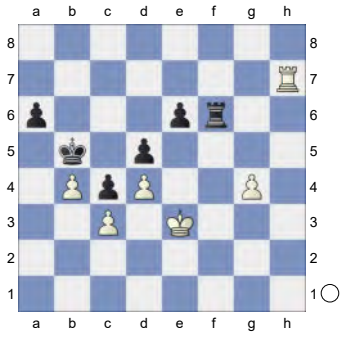


50.Ke3 0.61/23

[White should try 50.Kg3!± 1.56/24]

50...Kb5 1.81/23

[50...Rf1± 0.61/23]

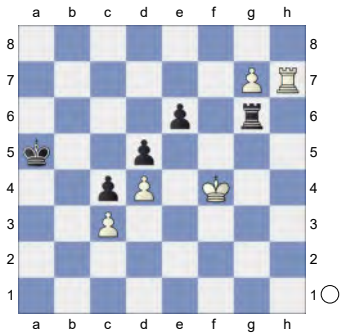


51.g5? 0.00/25

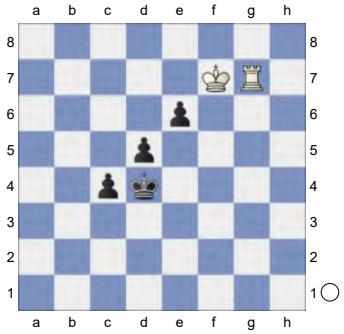
[51.Rh3+- 1.81/23]

51...Rf5= The position is equal. **52.g6 Rg5 53.g7 a5 54.bxa5 Kxa5 55.Kf4 Rg6**

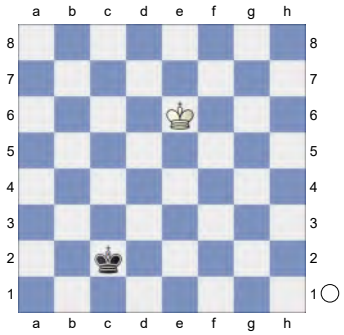
(Diagram)



56.Ke5 Hoping for Kd6. **56...Ka4! 57.Kd6 Kb3 58.Ke7 Kxc3 59.Kf7 Rxg7+ 60.Rxg7** Rg4 would kill now. **60...Kxd4**



61.Kxe6 KR-KPP **61...c3 62.Rd7 c2 63.Rxd5+ Kc3** Strongly threatening ... Kb4. **64.Rc5+ Kd2 65.Rxc2+ Kxc2**

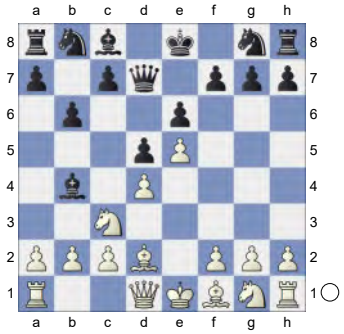


White really could win this.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.24 (precise)
½-½

94 **C16**
□ **Navara,David** **2715**
■ **Stupak,K.** **2510**
Czech Open G1 Rapid 2013 (4.5) 18.7.13
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
Myers [after Harding]: Karl Arvid Sundin (08.12.1914-09.11.1999) won this section with a score of 5.5/6. Harding calls him a "famous pianist", and so he was, although it may have been better said that he was a popular pianist (with piano partner Stig Holm) and dance bandleader ("Arvid Sundin and the Speedplayers"). The popular music of one country often does not translate easily to another time and place, but in Sweden Arvid Sundin was certainly well known. (My Swedish is non-existent, but he seems to have had a something of an early hit called "Swing Loaf from Enånger" on Wivex, unless I have this all hopelessly confused.) For our purposes, he was better known as a CC-IM who took part in the 7th World Correspondence Chess Championship Final, finishing 9th of 17 players. The loser in this game, Erik Andersson (born 8 June 1917), was also Swedish, [and the game is sometimes referred to as "The Swedish Immortal"]. **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.Bd2 b6**

(Diagram)



6.f4

[6.Nf3 Ba6 7.Bxa6 Nxa6 8.Qe2 Nb8 9.Nd1 Bf8 10.Ne3 Ne7 11.Rc1 Nbc6 12.0-0 h6 13.c4 dxc4 14.Qxc4 C 16/04]

6...Ne7

[6...h5 7.Nf3 Nh6 8.g3 g6 9.Bd3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.0-0-0 Nf5 13.Kb1 Be7 14.Be3 Nxe3 15.Qxe3 Nc6 16.Ng5 Bf8 17.Qe2 Na5 18.h3 0-0-0 19.Qa6+ Kb8 20.Nb5 c6 21.Nxa7 Machulsky, A (2420)-Moroz,A Kiev 1984 EXT 2022 [ChessBase II] ½-½ (49)]

7.Nf3N

[7.Qg4 g6 8.Bb5 c6 9.Bd3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qe2 Qb7 12.Nf3 Rb8 13.Kf2 Bxc3 14.bxc3 c5 15.Qb5+ Nc6 16.Rab1 0-0 17.g4 Na5 18.f5 Nc4 19.f6 Nc7 20.Qb3 Qc6 21.Bh6 Rfc8 Sundin,K-Andersson,E corr ICCF 1964 Myers [Harding,T] 1-0 (31)]

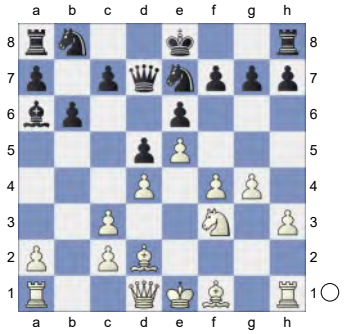
7...Nf5 0.61/16

[7...c5= 0.25/16]

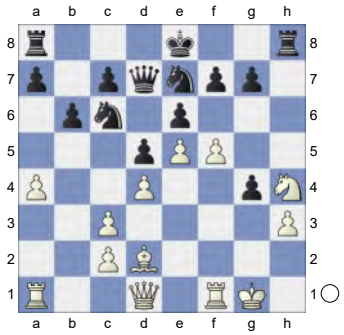
8.g4± **Bxc3** White is slightly better.

9.bxc3 Ne7 10.h3 Ba6

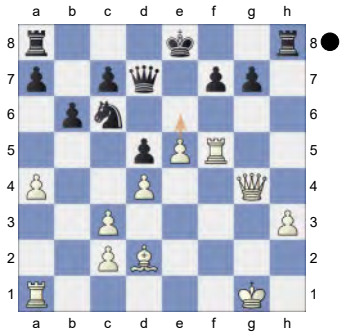
(Diagram)



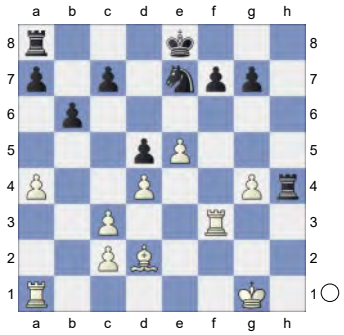
11.Bxa6! Nxa6 12.a4 Nb8 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Nh4 h5 15.f5 hxg4



16.Qxg4 exf5 17.Nxf5 Nxf5 18.Rxf5



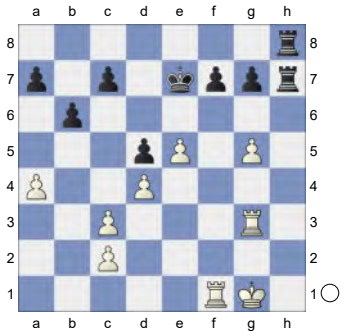
Black must now prevent e6! **18...Ne7 19.Rf3 Qxg4+ 20.hxg4 Rh4**



21.Rg3! Kd7 22.Bg5 Rh7 23.Rf1! Ke6 24.Bxe7

[24.Rgf3 looks sharper. Rf8 25.Bxe7 Kxe7 26.Kg2]

24...Kxe7= Endgame KRR-KRR **25.g5 Rah8**



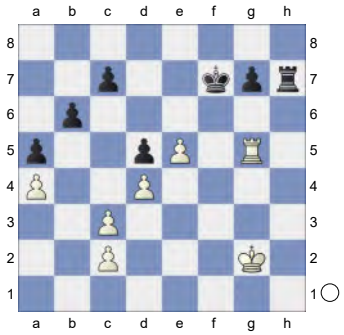
With the idea ...Rh1+. **26.Rxf7+! Kxf7 27.g6+ Ke6 28.gxh7 Rxh7** KR-KR **29.Kg2 a5** 0.84/24

[29...Kf7= -0.01/22 keeps the balance.]

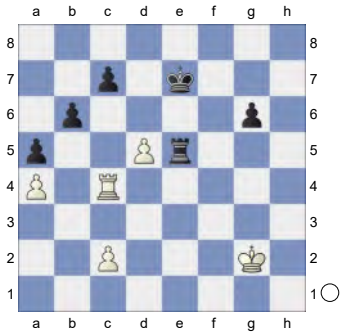
30.Rg5 -0.01/21

[30.Rg6+± 0.84/24 Kf5 31.Rc6]

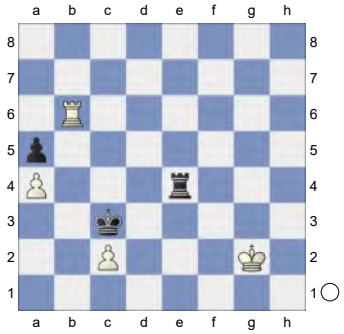
30...Kf7



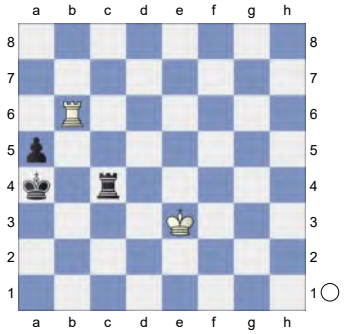
The position is equal. **31.Rf5+ Ke7 32.c4 dxc4 33.d5 g6 34.Rf4 Rh5 35.Rxc4 Rxe5**



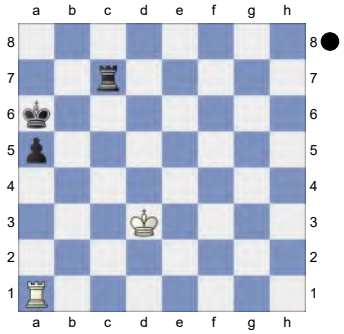
...Kd7 is the strong threat. **36.Rxc7+ Kd6 37.Rc6+ Kxd5 38.Rxb6 Kc4 39.Rxg6 Kc3 40.Rb6 Re4**



41.Rc6+ Kb4 42.Kf3 Re8 43.Rb6+ Kxa4 44.c4 Rc8 45.Ke3 Rxc4



46.Kd3 Rc8 47.Rb1 Rc7 48.Ra1+ Kb5 49.Rb1+ Ka6 50.Ra1



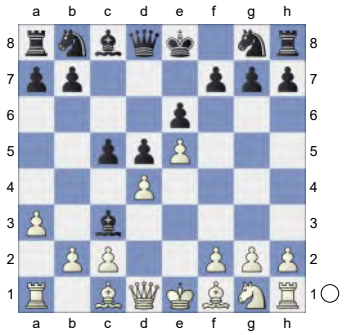
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)

½-½

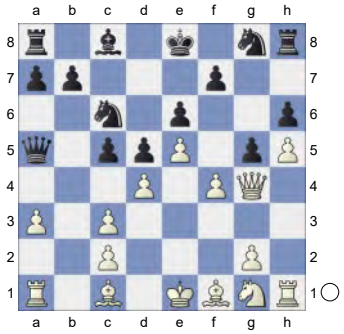
95 **C18**
□ **Alekseev,Evgeny V** **2715**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2719**
Elista FIDE GP (7) 21.12.2008
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

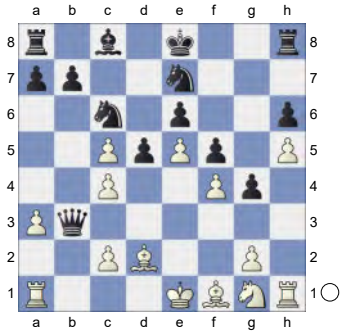


6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.h4
[8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Qg3 Nd7=]
8...h6 9.h5
[9.dxc5 Nxe5 10.Qf4 Nc6=]
9...g5 10.f4
[10.dxc5 Nxe5 11.Qd4 f6=]
10...Qa5

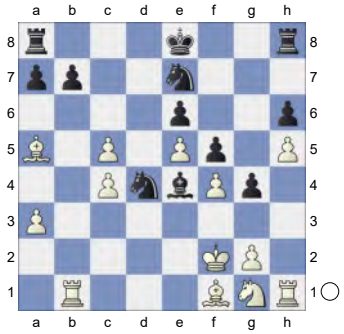


White is slightly better. **11.Bd2 f5 12.Qg3 g4 13.c4 Qa4 14.dxc5 Nge7** 0.73/18
[14...dxc4± 0.40/20 15.Qc3 b5]
15.Qb3 Qxb3

(Diagram)

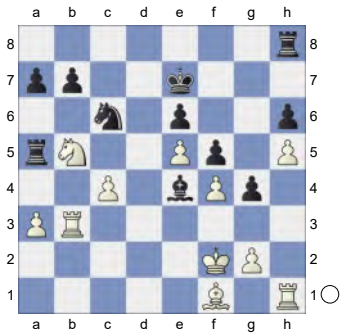


16.cxb3 Nd4N
[16...b6 17.cxd5 Nd4 18.Rb1 Nxd5 19.Ne2 bxc5 20.Kf2 Ke7 21.Nxd4 cxd4 22.g3 Bb7 23.Bg2 29. Winawer 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3-Winawer 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6]
17.Rb1 dxc4 18.bxc4 Bd7 19.Kf2 0.74/21
[⌓19.Bc3 1.11/22 Nc2+ 20.Kf2 *(20.Kd2 Ba4=)*]
19...Bc6± 20.Ba5 0.06/22
[20.Ne2± 0.79/22 0-0-0 21.Bc3 Nxe2 22.Bxe2]
20...Be4!=

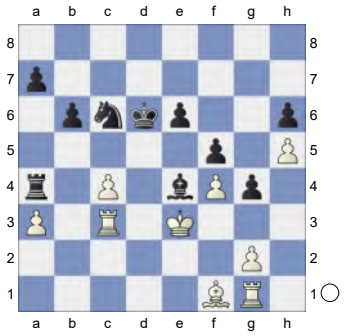


21.Rb2 Rc8 1.03/23 Inhibits Bc7.
[21...Rh7= 0.10/19]
22.Ne2 Rxc5 23.Nxd4 0.07/22
[23.Bc3!± 0.43/22 Nxe2 24.Bxe2]
23...Rxa5 24.Rb3 Nc6 25.Nb5
[25.Nxe6 Kf7 26.Nc7 Nd4∓]
25...Ke7

(Diagram)

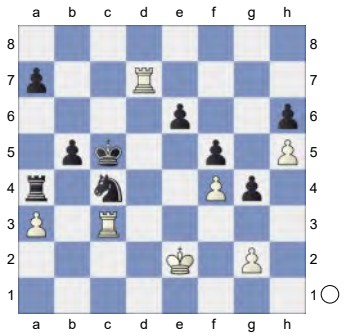


26.Ke3 -0.46/21
[26.Bd3± 0.43/22]
26...Rd8 -0.01/23
[26...Nd8!∓ -0.46/21]
27.Nd6 b6 28.Rg1 Ra4 1.42/26
[28...Nxe5= 0.01/23 29.Nxe4 *(29.fxe5 Rxe5 30.Nxe4 Rxe4+ 31.Kf2 Rd2+ 32.Kg3 Re1∓)* 29...Rd1]
29.Rc3± Rxd6 30.exd6+ Kxd6

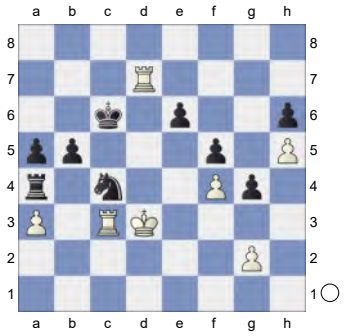


31.Bd3 0.55/23
[31.Be2± 0.98/24]
31...Bxd3± 32.Rd1
[32.Kxd3 Nd8±]
32...Kc5 1.58/27 **33.Rdxd3±** 1.24/23 Endgame KRR-KRN
[⌓33.Kxd3 1.58/27 Na5 34.Ke2]
33...Na5 **34.Rd7** aiming for Kd3.
34...Nxc4+ 35.Ke2! b5

(Diagram)

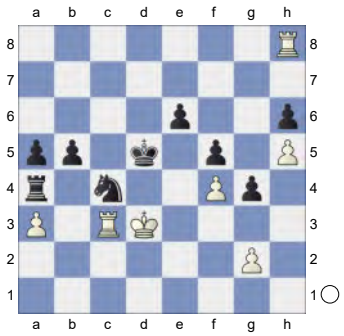


36.Rh7 White has strong compensation.
36...a5 2.02/24
[36...e5± 1.27/21 is a better defense.]
37.Kd3 0.96/20
[37.Rxh6 b4 38.axb4+ axb4=]
[37.Rh8+- 2.02/24 is more deadly.]
37...Kd5 38.Rd7+ Kc6 1.38/22
[Black should try 38...Nd6!± 0.39/24]

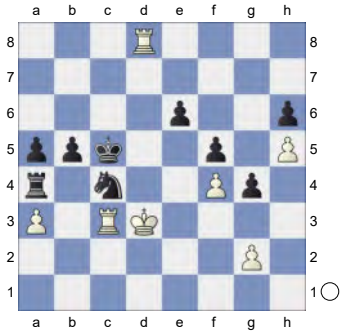


39.Rd8!
[39.Rh7?! Kd5=]
39...Kc5
[39...Rxa3? 40.Rxa3 Nxa3 41.Rh8+-]
40.Rh8 -0.01/20
[40.g3± 1.46/23]
40...Kd5!=

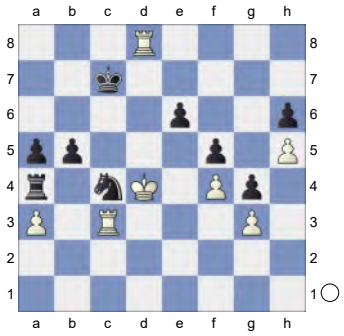
(Diagram)



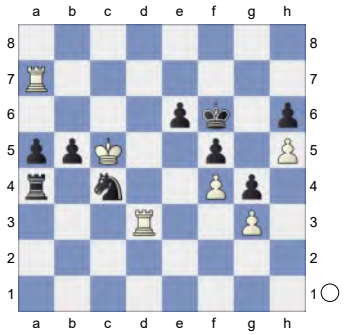
41.Rd8+ Kc5



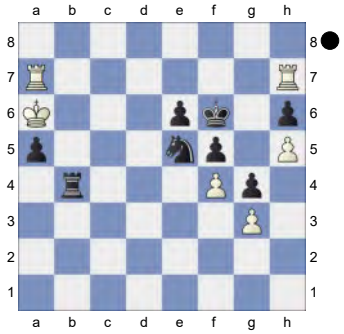
42.g3!
[42.Rh8 Kd5±]
42...Kc6 43.Kd4 Kc7
[43...Rxa3? 44.Rc8+ Kd6 45.R8xc4+-]
44.Rh8 Black must now prevent Kc5.
44...Kd6 ...Nb2+ is the strong threat.
45.Rd8+ 0.01/23
[But not 45.Rxh6? Nb2+ 46.Ke3 Nd1+ 47.Kd3 Nxc3 48.Kxc3 Rxa3+ 49.Kd4 Rxg3-+]
[Better is 45.Kd3± 0.89/22]
45...Kc7



46.Ra8 Kd6 2.13/26
[46...Kb6!= 0.01/23 and Black is okay.]
47.Ra6++- Ke7 48.Kc5 Nxa3? 6.56/20
[48...Rxa3± 1.51/24 49.Rxa3 Nxa3 50.Rxa5 Nc4 51.Ra7+ *(51.Rxb5 Nd6+-)* 51...Kf8]
49.Ra7+ Kf6 50.Rd3 White wants to mate with Rdd7. **50...Nc4**



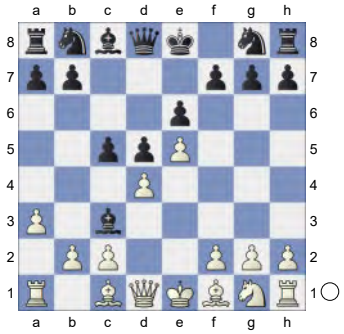
51.Rdd7 7.11/23
[⌓51.Rd8 #4/10 e5 52.Rf8+ Ke6 53.Rff7 exf4 54.Rae7#]
51...Ne5 52.Rh7 Rc4+ #6/14
[52...Nd3++- 5.07/23 53.Kxb5 Rxf4 54.gxf4 Nxf4 55.Rxh6+ Kg5]
53.Kxb5 Rb4+ 54.Ka6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.59. Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
0-1

96 **C18**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2714**
■ **Alekseev,Evgeny V** **2716**
Moscow Tal Memorial 2nd (2) 11.11.2007
[Ftacnik,Lubomir]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

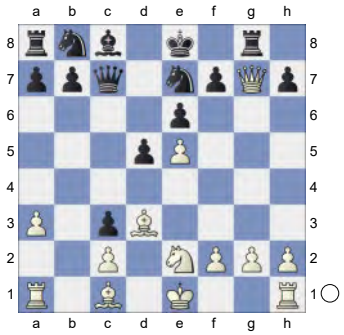


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Bd3 cxd4 9.Ne2 dxc3! An important move, that lures the white knight on to the lesser square d2.

[9...Qxe5]

[9...h5!]

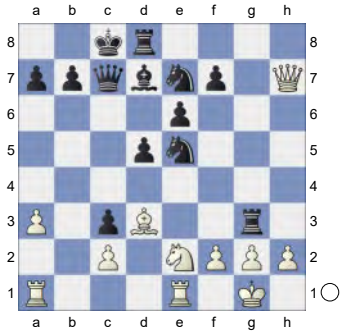
10.Qxg7 Rg8



11.Qxh7 Nbc6 12.Bf4 Bd7 13.0-0 0-0-0 14.Rfe1 Nxe5 15.Bg3 Rxg3

[15...N7c6 16.Nxc3 Nd4 *(16...Qa5)* 17.Ne2 Ndf3+ *(17...Ndc6)* 18.gxf3 Nxf3+ 19.Kg2∓ Nxe1+ 20.Rxe1 e5? 21.Bf5-+]

[15...Nf5 16.Bxf5 exf5 17.Qh4 Ng6 *(17...Rg4 18.Qf6∓ Re4 19.f3)* 18.Qb4=]



16.Nxg3?! The eternal optimism of youth! The exchange of the bishop for the knight f6 is typical for this pawn structure, but usually White has more minor pieces left supporting the queenside attack. **16...Bc6**

[16...Ba4 17.Rxe5 Qxe5 18.Qh4]

17.Rad1 N7g6

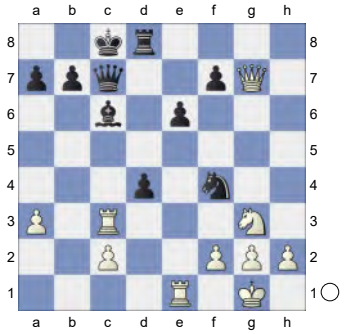
[17...d4 18.Qg7 Rd5 Frustrating for Alekseev, but ideas for improvement are simply lacking.]

[17...f6 18.Qg7]

18.Qg7 Nxd3

[18...Ba4 19.Ne2 Rh8 White is not dreaming about activity, as his defensive set up is ideal. 20.h3 f5 21.Qxc7+ Kxc7 22.Nxc3 Bd7]

19.Rxd3 Nf4 20.Rxc3 d4



21.Rc4 Qa5! Brave, but absolutely the correct solution. The passed pawn on the a-file is strong and the d5 weakness defendable.

[21...Nxg2 22.Re4 Amazingly enough White has managed to

organize his resistance on the queenside so flexibly, that Black will find it very challenging to make progress. f5 23.Qxc7+ Kxc7 24.Rexd4 Rxd4 25.Rxd4 White's queen has to stay on the board to create tension against the black pawns. Ne1 26.Kf1 Nf3]

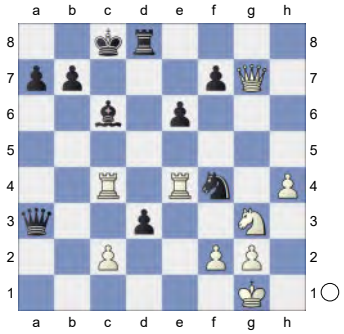
22.Re4 Qxa3 23.Nf1 Qd6

[23...Qc1 24.Qxf7]

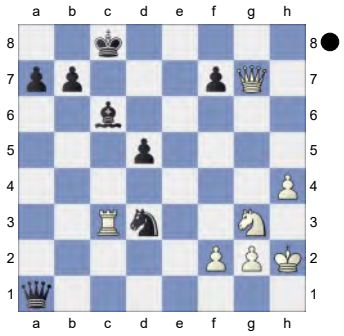
24.Ng3

[24.Rcxd4 Ne2+ 25.Rxe2 Qxd4! 26.Qxf7 Bd5]

24...Qa3 25.h4 d3



26.cxd3! Carlsen deserves full praise for composing his mind enough for the difficult defensive task. **26...Nxd3 27.Red4 Rd5 28.Rxd5!? exd5 29.Rc3 Qa1+** Alekseev must have been satisfied with the progress he has made. A better position and an extra pawn promise him fair winning chances. **30.Kh2**



½-½

97 **C18**

□ **Timmerman,Gert** **2710**

■ **Rittner,Horst Robert** **2594**

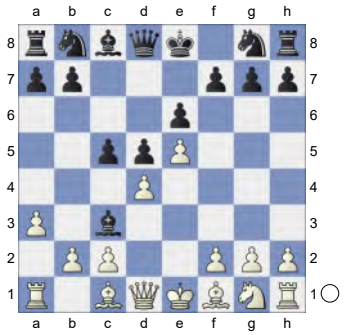
corr 50th Jubilee World Champions Tourn

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

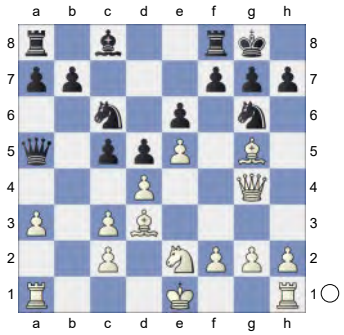
Ivanov,Sergey: 'Ivanov,Se: 'Inf 78/316''

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Bg5 Qa5 10.Ne2 Ng6 0.26/19

[⌂10...cxd4! -0.28/18 11.Bxe7 Nxe7]



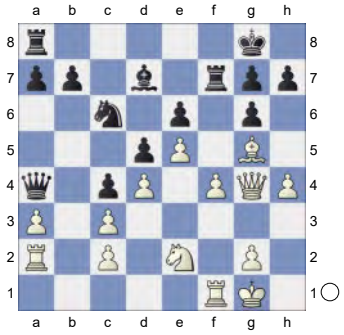
11.0-0= Qa4 12.f4 c4 The position is equal. **13.Bxg6 fxg6 14.Ra2 Bd7 15.h4 Rf7N**

[15...Rf5

A) 16.Ng3 Be8 17.Nxf5 *(17.h5 gxh5 18.Nxh5 Bxh5 19.Qxh5 Rf7 20.g4 Qa5 21.Qh3* C 19/03-N,N Theory 129 [Chess Informant]*)* 17...gxf5 18.Qf3 h6 19.g4 Bg6

20.Bxh6 gxh6 21.h5 Bf7 22.gxf5 exf5 23.Kh1 Kh7 24.Qh3 Be6 25.Qh4 Rf8 26.Rg1 Qa5 27.Rb2 Qxc3 28.Rg6 Rf7 29.Rb1 Qf3+ 30.Kh2 Nxd4 Shaposhnikov,E (2503)-Ivanov,S (2543) Russia 2000 CI1-130 [Ivanov,Sergey] ½-½ (35);

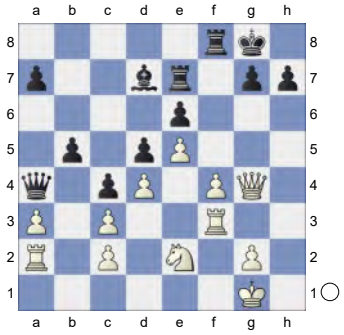
B) 16.h5 gxh5 17.Qxh5 h6 18.g4 Rf7 19.Bxh6 gxh6 20.f5 Rg7 21.f6 Be8 22.Qxh6 Rh7 23.Qg5+ Kh8 24.Kg2 Sinn,M (2345)-Gomez Segura,A (2391) Polanica Zdroj 2002 Telechess CBM 89 [Wedberg]]



16.h5 gxh5! 17.Qxh5 Raf8 18.Qg4 b5 19.Rf3 Ne7 20.Bxe7

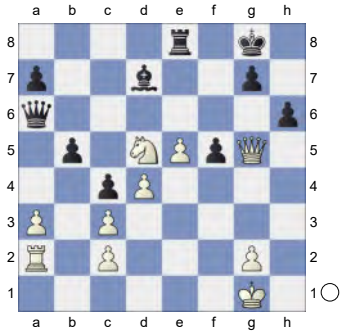
[20.Rh3 is interesting. Nf5 21.Qh5 g6 22.Qf3]

20...Rxe7

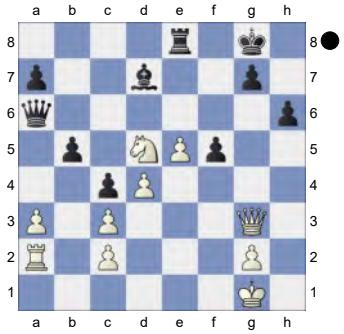


21.f5 Rxf5 22.Rxf5 exf5 23.Qg5 Re8 24.Nf4 Qa6 25.Nxd5→ White is out for blood. **25...h6**

(Diagram)



26.Qg3



Threatens to win with Nf6+. **26...Rd8 27.Ra1**

[27.Nf6+ Kf7 28.Nxd7 Rxd7±]

27...Kh7 28.Re1 Strongly threatening e6! **28...Be8?** 2.54/24

[28...Qc6± 0.95/22 29.Qf3 Re8]

29.Qf3 1.52/22

[White should try 29.Nc7+- 2.54/24 Qxa3 30.e6 *(30.Ne6 Rd7±)*]

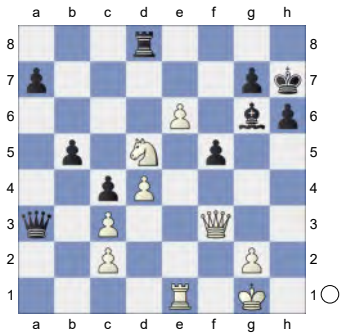
29...Qxa3± 30.e6

[30.Qxf5+ Bg6 31.Qe6 Rxd5 32.Qxd5 Qxc3=]

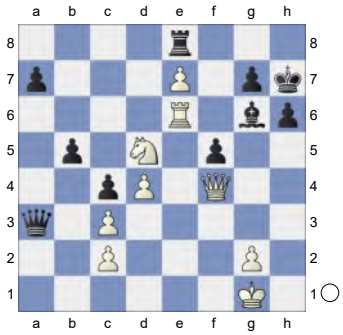
30...Bg6 2.80/22

[30...Qd6 1.73/23 keeps fighting. 31.Re5 *(31.Qxf5+? Bg6-+)* 31...a5]

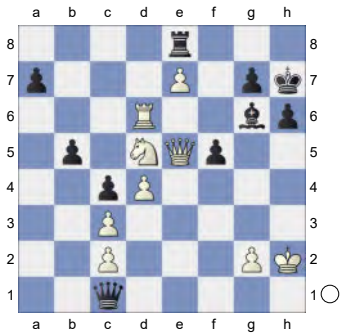
(Diagram)



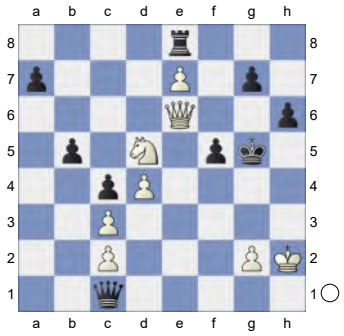
31.Nf4 1.44/22
[31.e7+- 2.80/22 Re8 32.Qf4]
31...Be8 32.Nd5 -0.01/18 &Bianco is more active.
[32.Re5± 1.09/21]
32...Bg6= 33.e7 Re8 34.Qf4 Prevents Qd6. **34...Kh8?** 5.95/22
[34...Qa2 2.91/20 is tougher. 35.Nc7 Qxc2]
35.Re6+- Kh7



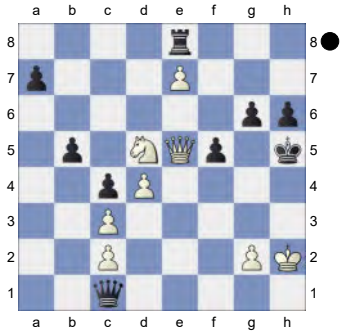
36.Kh2 Bf7 37.Rd6 Bg6 38.Qe5 Qc1



39.Rxg6 Kxg6 40.Qe6+
[Weaker is 40.Nc7 Rxe7 41.Qxe7 Qf4+ 42.Kg1 Qc1+ 43.Kf2 *(43.Kh2 Qf4+ 44.Kg1 Qc1+ 45.Kf2 Qd2+ 46.Kg1 Qc1+±)* 43...Qd2+ 44.Kg1 Qc1+ 45.Kf2 *(45.Kh2 Qf4+ 46.Kg1 Qc1+±)* 45...Qd2+ 46.Kf3 Qxc3+ 47.Qe3 Qxc2±]
40...Kg5



41.Qf7 g6 42.Qf6+ Kh5 43.Qe5

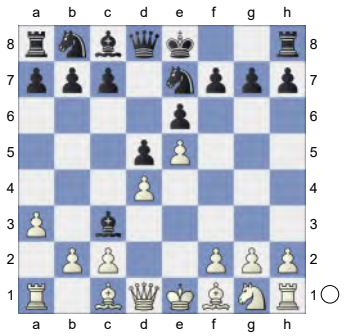


Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.41
1-0

98 **C18**
□ **Timmerman,Gert** **2710**
■ **Rittner,Horst Robert** **2594**
corr von Massow-Gedenkturnier 2001
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

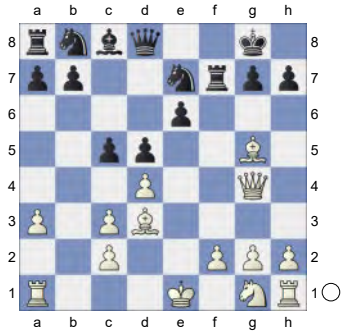
(Diagram)



6.bxc3 c5N

[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7

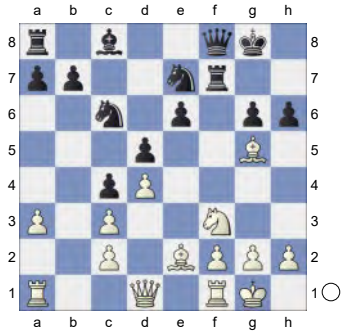


11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Nbc6 13.Nf3 Qf8 14.0-0

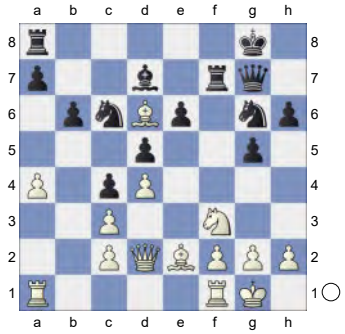
[14.dxc5 Nf5=]

14...c4 Threatens to win with ...Rxf3.

15.Be2 h6



16.Bc1 White is slightly better. **16...Bd7 17.a4 Qg7 18.Ba3 g5 19.Bd6 Ng6 20.Qd2 b6**



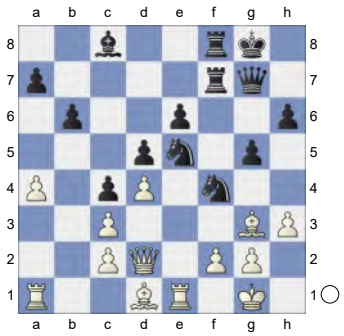
21.h3 Rd8 22.Rfe1

[22.a5!?]

22...Bc8 23.Bg3 Rdf8 24.Bd1 Nf4 0.95/19

[24...Rf5± 0.44/17]

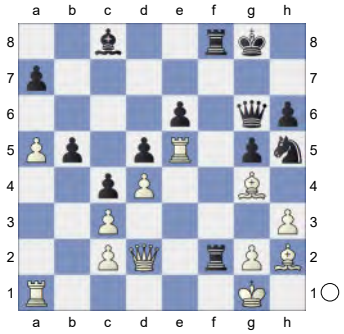
25.Ne5!± Nxe5



26.Rxe5 Qg6 27.a5 b5 28.Bg4 Nh5 29.Bh2 0.01/20

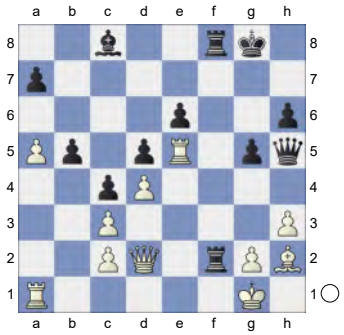
[29.Bxh5± 1.30/22 Qxh5 30.a6]

29...Rxf2=



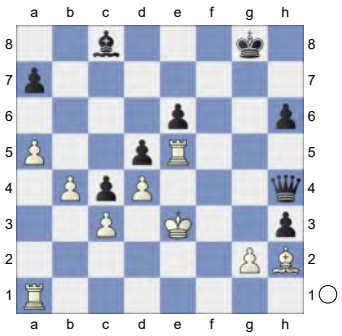
30.Bxh5! Qxh5

[30...Rxd2 31.Bxg6 Rff2 32.Kh1±]



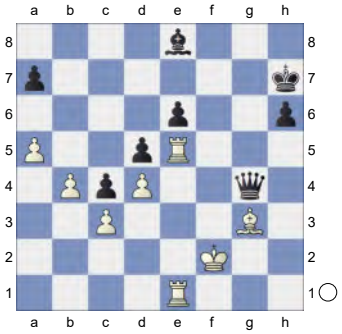
31.Qxf2 Rxf2 32.Kxf2 b4 Strongly threatening ...b3. **33.cxb4** White wants to play Kg1. **33...Qh4+! 34.Ke3 g4 35.c3 gxh3**

(Diagram)



36.Rg1 Kh7 37.gxh3 Qxh3+ 38.Bg3 Bd7 39.Kf2 Qg4 40.Rge1 Be8 0.78/22

[40...Qg6= -0.01/19]



41.Rxe6± Qf5+ 1.42/22

[Better is 41...Bd7!± 0.67/22 42.Re7+ Kg6]

42.Kg1 0.01/21 &Bianco is more active.

[42.Kg2± 1.42/22 Bd7 43.R6e3]

42...Bg6!= 43.R6e3 aiming for Be5.

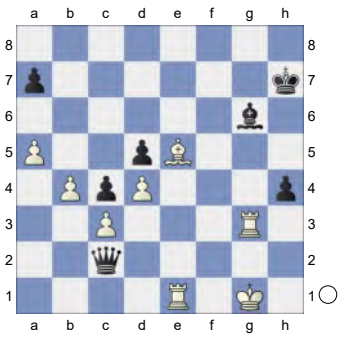
43...Qc2? 2.63/24 A mistake that costs the game.

[43...Qg4= 0.01/22]

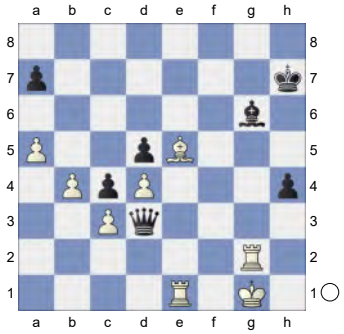
44.Be5!+- h5

[44...Bd3? 45.Rg3 Bg6 46.Bf6+-]

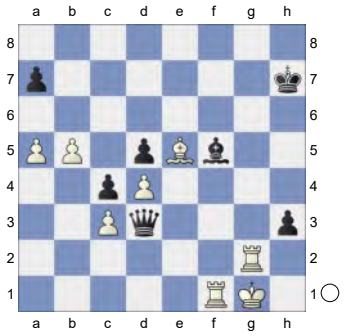
45.Rg3 h4



46.Rg2 Chess con chili. **46...Qd3**

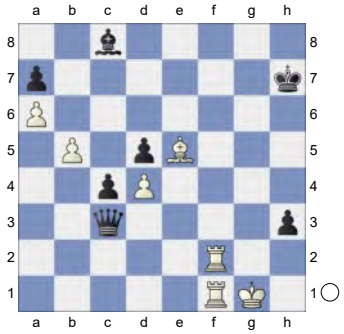


47.Rf1!
[47.Bf6? Be4 48.Rg7+ Kh6-+]
47...Bf5
[47...Qxc3? 48.Rf8 Qe3+ 49.Kh2 Qxe5+ 50.dxe5+-]
48.b5 And now b6 would win.
[48.Rg7+ Kh6=]
48...h3

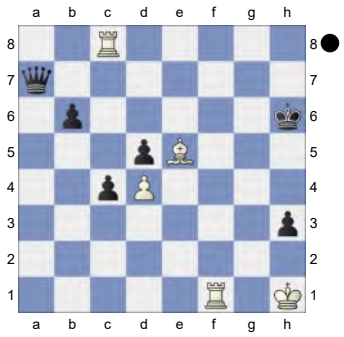


49.Rgf2
[Inferior is 49.Rg7+ Kh6 50.Rf2 *(50.Rxa7? h2+ 51.Bxh2 Qe3+ 52.Rf2 Qg5+ 53.Bg3 Qxg3+ 54.Rg2 Qxc3-+)* 50...Qxc3=]
49...Bc8 10.57/21
[⌓49...h2+ 4.19/20 50.Rxh2+ Bh3]
50.a6
[Less strong is 50.Rf7+ Kh6 51.Kh2 *(51.Rxa7? Qg6+ 52.Kf2 Qc2+ 53.Ke3 Qxc3+ 54.Kf4 Qd2+ 55.Kf3 Qg2+ 56.Ke3 Qxf1-+)* 51...Qxc3+-]
50...Qxc3

(Diagram)



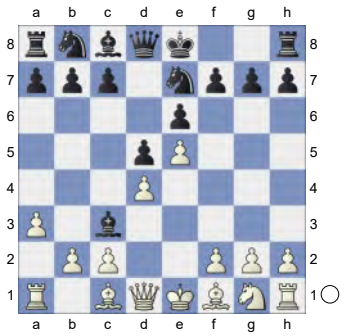
51.b6 axb6 52.a7 Qa3 53.Rf8 Kh6 16.44/25
[⌓53...Qxa7 4.12/21 54.Rxc8 Qa2 55.Rf7+ Kh6 56.Rh8+ Kg6 57.Rg7+ Kf5 58.Rf8+ Ke4 59.Rf4+ Kd3 60.Rg3+ Kc2 61.Rf2+ Kb1 62.Rxa2 Kxa2]
54.Kh1 Qxa7 55.Rxc8



Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.27 (precise)
1-0

99 **C18**
□ **Timmerman,Gert Jan** **2710**
■ **Rittner,Horst Robert** **2594**
corr NLD jub25 1991
[Kitty Kat]

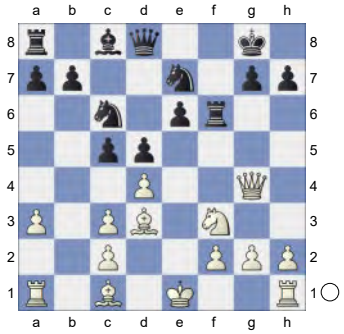
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**
(Diagram)



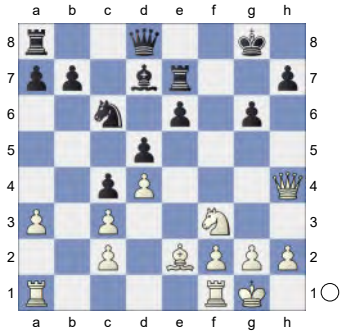
6.bxc3 c5N

[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Nf3 f5 10.exf6 Rxf6



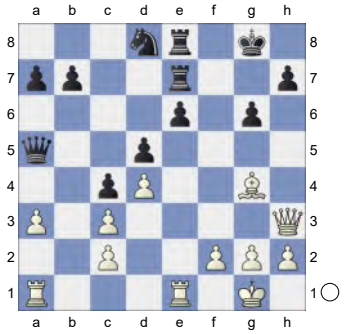
11.Bg5 Rf7 12.Bxe7 Rxe7 13.Qh4 g6 14.0-0 c4 15.Be2 Bd7



16.Rfe1 White is slightly better.

[16.Rab1!?]

16...Qa5 17.Ne5 Threatens to win with Nxc6. **17...Rae8 18.Nxd7 Rxd7 19.Qh3 Rde7 20.Bg4 Nd8**



21.f4 Qa4 0.37/21

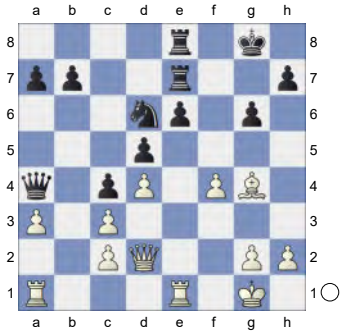
[21...h5= 0.01/19 deserves consideration. 22.Be2 Nf7]

22.Ra2 0.05/19

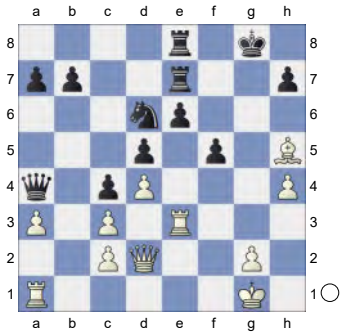
[22.Re2± 0.37/21 is more appropriate.]

22...Qc6 23.Qe3 Nf7 24.Raa1 Qa4

25.Qd2 Nd6

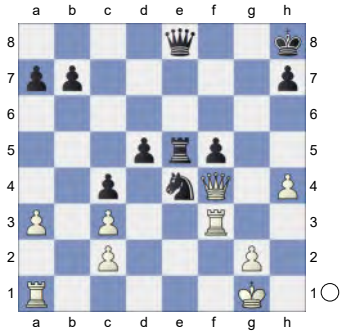


26.Bf3 Inhibits Ne4. **26...Nb5** 0.39/17
[26...Kg7= 0.07/18]
27.Re3 Nc7 28.h4 Nb5 1.30/20 Black is now going downhill.
[Better is 28...h5± 0.44/18]
29.f5!± gxf5 2.20/22
[29...exf5± 1.29/20 was called for. 30.Bxd5+ Kf8]
30.Bh5+- White threatens Rg3+ and mate. **30...Nd6**

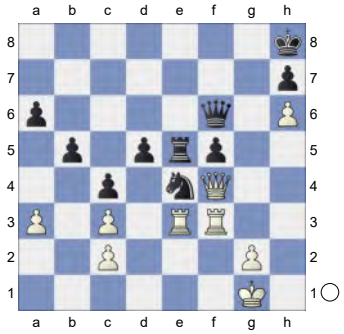


31.Rg3+
[And not 31.Bxe8 Qxe8 32.Rg3+ Kf7=]
31...Kh8 32.Bxe8 Qxe8 33.Qf4→ Threatening mate with Qe5+. Black is in trouble. **33...e5 34.dxe5 Ne4 35.Rf3 Rxe5**

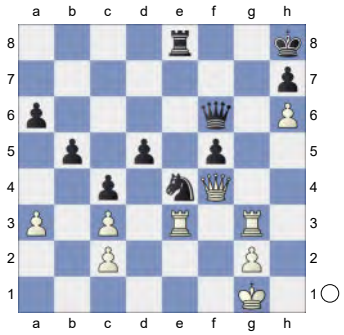
(Diagram)



36.Re1 Qe7 37.h5 Qf6 38.h6 b5? 4.22/24
[38...b6 2.16/23 39.Rg3 Re8]
39.Ree3 a6

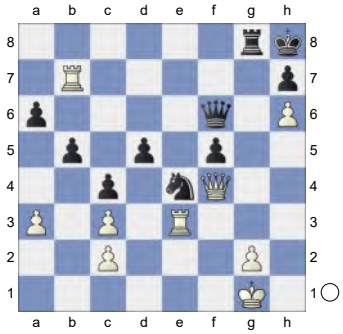


40.Rg3! Strongly threatening Rg7.
40...Re8

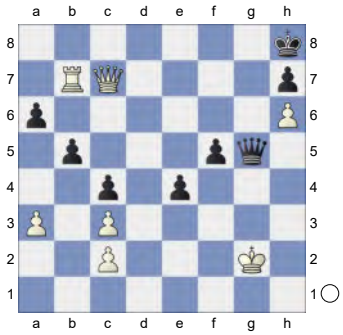


41.Rg7 Rf8 10.22/24
[⌓41...Qe5 4.03/21 42.Qxe5 Rxe5]
42.Rb7 White wants to mate with Qc7.
42...Rg8

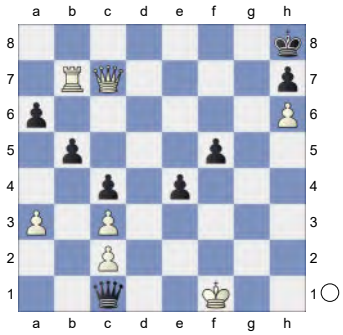
(Diagram)



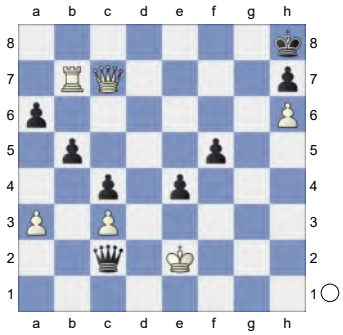
43.Rxe4! dxe4 44.Qc7! Rxg2+ 45.Kxg2 Qg5+



46.Kf1 Qc1+

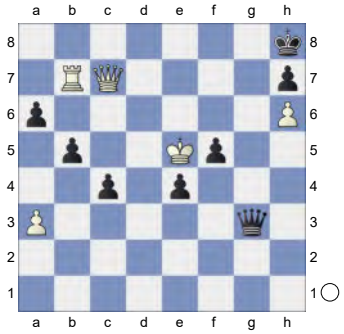


47.Ke2! Qxc2+

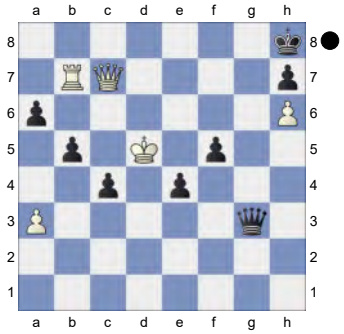


48.Ke3! Qxc3+ 49.Kf4 Qf3+ 50.Ke5 Qg3+

(Diagram)



51.Kd5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.42

1-0

100 **C17**

□ **Maghsoodloo,Parham** **2703**

■ **Trost,Edvin** **2443**

Titled Tue 17th Dec Early blitz (3)

[Kitty Kat]

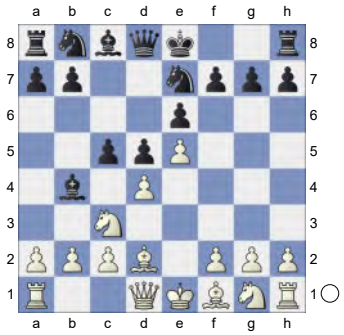
C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5

[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0

(40)]
[4...b6 5.Qg4 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Be3 Ne7 8.Qh5 Ng6 9.0-0-0 Ba6 10.Kb1 Bxf1 11.Rhxf1 Nc6 12.Nd2 Bb4 13.Ne2 Bxd2 14.Bxd2 0-0-0 15.f4 Nge7 16.Qxf7 h5 17.f5 Nxf5 18.Qxd7+ Kxd7 19.c3 Stukopin,A (2564)-Ruiz Castillo,J (2503) Dulles 2021 CBM 208 Extra [Stukopin, Andrey] ½-½ (35)]

5.Bd2 Ne7



6.Nf3 b6 7.Bb5+N

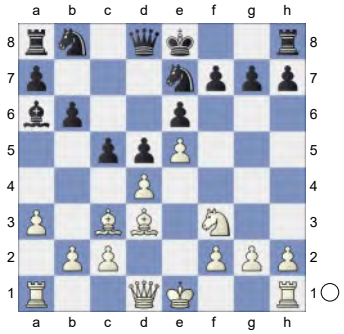
[7.Nb5 Bxd2+ 8.Qxd2 0-0 9.c3 Ba6 10.Be2 Nbc6 11.0-0 Ng6 12.Qe3 Qe7 13.g3 f6 14.Rfe1 Rad8 15.exf6 Qxf6 16.dxc5 bxc5 17.Qxc5 e5 18.Rad1 Nge7 19.Nh4 g5 20.Ng2 Kh8 21.a4 d4 Dolgitser,K-Mueller,T corr USA 1989 UltraCorr3a [DeVault] ½-½ 22.cxd4 exd4 23.h4 gxh4 24.Nxh4 Rg8 25.Ng2 Bb7 26.Qh5 a6 27.Na3 Ne5 28.Qh4 Qc6 0-1 (28) Faizrakhmanov,R (2410)-Zienkiewicz,J (2638) Linares 2003 130 Games Section [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S]]

7...Bd7 8.Bd3 Bc8 0.54/18

[8...Nbc6= 0.01/18]

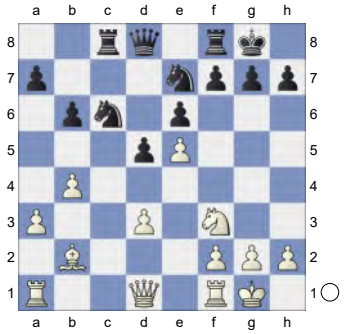
9.a3 Bxc3 10.Bxc3 Ba6

(Diagram)



11.b4 Bxd3 12.cxd3 cxd4 13.Bxd4 0-0 14.0-0 Nbc6 15.Bb2 Rc8 0.21/18

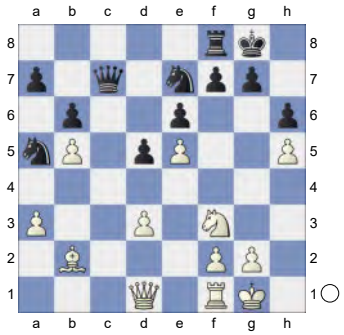
[⌓15...b5 -0.16/18]



16.Rc1 Qd7 17.h4 Rc7 0.46/20

[17...b5= 0.04/18]

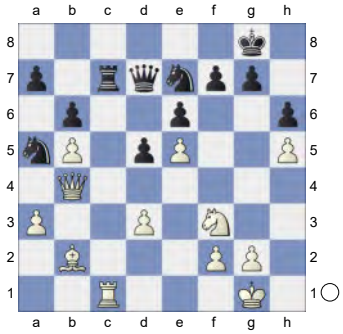
18.h5 h6 19.b5 Na5 20.Rxc7 Qxc7



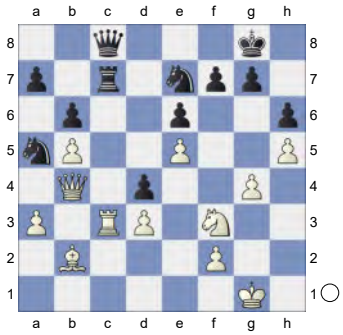
21.Qa4 Rc8 22.Rc1 Against Qc2 **22...Qd7 23.Qb4** &Bianco is more active. **23...Rc7** 1.74/23

[23...Rxc1+± 0.55/22 24.Bxc1 d4]

(Diagram)

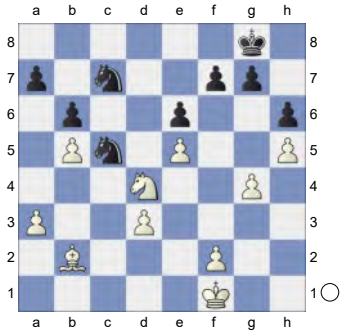


24.g4 0.60/22
[24.Rxc7!+- 1.74/23 Qxc7 25.Qd6]
24...Qc8 2.30/25
[24...Nb7± 0.60/22]
25.Rc3 0.82/20
[25.Rxc7+- 2.30/25 is more deadly. Qxc7 26.Qd6]
25...d4 1.30/24
[⊼25...Rxc3 0.82/20 26.Bxc3 Qc7]

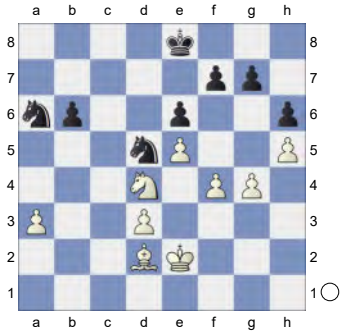


26.Nxd4 0.27/22
[26.Rxc7± 1.30/24 Qxc7 27.Qd6 *(27.Nxd4 Nb7±; 27.Bxd4 Qc1+ 28.Kg2 Nd5∓; 27.Qxd4 Nd5±)*]
26...Nd5= Pair of Knights! **27.Rxc7 Qxc7 28.Qd6** Black is now going downhill. **28...Nb7** 1.13/23
[⊼28...Qc8 0.81/24]
29.Qxc7±
[29.Qc6 is more complex. Nc5 30.Qa8+ Kh7 31.Nc6]
29...Nxc7 Endgame KBN-KNN **30.Kf1 Nc5**

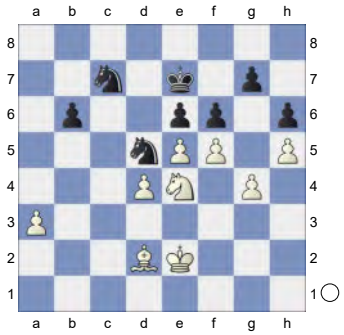
(Diagram)



31.Ke2 Kf8 32.Bc3 Ke8 33.f4 1.37/22
[33.Bd2+- 1.88/22]
33...Nd5 1.85/22
[33...g6± 1.37/22 34.Bb4 gxh5]
34.Bd2+- a6 2.20/23
[34...g6 1.69/20 keeps fighting. 35.f5 g5]
35.bxa6 Nxa6

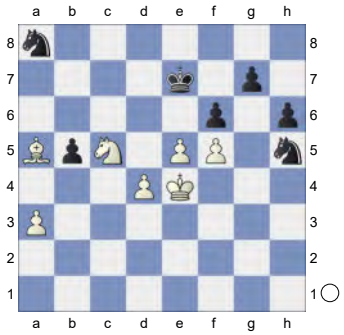


36.Nb5 f6 37.d4 Nac7? 3.13/23
[37...Kf8± 1.49/21 38.f5 fxe5]
38.Nd6+ Ke7 39.f5 Ne8 3.57/24
[39...Na6 2.34/20 was necessary. 40.fxe6 Nac7 41.Nf5+ Kf8 42.exf6 Nxf6 43.Bb4+ Kg8 44.Ne7+ Kh7]
40.Ne4 Nec7

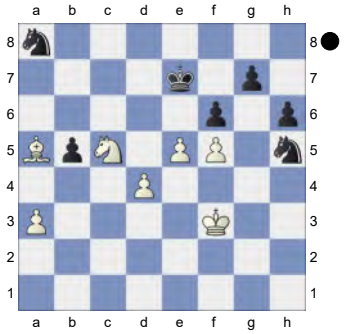


41.Kd3 b5 4.84/24

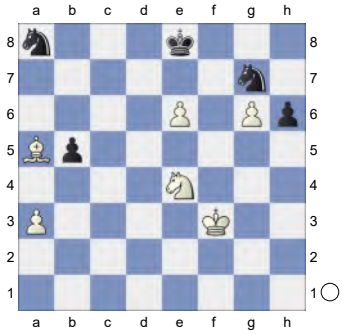
[⌓41...fxe5 3.26/21 42.dxe5 Kf8]
42.Nc5 Na8 7.58/24
[⌓42...exf5 4.71/24 43.gxf5 Nb6]
43.Ba5 exf5 44.gxf5 Nf4+ 45.Ke4 Nxh5



46.Kf3

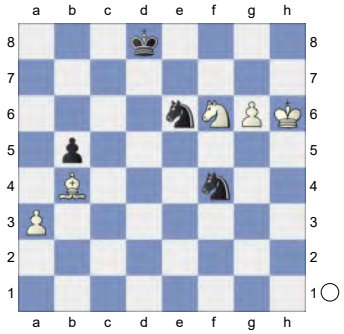


Against Ng3. aiming for Kg4. **46...fxe5 47.dxe5 Kf7 48.Ne4** Kg4 is the strong threat. **48...g6 49.e6+ Ke8 50.fxg6 Ng7**

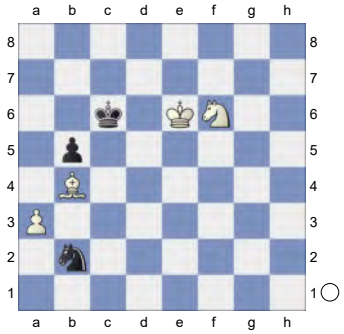


51.Bb4 Nxe6 52.Kg4 Nac7 53.Kh5 Nd5 54.Kxh6 Ndf4 55.Nf6+ Kd8

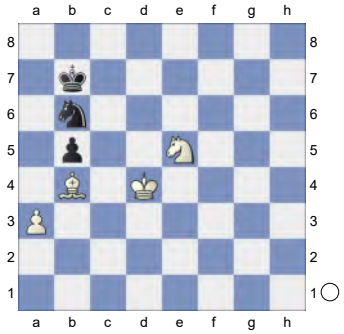
(Diagram)



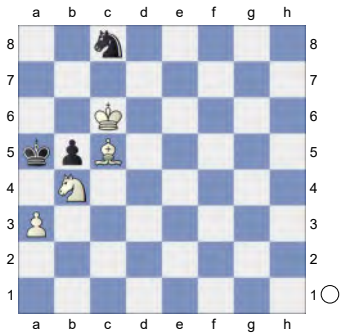
56.g7 Nxg7 57.Kxg7 Kc7 58.Kf7 Kc6 59.Ke7 Nd3 60.Ke6 Nb2 8.93/35
[⌓60...Nc5+ 4.69/26 61.Kf5 Nd7]



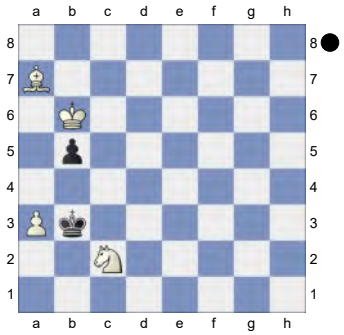
61.Ng4 Nc4 62.Kf5? 2.31/27
[62.Ne5+ 8.57/29 Nxe5 63.Kxe5]
62...Nb6? 8.30/29
[62...Kd5 2.31/27 63.Kf4 Kd4]
63.Ke4 Nc4 64.Kd4 Nb6 65.Ne5+ Kb7



66.Kc5 Ka6 67.Kc6 Nc8 68.Bc5 Ka5 69.Nd3 Ka6 70.Nb4+ 7.88/5
[⌓70.Kc7 #15/26 Na7 71.Bb4 Nc6 72.Kxc6 Ka7 73.Kc7 Ka6 74.Nc5+ Ka7 75.Ba5]
70...Ka5



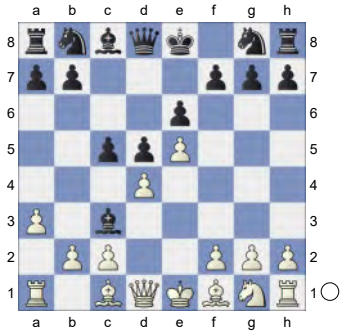
71.Kc7 White mates. **71...Ka4 72.Nc2 Na7 73.Bxa7 Kb3 74.Kb6**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/ Black=0.37
1-0

101 **C18**
□ **Alekseenko,Kirill** **2703**
■ **Karjakin,Sergey** **2757**
Smyslov Region Cup (blitz) (9.8) 16.8.21
[Daniel Fernandez]

This game was played at a blitz time control, but the standard of play was mostly high (especially in the first 20 moves) and both the opening and early middlegame showed instructive ideas for both sides, before a flurry of mistakes decided matters right at the end. Daniel Fernandez,MH: 'This game was played at a blitz time control, but the standard of play was mostly high (especially in the first 20 moves) and both the opening and early middlegame showed instructive ideas for both sides, before a flurry of mistakes decided matters right at the end. C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** Daniel Fernandez,MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5** This move is starting to emerge as one of the key tests for Black. **4...c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.c4 -0.14/22 It is always difficult to be a pioneer, and this move (while eminently reasonable) doesn't give White the best chances of playing for an advantage. Daniel Fernandez,MH: 'N'

[8.Qg4 Kf8 Daniel Fernandez,MH 9.Qd1 b6 10.Nh3 Ne7 11.dxc5 bxc5 12.Bd3 c4 13.Be2 Nbc6 14.f4 Rb8 15.Ra2 g6 16.0-0 h5 17.f5 Nxf5 18.Bg5 Qa5 19.Qd2 Ke8 20.Kh1 Ba6 21.Bf6 Rg8 22.Raa1 Ncd4 23.Bd1 0-1 9.ef6 Nf6 10.Qd3 d6 (2413)-10.Be3 Nh5 11.Qd2 Nd4 (2260) Anglo Pacific-ch Masters corr 1989 (6)]

[8.dxc5 Daniel Fernandez,MH Ne7=]

[8.h4± 0.73/23 Daniel Fernandez,MH Ne7 9.h5 h6 10.Nf3 Nbc6 11.Rh4 c4 12.Rf4 Bd7 13.g3 Rf8 14.Nh4 a6 15.Bh3 Rg8 16.Kf1 Nd8 17.Ng2 Ndc6 18.Ne3 b5 19.Kg1 Qa5 20.Kh1 Rh8 21.Qg4 Rg8 22.Qf3 Nd8 23.g4 1-0 6.cd5 Nd5 7.Qc2 (2597)-Ewetzky,O (2372) Saint Louis

(m/1) 154/116 2022 (7.5)]
[8.Qb1 Daniel Fernandez,MH c4 9.h4 Nc6 10.h5 h6 11.Ne2 Bd7 12.Nf4 0-0-0 13.g3 Nge7 14.Bh3 Kb8 15.0-0 Nc8 16.Kh2 Nb6 17.Ng2 Qa5 18.Qd1 Na4 19.f4 g6 20.Ne3 Ne7 21.Ng4 Rdf8 22.Nf6 Qd8 0-1 6.Bg2 Ne7 7.00 00 8. (2459)-Rasmussen,P (2570) Stockholmsmästerskapet 2002 (7. 15)]

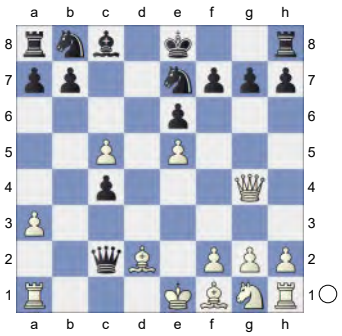
8...Ne7 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '='
[8...dxc4 9.Qg4 Ne7 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!' 10.Qxg7 Rg8 11.Qxh7]
[8...Nc6 0.40/22 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '8...Ng8-e7 -0.01' 9.dxc5]

9.dxc5
[9.c3 Qxd1+ 10.Rxd1 cxd4 *(10...dxc4 11.Bxc4 b6 12.Nf3 Ba6)* 11.cxd4 dxc4 12.Bxc4 b6]

9...dxc4
[9...Nbc6 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Bd3 Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' Wards off Qa4-e4+' Nxe5 12.Ne2 0-0 13.0-0]

10.Qg4 -0.36/23
[10.h4!= 0.02/22 (Daniel Fernandez, MH) might be stronger.]

10...Qxc2



Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' ∓' **11.Rc1**
One of the key takeaways from this game is that White's knight doesn't do so well on the e2-square in this variation, but of course the prospect of it getting to jump to g3 or f5 has significant impact in a blitz game.
[11.Qxc4= Tiviakov,S-Velicka,P Solsona 2003 Qxc4 12.Bxc4 Nd7!?→ 13.Nf3 Nxc5 14.0-0 0-0 15.Bb4 b6± with a classic 'small centre' position]
[After 11.Bxc4
A) 11...Nd7 0.03/23 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '11...Bc8-d7 -0.38' 12.Rc1!= really does seem quite trouble-free for Black. Qb2 *(12...Qg6 13.Qxg6 hxg6 14.Bb5)* 13.Qxg7 Rg8 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '!' 14.Qxh7 Nxe5 15.Be2 Bd7 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!' Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' aiming for ...Ne5-g6!' 16.Qb1 Qxb1 17.Rxb1 Bc6 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!' 18.Nf3 Nxf3+ 19.Bxf3 Bxf3 20.gxf3 0-0-0;
B) 11...Bd7 we will probably ultimately transpose to a French position after Black plays ...c5 (i.e. also spending 2 moves on a pawn push usually made in 1) but the queen on c7 will continue to look weird. For example, 12.Rc1 Qg6 13.Qxg6 hxg6 14.Nf3 *(Previously I gave 14.f4 as my main line, but Bc6)* 14...Bc6± with numerous attacking ideas in the pipeline such as Ng5, Nb5 and even sometimes Nxb5.]
[11.Qxg7 Daniel Fernandez,MH Qe4+ 12.Ne2 Rg8∓]

11...Qf5?! A couple of moves later Black puts the machinery in reverse, presumably recognising that he'd made an inaccuracy in putting the bishop here.
[11...Qg6 0.36/22 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '11...Qc2-f5 -0.27' 12.Qxc4 Nd7!? *(12...Bd7* Daniel Fernandez, MH *13.Bd3±)* 13.Nf3 *(13.Bd3 Nxe5*

Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!' *14.Bxg6 Nxc4 15.Bxf7+ Kxf7 16.Rxc4 Rd8)* 13...b6 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!']

12.Qxg7 White's knights start to crawl around on the kingside light squares in a way strongly reminiscent of an Italian. One big factor in Kirill's favour here is that, compared to an Italian, there is really no need for the h3, Nh2-g4 deployment and White can instead go for something a fair bit faster.

[12.Qxf5 Nxf5 13.Bxc4⩲ Similarly to the 8.Qe2 note, White should be able to claim some advantage here. Bd7 14.Ne2 *(14.f4 Bc6* with interesting compensations that might favour White slightly, Wosch, A-Contreras Poblete,J LSS email 2008. *15.Kf2* was previously tried by the same player but seems less accurate, as Black can immediately assert meaningful control over some dark squares: Alekseenko,K-Harsha,B INT 2020 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!' *Nd7!)* 14...Bc6 15.0-0 Nd7]

[12.Qxc4 -0.66/20 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '12.Qg4xf5 -0.25' Qxe5+⇄ 13.Ne2 Nbc6 -0.39/19 *(13...0-0∓* -0.86/21 Daniel Fernandez,MH*)* 14.Bc3 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '∓' Qg5]

12...Rg8 13.Qf6

[13.Qh6!? -1.31/21 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '13.Qg7-f6 -0.64' Nd7! 14.Nf3 Nd5 -1.10/21 *(⌓14...b5* -1.53/21 Daniel Fernandez,MH *15.Be3 a6)* 15.Bxc4 Nxe5]

13...Qe4+ 14.Be2 This was also playable on the previous move, but here it comes just in time: the f3-square is freed up for the queen.

[14.Ne2 Nbc6□ -0.14/24 *(14...Nd7∓* -0.68/20 Daniel Fernandez,MH *15.Qf4 Rg4 16.Qxe4 Rxe4)* 15.f3 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '=' *(15.Qf4 Qxf4 16.Bxf4±* Black struggles to chase the g5-knight away and so, in time to come, f4 will be very troublesome. Interestingly *Ng6!?* does not appear to have been played in this precise position, but does transpose to some 9 other games.*)* 15...Qxe5 16.Qxe5 Nxe5 17.Ng3 b5 18.Ne4!∞ seems to lead to forced draws with best play. Nd5?! Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' Prevents Ne4-f6+.']

14...Nd7 -0.36/22

[Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' Black should try' 14...Nbc6 -0.79/22 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '∓'

A) 15.Nf3!⩲ Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' Hoping for Nf3-g5.' Also reasonable (but less favoured by the computer) is something like Nd5 16.Qh4 Rg4 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!' 17.Qh3 -1.70/20 *(17.Qh5∓* -1.33/23 Daniel Fernandez,MH *c3 18.Rxc3 Nxc3 19.Bxc3 Qb1+ 20.Kd2 Qa2+ 21.Ke3)* 17...c3 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!';

B) 15.f3 -1.44/20 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '15.Rc1xc4 -0.89' Qxe5 with possibilities of deploying the d2-knight to either b3 or c4 soon.;

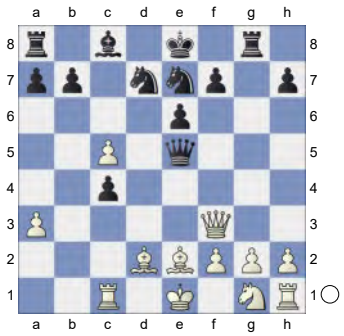
C) 15.Rxc4 Daniel Fernandez,MH Qxg2 16.Bf3 Qxh1∓ Remove Defender, Decoy;

D) 15.Qf3 Qxe5 16.Rxc4 Bd7 *(16...Qg7* Daniel Fernandez,MH *)*]

[14...b5!? -0.38/19 is greedy and not fully correct: after Daniel Fernandez, MH: '14…Nb8-c6 -0.91 is greedy and not fully correct: after' 15.cxb6! Nd7]

15.Qf3 Qxe5

(Diagram)



16.Rxc4 Thematic but not the absolute most precise move. **16...Nc6** 0.10/22

[16...Qg7 -0.36/23 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '∓' ' And now ...Nd7-e5! would win. ' 17.Rc3 *(17.Rc1?!* doesn't work before White castles, since the c4-knight isn't pinned strongly enough: *Qxg2±)* 17...Ne5?! 18.Qe4→ was alright for Black in Shahinyan,D-Sargsyan,T Yerevan 2021. Best appears to be Bd7!N followed by fighting for the c4-square in normal ways, e.g. *(18...f5 19.Bh5+±* In all of these orders White's knight lands swiftly on c4 and Black isn't able to find any means of capturing the e4-pawn. *Nf7 20.Qe2 Qxg2 21.Qf3)* 19.Qxb7 Bc6 20.Bb5 Rd8 21.Rg3 Qh8]

17.Qd3

[17.Qh3 Qg7= *(17...Nxc5* 1.25/21 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '17...Qe5-g7 0.16' *18.Qxh7)* The problem is that after 18.Nf3 e5 Black's c5-knight will support a ...Ba6 skewer, e.g. Daniel Fernandez,MH: 'Black's c5-knight will support a ...Ba6 skewer, e.g. ...Nd7-b6! would now be deadly.' *(18...Qxg2 19.Qxg2* when White's f1-rook remains a tactical weakness. *Rxg2 20.Ng5* Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!'*)* 19.Qg3 Nf6 20.0-0 Be6 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!' 21.Qxg7 Rxg7!]

17...Qg7 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!?' '↑' Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' Threatens to win with ...Qe5-g7. White is under pressure.'

[17...Rxg2 18.Nf3 Qg7 should also be more or less fine for Black here, especially since White's g3-knight is nowhere near the c4-square. 19.Bc3 e5 20.Kf1 Rg6 21.Nh4 Nf6! Compared to the lines with Qe2 instead of Re1, White doesn't support c4 with a piece and so 22.Nxg6 gets nowhere. fxg6]

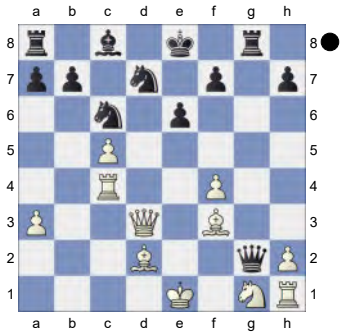
18.f4 -1.02/20 Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' Prevents Nd7-e5.'

[The more urgent 18.Bc3= -0.05/22 would have equalised according to the machine, preparing to trade the dark-squared bishop for a knight (either a proactive trade or not) followed by setting up many pawns on dark squares. Daniel Fernandez,MH: '=!' Preserving the bishop with Qxg2 would have led to a quite unpleasant position for Black. Karjakin was possibly looking for 19.Qxh7 , after which the queen could be bothered by a knight on either d4 or f4.]

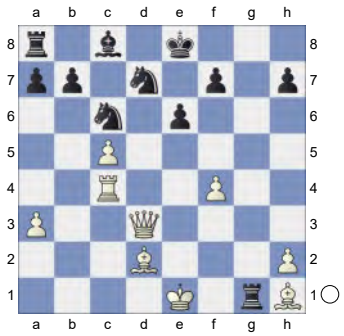
[18.Qh3! -0.59/21 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '18.Bd2-c3 -0.12' Qxg2!? -0.21/22 An idea that also exists in the Italian. For instance, we can remember Harikrishna venturing something similar in Tata Steel and being convincingly met by Re2 in that case too. *(18...Nf8∓* -0.59/21 Daniel Fernandez,MH*)* 19.Qxg2! Daniel Fernandez,MH: '=!' Rxg2 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '=' 20.Nh3± looks awkward, but White will soon untangle with h3, Qe1 and Rd1. Rg7 is also playable- how often can you say that?]

18...Qxg2 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '∓' Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' White must now prevent ...Nd7-e5! Black keeps a firm grip on the game.' **19.Bf3** -1.87/23 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '

[19.Qf3 -0.87/26 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '∓' Nf6!+- which really doesn't give Black the needed time for consolidation. *(19...Qxf3* -0.56/23 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '19...Nd7-f6 -1.02' *20.Nxf3 Nf6±* when White will have to play extremely precisely to make anything of their advantage. Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' ±!'*)* A neutral building move such as 20.Qxg2 would also have been playable. Black could also consider Rxg2 21.Bf3 Rg6]

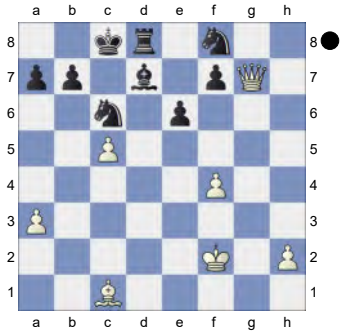


' **19...Qxh1** Daniel Fernandez,MH: '-+!!' Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' Remove Defender, Decoy' **20.Bxh1?** A very strange move, as White's e3-bishop was clearly better than any of Black's minor pieces. It can only be construed as a (significant) overreaction to the idea of ...Rd3. Daniel Fernandez, MH: 'A very strange move, as White's e3-bishop was clearly better than any of Black's minor pieces. It can only be construed as a (significant) overreaction to the idea of ...Rd3. Threatening h2-h4. This pair of bishops is nice.' **20...Rxg1+** (Diagram)



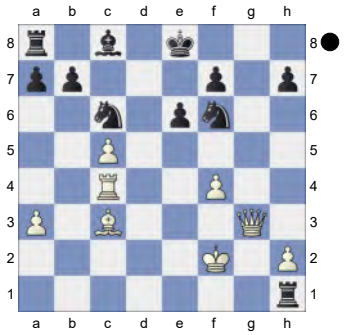
21.Kf2 Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' Strongly threatening Xh4-g6.' **21...Rxh1** An inventive move: the f6-knight was arguably the worst-placed piece and Black wants to use it to protect the c6-pawn. **22.Qg3**

[22.Qxh7 Nf8= Daniel Fernandez, MH: '=!' 23.Qh8 Bd7! 24.Rc1 Rxc1 25.Bxc1 0-0-0∓ gains back all the lost time with interest. Better was the more active 26.Qg7 when Black can claim some small advantage. Daniel Fernandez,MH: '

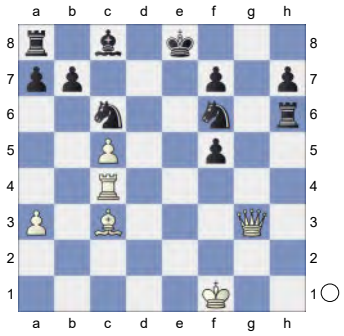


when Black can claim some small advantage.' Both here and on the previous move, e5 Daniel Fernandez, MH: '!' 27.Qxf7 Ne6 was an advantageous tactical operation. Black's position has solid fundamentals but the short-term tactical weaknesses are impossible to ignore. For instance, the idea of Nxh6. I suspect that White noticed the idea and then failed to notice the followup 28.f5?! Nxc5]

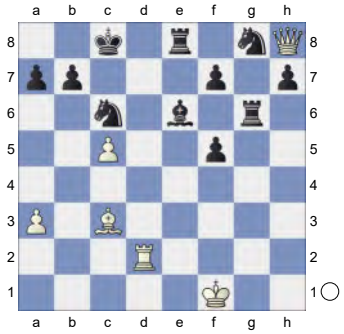
22...Nf6?!
[22...Ne7 23.Bc3 Nf5]
23.Bc3 -2.72/22 Daniel Fernandez,MH: '
[23.Kg2∓ -1.42/18 (Daniel Fernandez, MH) keeps fighting. Ra1 24.Qg5]



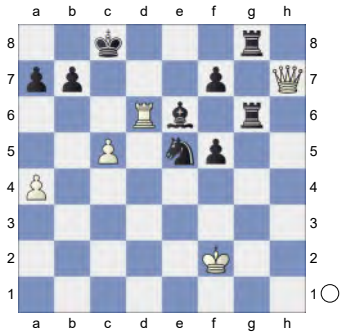
' **23...Rxh2+** Daniel Fernandez,MH: '!!'
24.Kf1
[The consistent 24.Qxh2 -4.30/21 would leave a balanced game where Black will certainly lose the c6-pawn at some stage but can hope to get one of the b-pawns in return. Daniel Fernandez,MH: '24.Kf2-e1 -3.00 would leave a balanced game where Black will certainly lose the c6-pawn at some stage but can hope to get one of the b-pawns in return.' Ng4+]
[24.Ke1 Daniel Fernandez,MH Rh1+]
24...Rh6! The same formula as in the 22. Qg3 note. Black plays a number of good moves here to dramatically change the momentum of the game. **25.f5 exf5**



26.Qg7 Be6 27.Rb4 -5.27/20
[⊿27.Bxf6 -3.33/20 Daniel Fernandez, MH Bxc4+ 28.Kf2 Rxf6 29.Qxf6]
27...Rg6 28.Qh8+ Ng8 29.Rb2
[After the safe 29.Rxb7∓ Black's minor pieces and queenside pawns are simply better. The combative 0-0-0 30.Rb1 Bc4+ 31.Kf2 Nh6 gives good chances to exploit the lack of co-ordination in Black's camp.]
29...0-0-0 30.Rd2 Re8

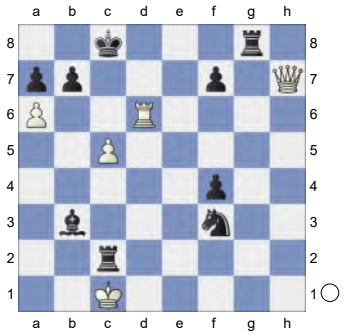


31.Qxh7 Nf6 32.Bxf6 Rxf6 33.Kf2 -6.02/18
[⊿33.Qh4 -4.22/19 Daniel Fernandez, MH Rg6 34.Rg2]
33...Rg6 34.Rd6 Reg8? 35.a4 Ne5??



An elementary blunder. Daniel Fernandez,MH: 'An elementary blunder. (→ ...Rg6-g2+)' **36.a5?? f4??** -8.35/20
[⊿36...Rg2+ -#7/19 Daniel Fernandez, MH 37.Ke3 Nc4+ 38.Kd4 Rd2+ Skewer 39.Kc3 Rg3+ *(39...Nxd6 40.Qxg8+ Kc7 41.Kxd2±)* 40.Rd3 Rdxd3+ *(40...Rgxd3+? leads to mate. 41.Kb4 Rb2+ 42.Ka4 Ra3#)* 41.Kb4 Rb3+ 42.Ka4 Nb2#]

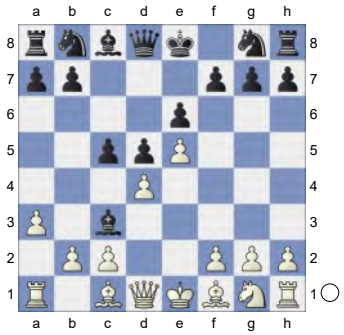
37.a6 Daniel Fernandez,MH: 'Black is clearly winning.' **37...Rg2+** leaves White with only **38.Ke1** and a difficult struggle to make a draw. **38...Nf3+** looks a bit nerve-wracking but will still work out OK for Black, e.g. **39.Kd1!? Bb3+ 40.Kc1 Rc2+□∞**



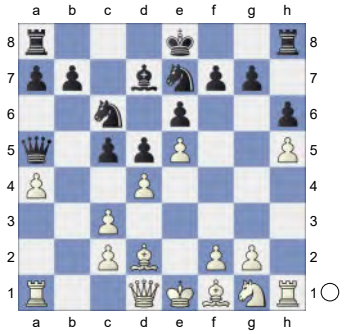
Daniel Fernandez,MH: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/Black=0.25 (precise) . Loss on time!?'
1-0

102 **C18**
□ **Sevian,Samuel** **2694**
■ **Carlsen,M.** **2837**
Titled Tue 8th Apr Late blitz (8) 08.04.25
[Kitty Kat]

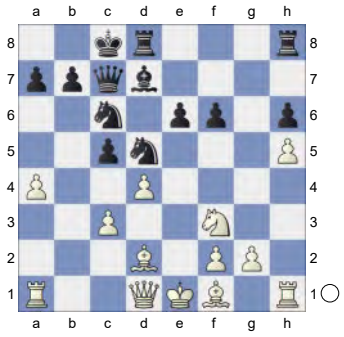
C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.a4 Nge7 8.h4 Qa5 9.Bd2 Bd7 10.h5 White has an edge.
10...h6



11.Nf3 0-0-0 12.c4N 0.02/21
[12.Qe2± 0.45/17 is superior.]
[12.Be2 f6 13.c4 Qc7 14.cxd5 exd5 15.exf6 gxf6 16.dxc5 Nf5 17.Bd3 Rhg8 18.Kf1 Rg4 19.g3 Nxg3+ 20.fxg3 Qxg3 21.Qe2 Ne5 22.Nxe5 fxe5 23.Qf2 e4 24.Be2 Qe5 25.Ra3 Rgg8 26.Ke1 d4 Anton Guijarro,D (2673)-Papasimakopoulos,A (2379) New York 2024 1-0 (33)]
12...Qc7= 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.c3 f6 15.exf6 gxf6 0.17/17
[⌓15...Nxf6 -0.14/19 16.a5 *(16.dxc5 e5∓)* 16...a6]



16.g3 -0.65/19
[16.Rh4= 0.17/17]
16...e5∓ 17.Bg2!
[17.c4? exd4! 18.cxd5 Rhe8+ 19.Be2 d3!-+]
17...exd4
[17...Bg4!? 18.Qc2 *(18.c4? e4-+)* 18...cxd4 19.cxd4 Bxf3 20.Bxf3

Nxd4 21.Qxc7+ Nxc7∓]

18.cxd4 Rhe8+ -0.01/19

[Much worse is 18...cxd4 19.0-0=]

[18...c4!∓ -0.37/19 was preferrable.]

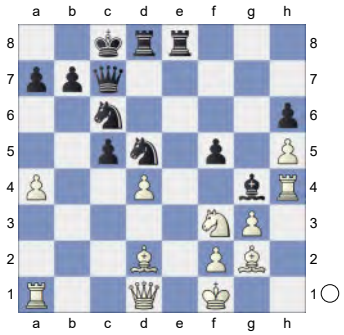
19.Kf1= Black must now prevent Rc1.

19...Bg4 0.64/19

[19...c4= 0.01/18]

20.Rh4 f5 0.96/18

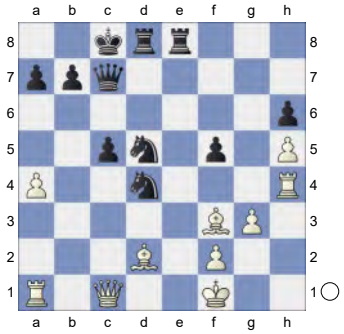
[20...Bxf3± 0.49/18 21.Qxf3 Nxd4 22.Rxd4 cxd4]



21.Qc1 0.43/19

[21.Rc1± 0.96/18]

21...Bxf3 22.Bxf3 Nxd4

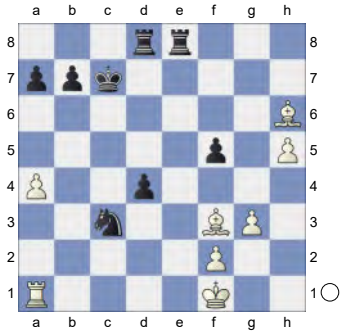


23.Rxd4 cxd4 24.Qxc7+ -0.39/20

[24.Bxh6± 0.60/19 Rd7 25.Kg2]

24...Kxc7∓ 25.Bxh6 Nc3

(Diagram)



26.Bf4+ -0.56/21 This bishop pair is nice.

[26.Rc1= -0.23/20]

26...Kb6 27.h6 -0.72/20

[27.a5+∓ -0.39/20 Ka6 28.h6]

27...d3 0.36/20

[27...a5!∓ -0.72/20]

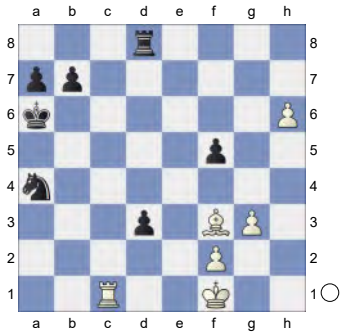
28.Rc1± Nxa4 29.Bc7+ 0.01/22

[29.Bh5± 0.91/21]

29...Ka6 0.65/23

[Better is 29...Kb5= 0.01/22]

30.Bxd8 Rxd8



Endgame KRB-KRN **31.h7** aiming for Bh5. **31...d2** 1.50/22

[31...b5!= 0.23/20 keeps the balance.]

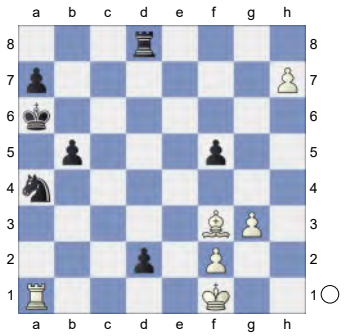
32.Ra1 0.92/23

[⌓32.Rc4 1.50/22 Kb5 33.Rh4 d1Q+ 34.Bxd1 Rxd1+ 35.Ke2 Nc3+ 36.Ke3]

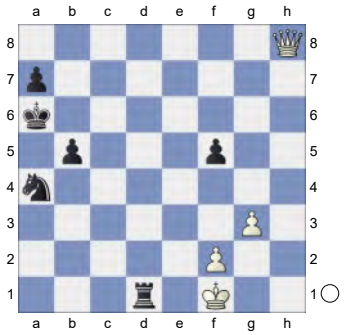
32...b5 2.41/23

[32...Kb5± 0.92/23 was worth a try.]

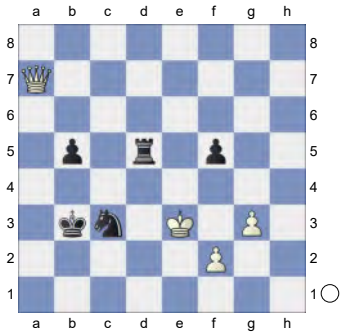
(Diagram)



33.Bd5! -0.01/19 **Rxd5= 34.h8Q d1Q+ 35.Rxd1 Rxd1+±**

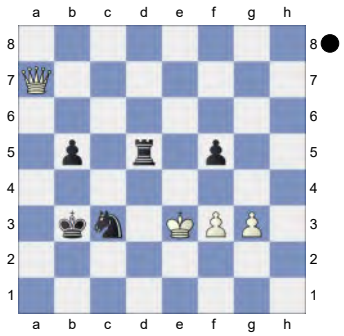


KQ-KRN **36.Ke2** 0.01/20
[36.Kg2± 0.63/24]
36...Rd5= 37.Qc8+ Ka5! 38.Qc7+ Kb4 39.Qxa7 Nc3+ 40.Ke3 Kb3

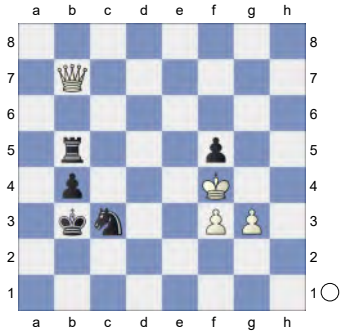


And now ...Kc2 would win. **41.f3** -1.23/23
[41.Qe7= -0.01/22]

(Diagram)

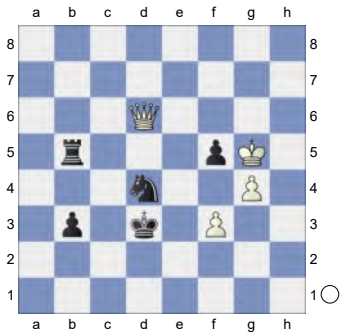


41...b4 0.01/21 &Nero is more active.
[41...Kc2!∓ -1.23/23 42.Qb6 Rd2]
42.Qb7 Rb5 43.Qd7 Re5+ 44.Kf4⇄ White is not keeping still **44...Rd5 45.Qb7 Rb5**

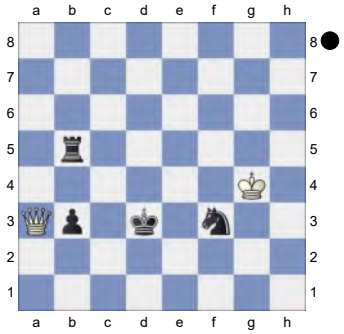


46.Qh7 -0.39/22
[46.Qa7= -0.01/25 is more appropriate.]
46...Kc2∓ Hoping for ...b3. Black has compensation. **47.Qh2+ Kd3 48.g4** -1.78/22
[48.Qb2∓ -0.76/23]
48...Ne2+-+ 49.Kg5 b3
[Weaker is 49...fxg4+ 50.Kxg4 b3 51.Qh7+ Ke3 52.Qh6+ Kf2 53.Qh4+ Kf1 54.Qh1+ Kf2 55.Qh4+ Kf1 56.Qh1+ Kf2 57.Qh4+=]
50.Qd6+ Nd4

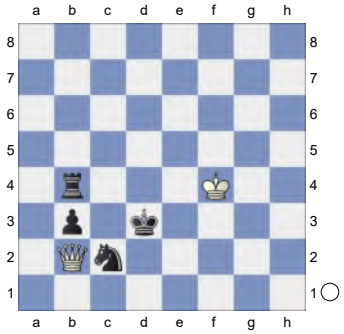
(Diagram)



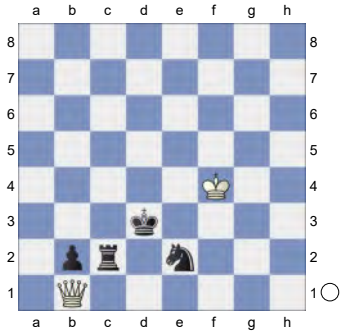
51.Qa3 Nxf3+ 52.Kf4 fxg4 53.Kxg4



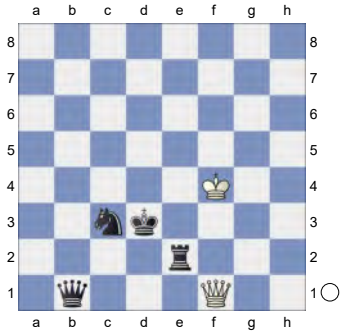
Nd4 -1.49/24
[53...Ne5+!-+ -2.68/24 54.Kg3 Nc4]
54.Kf4 -1.83/23
[54.Qb2∓ -1.49/24 was called for.]
54...Nc2 -1.10/23
[Black should try 54...Kc3-+ -1.83/23 55.Qc1+ Nc2]
55.Qb2 -1.42/22
[⊼55.Qd6+ -1.10/23 Nd4 56.Qa3]
55...Rb4+



56.Kf3 Nd4+ 57.Kf2 Rc4 (-> ...Rc2+)
58.Qb1+ -3.30/22
[58.Kg3 -1.76/24]
58...Rc2+ 59.Kg3 b2 Strongly threatening ...Ne2+. **60.Kf4?** -8.14/21
[60.Kg4 -2.95/21]
60...Ne2+



61.Ke5 Nc3 62.Qf1+ Re2+ 63.Kf4 b1Q

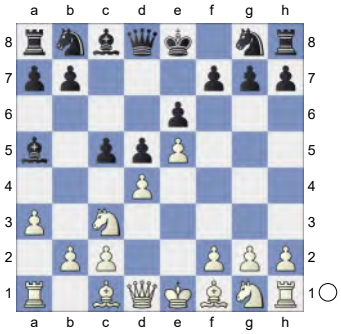


What a bad dream for White.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.59/ Black=0.23 (precise)
0-1

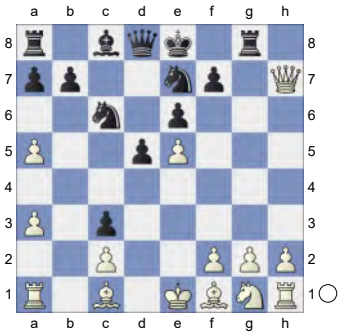
103 **C17**
□ **Saric,Ivan** **2690**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
SuperUnited CRO Blitz 2024 (3.3)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 RR: 'Inf 92/(273)' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Ba5**

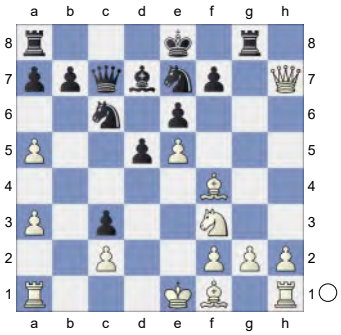
(Diagram)



6.b4 cxd4 7.Qg4 Ne7 8.bxa5 dxc3 9.Qxg7 Rg8 10.Qxh7 Nbc6



11.Nf3 Qc7 12.Bf4 Bd7



13.a6! a6xb7 is the strong threat.

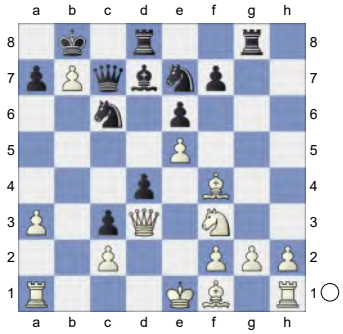
13...0-0-0 14.Qd3

[14.Qxf7? Rdf8 15.axb7+ Kxb7-+ *(15...Qxb7? 16.Qf6-+; 15...Qxb7? 16.Qh7-+)*]

14...d4 15.axb7+ White is better.

15...Kb8

(Diagram)



16.Bg3 0.65/23

[16.Nxd4?! Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Nf5=]

[16.Rb1± 1.04/22]

[16.Be2 Rxg2 17.Bg3 Nf5 18.Qc4 Rh8 19.Rf1 Qb6 20.Bd3 Rh5 21.Kd1 Nxg3 22.hxg3 Nxe5 23.Qxd4 Nxd3 24.cxd3 Bc6 25.Qf4+ Kxb7 26.Nd4 Qb2 27.Qxf7+ Kb6 28.Nc2 Ba4 29.Qxe6+ Ka5 30.Ke2 Qxc2+ ½-½ Amonatov,F (2637)-Morozevich, A (2755) 60th ch-Superfinal 2007 (10)]

16...Nf5

[16...Kxb7 17.Nxd4 Nxd4 18.Qxd4±]

17.Be2N 0.42/24

[17.Rb1± 0.79/22]

[17.Qc4 Nce7 18.Rb1 Bc6 19.Bd3 Bxb7 20.Qxc7+ Kxc7 21.Ke2 Bd5 22.Rhd1 Nxg3+ 23.hxg3 Nc6 24.Ba6 Bxf3+ 25.gxf3 Nxe5 26.f4 Nc6 27.Rb7+ Kd6 28.Rxf7 Kc5 29.Bd3 Rgf8 30.Rh7 Rh8 31.Rdh1 Rxh7 1-0 Dus Chotimirsky,F (2512)-Karibaev,B (2434) BL2-Nord 0203 2002 (8) 32.Rxh7 Kb6 33.Rh6 Re8 34.Be4 Nd8 35.Kd3 Nf7 36.Rf6 Nd6 37.Kxd4 1-0 Moreno Carnero,J (2512)-Jerez Perez,A (2434) ESP-chT Sanxenxo 2004 (8)]

17...Nce7 0.78/23

[17...Kxb7 18.Rb1+ Ka8 19.0-0±]

[17...Nxg3!± 0.42/24 feels stronger. 18.hxg3 Nxe5 19.Qxd4 Nxf3+

20.Bxf3 e5]

18.a4 0.00/22

[18.Nxd4 Be8 19.Nb5 Bxb5 20.Qxb5 Nd4∓]

[18.0-0± 0.78/23]

18...Bc6 0.42/21

[18...Nd5= 0.00/22]

19.0-0 Rg4 0.79/17

[19...Nd5= 0.17/22]

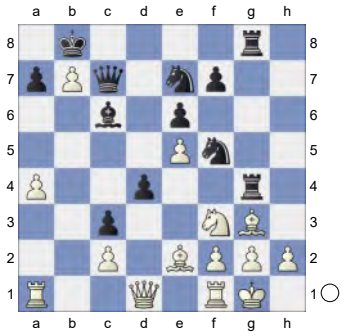
20.Qd1 0.08/18

[Better is 20.a5± 0.79/17]

20...Rdg8 1.31/21

[20...Qxb7? 21.Rb1+-]

[20...Nxg3= 0.08/18 keeps the balance. 21.hxg3 Qa5 *(21...Kxb7 22.Qc1±; 21...Bxb7 22.a5±; 21...Qxb7? 22.Rb1+-* Pin *)*]



21.Bd3 -0.04/19

[21.Ne1± 1.31/21 R4g6 22.Nd3]

21...Nd5!=

[21...Qxb7? 22.Rb1+-]

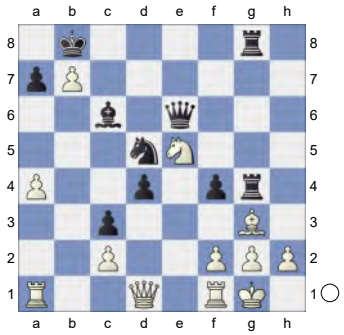
22.Bxf5 1.31/18

[22.Rb1!= 0.00/24 Nde3 *(22...Bxa4? 23.Bxf5* Remove Defender *exf5 24.e6+-; 22...Nxg3 23.hxg3 Ne3 24.fxe3=)* 23.fxe3 Nxg3 24.hxg3= Rxg3 25.Qe2 *(25.Nxd4 Rxg2+ 26.Kh1 Rh8+)*]

22...exf5± 23.e6!

[23.Nxd4 f4 24.Qd3 *(24.Nxc6+? Qxc6 25.Qf3 fxg3-+)* 24...fxg3 25.hxg3 Nf4 *(25...Bxb7? 26.Rfb1-+)* 26.Qxc3 *(26.Nxc6+? Qxc6 27.Qf3 Nh3+ 28.Kh2 Rh8-+)* 26...Rh8-+ *(26...Nxg2? 27.Nxc6+ Kxb7 28.Rfb1+ Ka8 29.Qf3+-; 26...Bxg2 27.Qxc7+ Kxc7 28.Rfd1-+)*]

23...f4 24.exf7 Qxf7 25.Ne5! Qe6



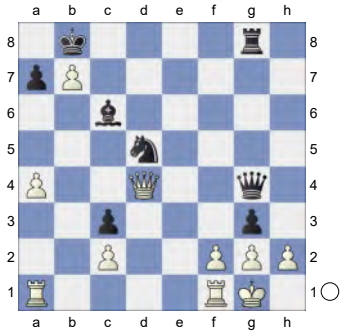
26.Nxg4 Qxg4 2.15/24

[26...fxg3= -0.06/22 and Black has nothing to worry. 27.fxg3 Rxg4 *(27...Qxg4? 28.Rf8+ Kxb7 29.Rxg8+-)*]

27.Qxd4 1.21/19

[27.Qxg4+- 2.15/24 Rxg4 28.h3]

27...fxg3



28.Qe5+! Nc7 2.70/22

[28...Kxb7± 1.29/21 29.hxg3 Qg6]

29.fxg3+- And now Rf1-f7 would win.

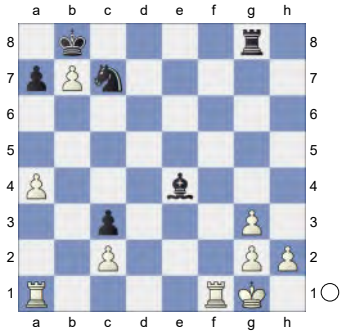
[29.Qxc3? gxh2+ 30.Kxh2 Qxg2#]

29...Qe4 30.Qxe4

[30.Qxc3? Qxg2#]

30...Bxe4

(Diagram)



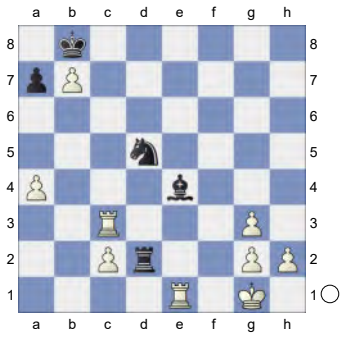
31.Rfe1

[And not 31.Ra3 Nd5= *(31...Kxb7? 32.Rf7+-)*]

31...Bg6

[Much weaker is 31...Bxc2 32.Rec1 Bf5 33.Rxc3+-]

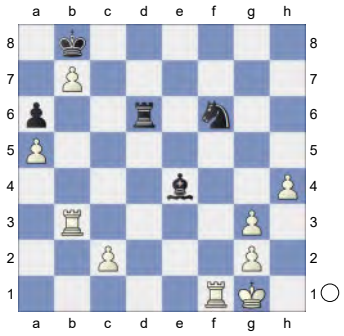
32.Re5 Rd8 33.Rc5 Rd2 34.Rxc3 Be4 35.Re1 Nd5



36.Rb3 Rd4 5.47/20

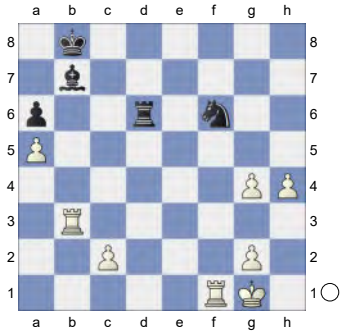
[⌓36...Nf6 3.74/20 37.Rb4 Rxg2+ 38.Kf1 Rxh2 39.Rexe4 *(39.Rbxe4 Nxe4 40.Rxe4 Rxc2+-)* 39...Nxe4]

37.h4 White is clearly winning. **37...Nf6 38.a5 a6 39.Rf1 Rd6**

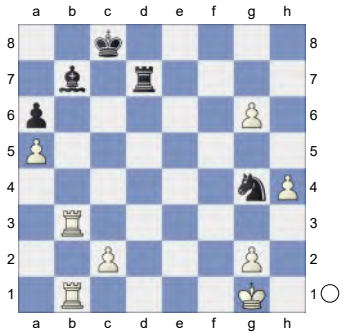


40.g4! Bxb7

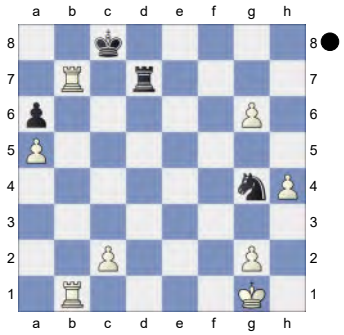
[40...Bxc2 41.Rb4]



41.g5 Ng4 42.Rfb1 Rd7 43.g6 Kc8



44.Rxb7!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.63

1-0

104 **C18**

☐ **Almasi,Zoltan** **2689**

■ **Kovalenko,Igor** **2700**

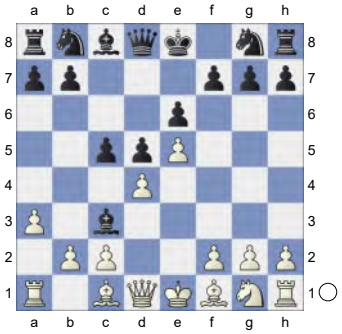
Corsican Circuit Final rapid (3.2)

[Kitty Kat]

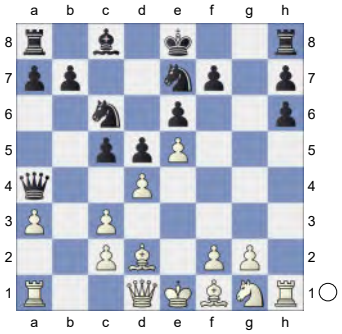
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4

and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.h4 Nc6 9.h5 Nge7 10.h6 White is slightly better. **10...gxh6**



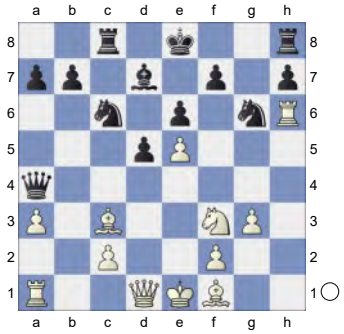
11.Nf3

[11.Rb1 a6 12.Nf3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Nxd4 14.Bd3 Ndc6 15.Bxh6 Rg8 16.g3 Qxa3 17.Bxh7 Rg4 18.Bf4 Qc3+ 19.Bd2 Qc5 20.Bd3 Ng6 21.Kf1 b5 22.Nh2 Rc4 23.Ng4 Rxg4 24.Qxg4 Ncxe5 25.Qg5 Nxd3 10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2769)-8. Bxg6 (2485) Berlin 2016 Inf 69 [Prosorov. FS 1976/ 40] 1-0 (66)]

11...cxd4 12.Rh4N

[12.cxd4 Nxd4 13.Bd3 Nec6 *(13...Bd7 14.Bb4 Ndc6 15.Rh4 Ng6 16.Bxg6 hxg6 17.Bd2 Qa6 18.Bg5 Rc8 19.Bf6 Rg8 20.Rxh6 Na5 21.Ng5 Qc4 22.Qd2 Bb5 23.Rh7 Qf1#* 0-1 (23) Volokitin,A (2645)-Zhang,P (2636) Fuegen 2006 CBM 118 [Moskalenko,Viktor]*)* 14.Rb1 Rg8 15.Kf1 Nxf3 16.gxf3 b6 17.Qe2 Nd4 18.Qe3 Ba6 19.Rc1 Nf5 20.Qe2 Bxd3 21.cxd3 Kd7 22.Bxh6 Rac8 23.Rxc8 Rxc8 24.Bd2 h6 25.Bb4 a5 26.Bd6 Rc1+ Sutovsky,E (2642)-Ivanchuk,V (2720) Ashdod 2015 CBM 201 [Berg,Emanuel] 0-1]

12...Ng6! 13.Rxh6 dxc3 14.Bxc3 Bd7 15.g3 Rc8

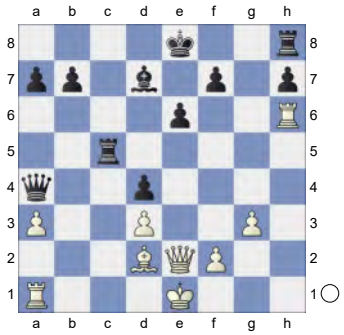


16.Bd3 d4 17.Bd2

[Reject 17.Bxg6 fxg6 18.Rh4 0-0∓]

17...Ncxe5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.Qe2 Nxd3+ 20.cxd3 Rc5 -0.05/19

[20...Qb5∓ -0.57/20 21.Qe4 Qd5]



Against Qe5 **21.Bb4** -0.37/21

[21.Qg4= -0.05/19 should be considered.]

21...Qc6 0.24/22

[21...Rg5∓ -0.37/21]

22.Bxc5= Qxc5 23.Kf1 Bc6 24.Rh5 0.01/22 Against Qf5

[24.Qg4± 0.44/21 is superior.]

24...Qd6 0.57/20

[Better is 24...Qc3= 0.01/22 25.Rd1

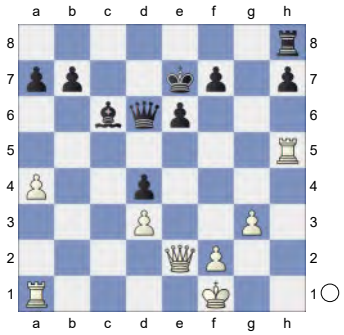
Rg8]

25.a4 0.15/18

[25.Qg4± 0.57/20 was preferrable.]

25...Ke7 1.06/20

[25...Rg8= 0.15/18 remains equal.]



26.a5 0.34/20

[26.Qg4± 1.06/20]

26...a6 27.Rc1 0.12/20

[27.Qg4± 0.50/21]

27...Rg8 0.50/19

[27...h6= 0.12/20 might be stronger.]

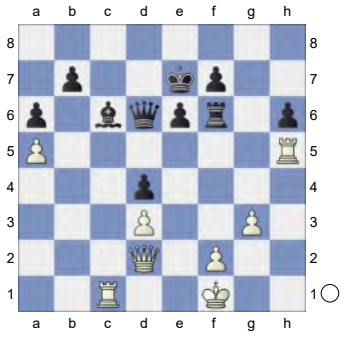
28.Rcc5 0.01/22

[28.Qb2± 0.50/19]

28...Rg6 29.Qd2 h6 30.Rc1 -0.16/21

[White should play 30.Qc1!± 0.48/19]

30...Rf6



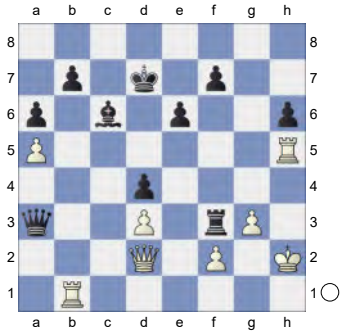
31.Kg1 Kd7 32.Re1 Rf3 33.Kh2 -0.68/21

[White should try 33.Rxh6= -0.17/22 Qd5 34.Rh2]

33...Qa3!∓ 34.Rd1 Ba4

[34...Qc3!? 35.Qe2 *(35.Rxh6? Ba4∓)* 35...Rf6=]

35.Rb1 Bc6



36.Rd1! Ba4 -0.01/20

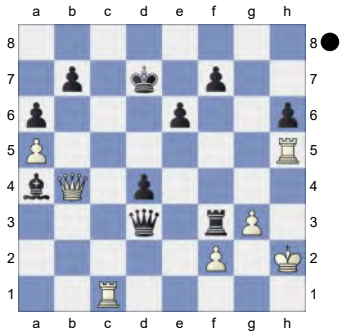
[36...Qc3∓ -0.79/20 ...Ba4 is the strong threat. 37.Qe2 *(37.Rxh6 Ba4∓)* 37...Rf6]

37.Rc1 -1.48/21

[37.Rb1!= -0.01/20 was the only way to keep the balance. Bb5 38.Rh4]

37...Qxd3∓ 38.Qb4 -#9/20

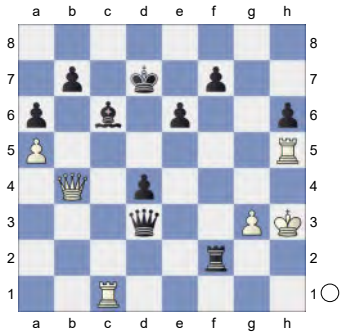
[38.Qb2∓ -1.58/22 Bc6 39.Rh4]



38...Rxf2+

[Wrong is 38...Bc6? 39.Qb2-+]

39.Kh3 Bc6

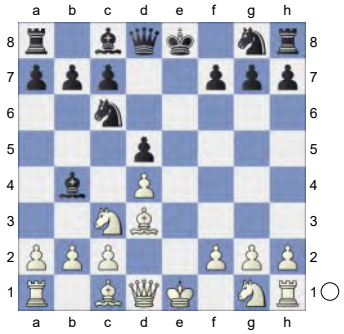


Weighted Error Value: White=0.50/ Black=0.19 (very precise)

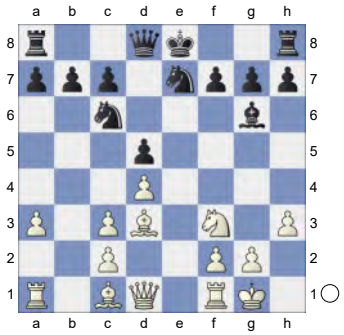
0-1

105 **C15**
□ **Grischuk,A.** **2687**
■ **Ponomariov,R.** **2628**
Chessable Masters Play-In blitz (4)
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nc6

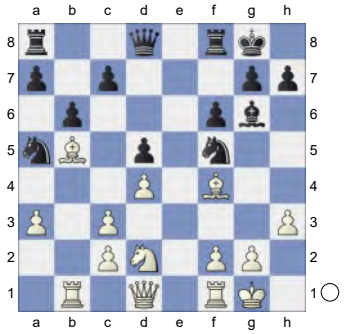


6.Nf3 Nge7
[6...Bg4 is interesting. 7.a3 Ba5 8.0-0 Nge7]
7.0-0 Bg4 8.h3 Bh5 White is slightly better. **9.a3 Bxc3 10.bxc3 Bg6**

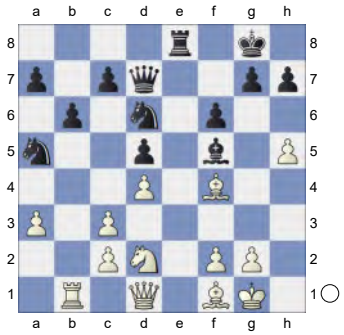


11.Rb1N
[11.c4 Bxd3 12.Qxd3 dxc4 13.Qxc4 0-0 14.Bf4 Qd7 15.Qd3 Rfe8 16.Rad1 Rad8 17.c4 French 3... Bb4 5... Nc6 6...-Bg4 9... Bxc3 Variation 1 3... Bb4]
11...b6 12.Bb5 0-0 13.Bg5 Hoping for Bxc6. **13...f6 14.Bf4 Na5 15.Nd2 Nf5**

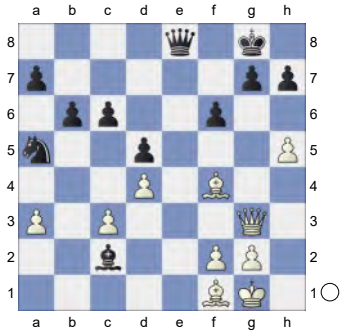
(Diagram)



16.Re1 Nd6 17.Bf1 Qd7 18.h4 Rfe8 19.Rxe8+ Rxe8 20.h5 Bf5

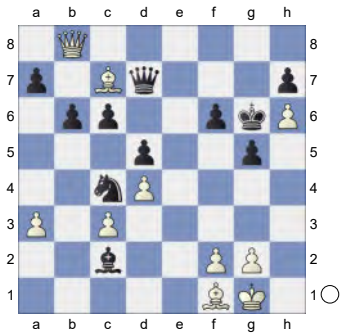


21.Qf3 -0.51/21
[21.h6= -0.16/19 deserves consideration.]
21...Ne4 0.01/20
[21...Ndc4!∓ -0.51/21 22.Nxc4 Nxc4]
22.Nxe4= Bxe4 23.Qg3 c6 24.Re1 Bxc2 25.Rxe8+ Qxe8

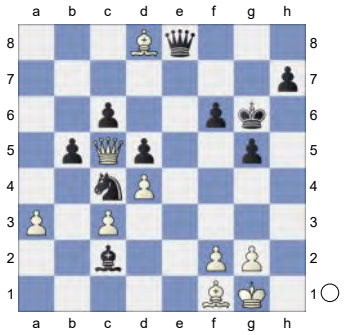


26.Bh6 Qd7 27.Qb8+ Kf7 28.Bf4 Nc4 29.h6 g5 30.Bc7 Kg6 0.25/21
[30...Nd2∓ -0.65/21 31.Qxa7 Kg6 32.Qxb6 Qg4]

(Diagram)

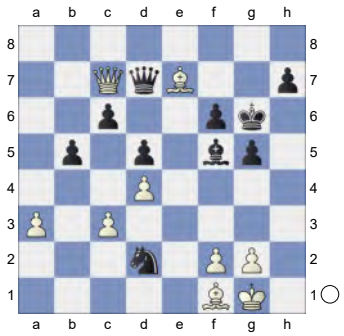


31.Qxa7? -1.66/24
[31.Qg8+!= 0.25/21 Kxh6 32.Bd8]
31...b5 -0.74/24
[31...Nd2!-+ -1.66/24 32.Qxb6 Qg4]
32.Qb8∓ Kxh6 -0.01/24
[32...Bf5∓ -0.75/22]
33.Qf8+= Kg6 34.Bd8 -1.38/24
[34.Qg8+= 0.01/23 Qg7 35.Qe8+ Qf7 36.Qxc6]
34...Qf7∓ 35.Qc5 Qe8

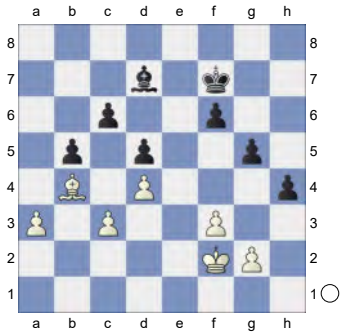


36.Be7 Kf7 37.Bd6 -2.65/25
[37.Bxc4∓ -1.55/25 Qxe7 38.Qxe7+ Kxe7 39.Be2]
37...Nd2!-+ 38.Qa7+ Kg6 Strongly threatening ...Qe1. **39.Be7** -3.29/23
[⊼39.Qe7 -1.92/23 Qxe7 40.Bxe7]
39...Bf5 -1.35/23
[39...Qc8-+ -3.29/23 has better winning chances. ...Qg4 is the strong threat. 40.f3 Nxf1 41.Kxf1 g4]
40.Qc7 Qd7

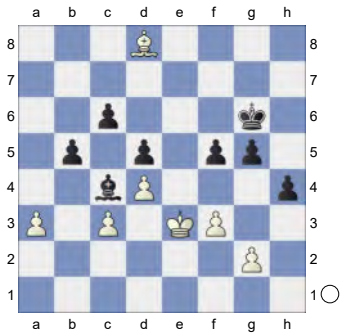
(Diagram)



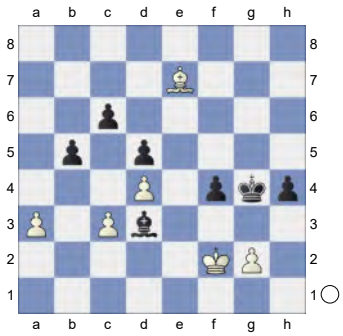
41.Qxd7 Bxd7∓ Endgame KBB-KBN **42.f3 Kf7 43.Bb4 Nxf1 44.Kxf1** KB-KB **44...h5 45.Kf2 h4**



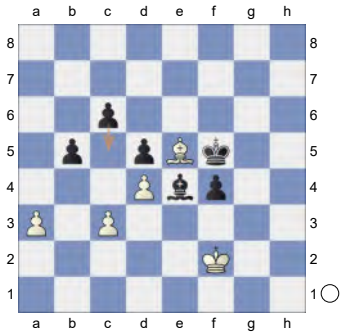
46.Ba5 Bf5 47.Bd8 Bd3 48.Ke3 Bc4 49.Kf2 Kg6 50.Ke3 -1.41/26
[⊼50.Bb6 -1.04/22]
50...f5 -0.79/31
[⊼50...Bf1 -1.41/26 51.Kf2 h3! 52.gxh3 *(52.Kxf1? h2-+)* 52...Bxh3]



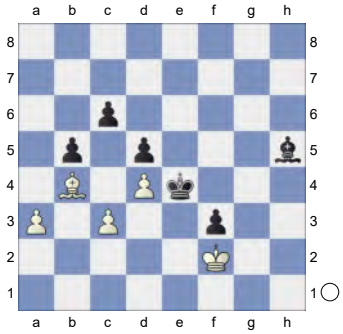
51.Kf2 f4 52.Be7 Kh5 53.Bd8 g4 -0.01/33
[53...Bd3∓ -1.16/30 54.Be7 Kg6]
54.fxg4+ -0.80/34
[54.Bc7= -0.01/33]
54...Kxg4 55.Be7 Bd3



56.Bd8 Be4 57.Be7 h3 58.gxh3+ Kxh3 59.Bd6 Kg4 60.Be5 Kf5

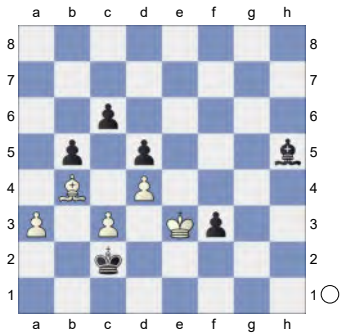


61.Bd6 Bc2 62.Bc7 Ke4 63.Bd6 Bd1 64.Bc5 -1.46/31
[⊿64.Bb8 -0.97/32]
64...Bh5 -1.11/31
[⊿64...Kd3 -1.46/31 65.Bb4 Bg4]
65.Bb4 f3 -0.97/33
[⊿65...Kd3 -1.39/31 66.Ba5 Bd1]

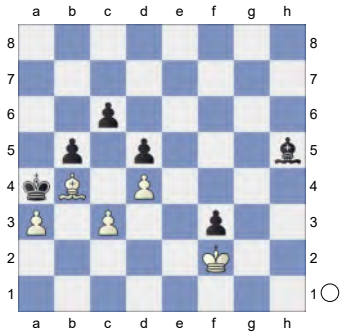


66.Bc5 Kd3 67.Bb4 Kc4 68.Ba5 Kb3 69.Bb4 Kb2 70.Ke3 Kc2

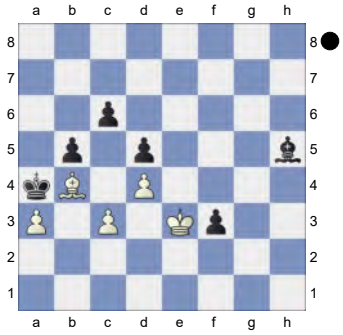
(Diagram)



71.Kf2 Kb3 -0.84/37
[⊿71...Kd3 -1.16/37]
72.Ke3 Kc2 0.01/34
[72...Bg4∓ -0.91/37]
73.Kf2= Kb2 0.01/34
[Black should play 73...Kd3∓ -1.33/35]
74.Ke3 Kb3 -0.01/28
[Better is 74...Bg4∓ -0.94/36]
75.Kf2 Ka4 -1.33/39
[⊿75...Bg4 -0.91/34]

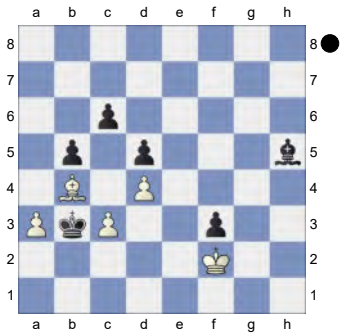


76.Ke3



Kb3 0.01/32
[76...Bg4!∓ -1.37/37 77.Kf2 Kb3]
77.Kf2

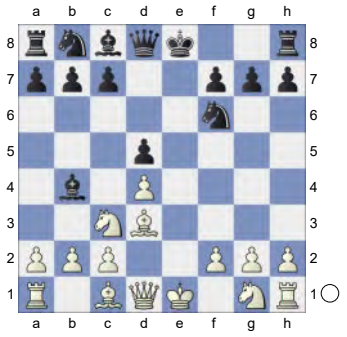
(Diagram)



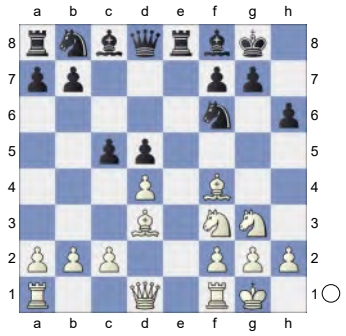
And White is the lucky defender.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.22 (precise)
½-½

106 **C15**
□ **Grischuk,A.** **2687**
■ **Lagarde,Max** **2604**
Chessable Masters Play-In blitz (2)
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nf6

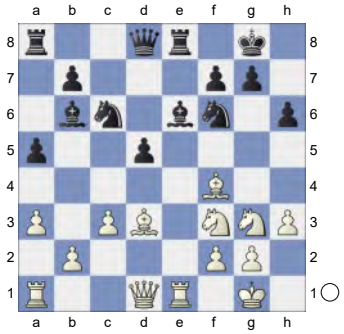


6.Nf3 0-0 7.0-0 h6
[7...Bg4 8.h3 Bh5 9.Bg5 c6 10.g4 Bg6 11.Ne5 Bxd3 12.cxd3 Be7 13.Re1 Re8 14.Ne2 Nfd7 15.Bxe7 Rxe7 16.Ng3 Nf8 17.Nf5 Re6 18.Qb3 Qc7 19.Nf3 g6 20.Nh6+ Kg7 21.Qb4 Nbd7 22.Nxf7 6.♖e1 a6 7. ♗c4 (2568)-Mikhailov,S (2580) corr 2015 Gambiteer 1 [FS 12/ 1979 p311] 1-0]
8.Ne2 Re8N
[8...Be6 9.Ng3 Nc6 10.c3 Bd6 11.Nf5 Bxf5 12.Bxf5 Ne7 13.Bc2 Ng6 14.Be3 Ne4 15.Nd2 Qh4 16.g3 Bxg3 17.fxg3 Nxg3 18.Bf2 Ne2+ 19.Qxe2 Qg5+ 20.Kh1 Rae8 21.Qd3 Re6 22.Rg1 Qf6 23.Raf1 Blackburne,J-Wood,E Manchester 1871 1-0]
[8...Nc6 9.Ng3 Bd6 10.c3 Re8 11.Nh4 Ne4 12.Ngf5 Qf6 13.Qh5 Bf8 14.g3 g5 1-0 (14) Steinitz,W-Pitschel,K Vienna 1873]
[8...Bg4 9.Ne5 Bxe2 10.Qxe2 Nc6 11.c3 Bd6 12.f4 Ne7 13.Rf3 Nh7 14.Rg3 f5 15.Qh5 Rf6 16.Be3 Qe8 17.Qh3 Nf8 18.Be2 Nc6 19.Rf1 Rd8 20.Bh5 Qe6 21.Rff3 Kh8 22.Qh4 Be7 23.Rh3 2.c4 e5-Van Beers,J Gothenburg 1878 CYB 01 [Rubtsova, Olga Nikolaevna] ½-½ (36)]
9.Ng3 Bf8 10.Bf4 The position is equal.
10...c5

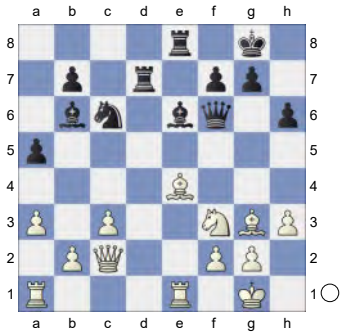


11.dxc5 Nc6 12.a3 a5 Prevents b4.
13.h3 Bxc5 14.c3 Bb6 15.Re1 Be6

(Diagram)

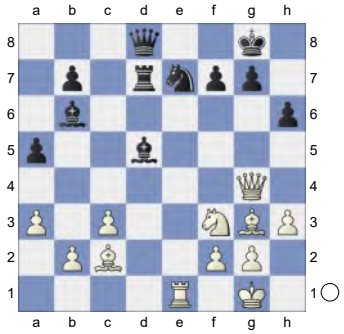


16.Qd2 Hoping for Bxh6! **16...Ne4** 1.29/23
[16...Bc5± 0.39/17]
17.Nxe4± dxe4 18.Bxe4 0.97/20
[White should try 18.Rxe4 1.28/22 Bxh6! is the strong threat. Qf6 19.Qe2]
18...Qf6 19.Bg3 Rad8 Prevents Qd3.
20.Qc2 Rd7

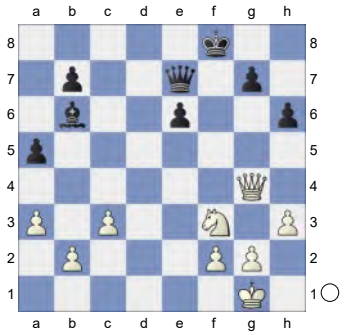


21.Rad1 Red8 1.91/21
[21...Qd8± 1.34/19 22.Rxd7 Qxd7]
22.Rxd7 Rxd7 23.Qa4 Qd8 1.95/21
[23...Bf5± 1.51/21 24.Qb5 Bxe4]
24.Bc2 Bd5? 3.47/23
[24...Qf6± 1.58/21 25.Qe4 g6]
25.Qg4 1.80/21
[⌓25.Bf5 3.47/23]
25...Ne7 2.62/24
[25...Bxf3 1.80/21 was called for. 26.Qxf3 g6]

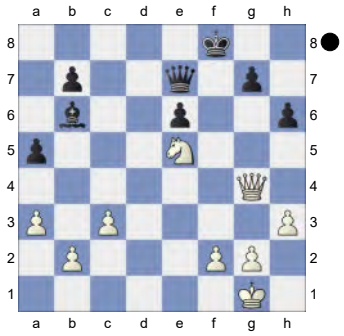
(Diagram)



26.Bh4+-
[Don't play 26.Be5?! Ng6 27.Bxg6 fxg6 28.Qxg6 Bxf3+-]
26...Kf8? 4.32/24
[26...Bxf3 2.65/21 27.Qxf3 g5]
27.Ba4 Be6 8.45/23
[27...Rc7 3.89/22 28.Qf5 Nxf5 29.Bxd8 g6]
28.Rxe6 fxe6 29.Bxd7 Qxd7 30.Bxe7+ 1.58/23
[30.Ne5+- 5.34/24 Qd6 31.Qh5]
30...Qxe7±

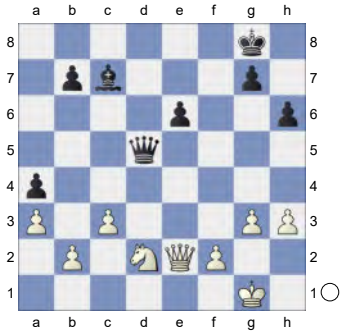


31.Ne5

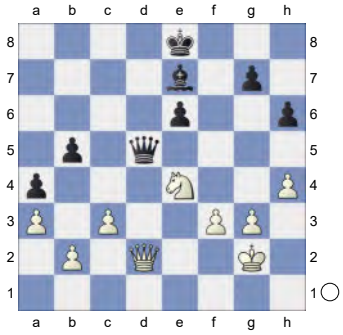


aiming for Ng6+. **31...Kg8 32.Qe2 a4 33.Nc4** 1.00/21
[⌓33.Qc4 1.55/20]

33...Bc7 34.Nd2 Qd6 (-> ...Qh2+)
35.g3 Qd5

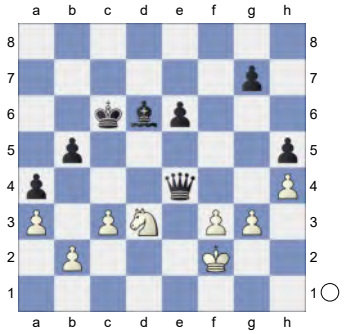


36.Ne4
[36.Nf3 with more complications. Bb6 37.Qe5 Bc5 38.Kg2]
36...b5 37.Kg2 Bd6 38.h4 Be7 39.f3 Kf7 40.Qd2 Ke8

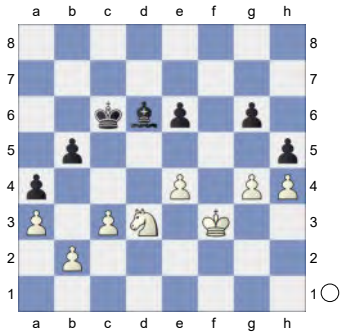


41.Qe2 0.01/19
[41.Kf2± 0.90/20]
41...Kd7 0.86/17
[41...Kf7= 0.01/19]
42.Nf2 Kc6 43.Nd3 Bd6 44.Qe4 0.72/25
[Better is 44.Qe3 1.05/18]
44...h5 1.05/20
[⌓44...Qxe4 0.72/25 45.fxe4 Bc7]
45.Kf2 0.48/24
[45.Qe3± 1.05/20]
45...Qxe4±

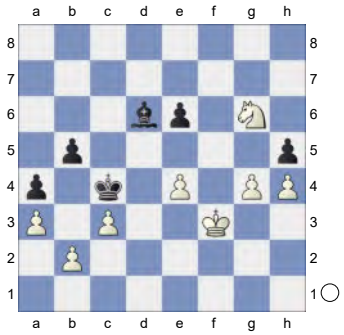
(Diagram)



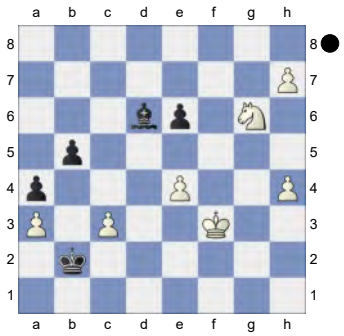
46.fxe4 Endgame KB-KN **46...Bc7?** 2.49/25
[46...e5± 0.72/26]
47.Kf3? 0.87/27
[47.Nf4+- 2.49/25]
47...Bd6 2.12/26
[47...e5± 0.87/27 might work better.]
48.g4 g6? 4.74/26
[48...hxg4+ 1.73/24 49.Kxg4 Be7]



49.Nf4!+- Kc5? 11.65/22
[49...Bc5 3.55/23 50.Nxe6 hxg4+ 51.Kxg4 Be3]
50.Nxg6 White is clearly winning.
50...Kc4



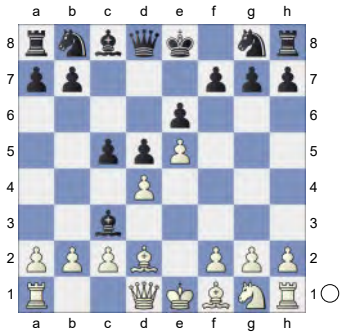
51.gxh5 Kb3 52.h6 Kxb2 53.h7



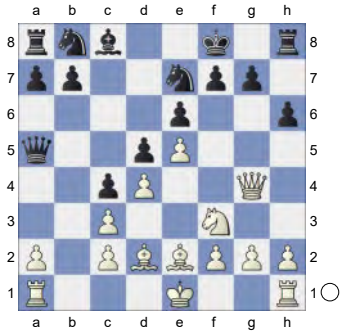
Weighted Error Value: White=0.46/ Black=0.48
1-0

107 **C17**
□ **Sevian,Samuel** **2687**
■ **Martinez Alcantara,Jose Eduardo**
Bullet Chess Winners 2024 (1.14)
[Kitty Kat]

C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.Bd2 Bxc3**

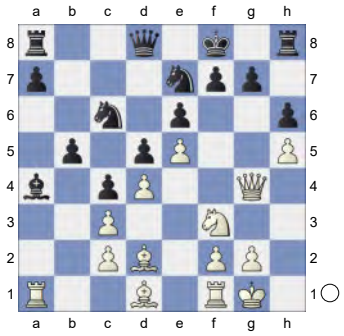


6.bxc3
[6.Bxc3 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Ne7 8.Qg4 Nf5 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Bd3 h5 11.Qf4 Bd7 12.0-0-0 g6 13.h3 Qe7 14.g4 Nh4 15.Nd4 g5 16.Qe3 Ng2 17.Qf3 Nf4 18.Qe3 a6 19.Ne2 Nxd3+ 20.cxd3 0-0-0 1-0 Khadilkar,J (2551)-Nikolac,J (2296) 48/(500) Sibenik 1989 (4.131)]
6...Ne7N
[6...c4 7.Qg4 Kf8 8.h4 Ne7 9.Ne2 Nbc6 10.h5 h6 11.Rh3 Bd7 12.Rf3 Nf5 13.Qf4 Be8 14.g4 Nfe7 15.Bh3 Qd7 16.g5 hxg5 17.Qxg5 Nd8 18.Bc1 Qa4 19.Nf4 Rh6 20.Kd1 b5 21.Rg3 1-0 Boutin,S (2226)-Talbot,C (1926) 60/551 Alushta 1994 (1.29) Rh7 22.h6 g6 23.Qf6 Qa6 24.Nxg6+ Nxg6 25.Rxg6 b4 26.Rg7 Rh8 27.h7 Qb6 28.Rg8+ Rxg8 29.Bh6+ Rg7 30.h8Q# 1-0 Katov,L (2226)-Todorov,A (1926) Kesarovski Georgiev mem 5th 2006 (1.29)]
7.Qg4 Kf8 Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. **8.Bd3N**
[Vorgänger: 8.Nf3 b6 9.h4 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.h5 Hoping for h5-h6. h6 12.Qf4 Rc8 13.Rc1 -0.11/22 *(13.0-0± 0.33/21)* 13...Qd7 14.g4 -0.38/19 ;½-½ Wafzig,P (2118)-Nothnagel,M Hessenliga 9900 1999 (2.6) *(14.Rh3=* 0.20/23 *)*]
[8.dxc5?! Nd7=]
8...Qa5 1.14/21
[8...b6± 0.68/21]
9.Nf3 c4 10.Be2 h6

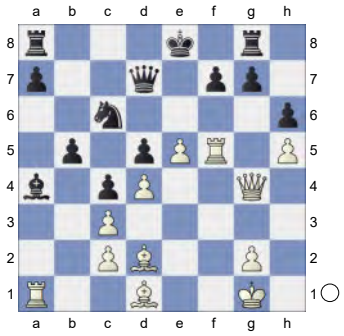


11.a4 Bd7 Black is weak on the dark squares **12.h4 Bxa4** 1.47/22
[⊿12...b5 0.90/19]
13.h5± b5 1.67/21
[13...Qb5± 1.31/20]
14.0-0 1.02/22
[14.Nh4+- 1.67/21]

14...Qd8 1.67/24
[14...Nbc6± 1.02/22]
15.Bd1 White has strong compensation.
15...Nbc6

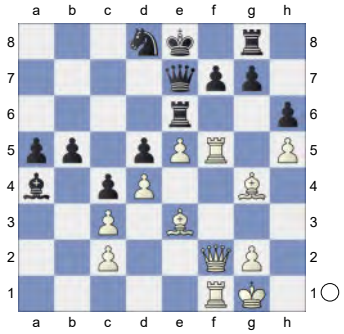


16.Nh4 Rg8 2.05/22
[16...Qd7± 1.55/21 keeps fighting. 17.f4 a5]
17.f4+- Qd7 18.f5 exf5 19.Nxf5 Nxf5 20.Rxf5 Qg4-g6 would now be deadly.
20...Ke8

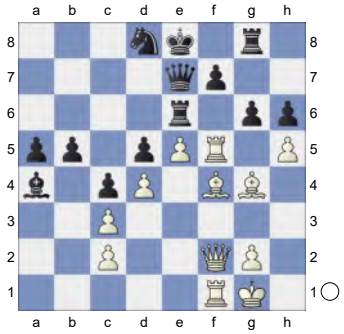


21.Qf4 Black must now prevent Bd1-g4.
[21.Bxh6 Ne7 22.Rf2 *(22.e6? Qxe6 23.Rf2 Qxg4-+)* 22...Qxg4 *(22...gxh6? 23.Qxd7+ Kxd7 24.Rf6-+)* 23.Bxg4 gxh6∓]
21...Nd8 22.Qf2 a5 23.Be3 Ra6 24.Bg4 Re6 25.Rf1 Qe7

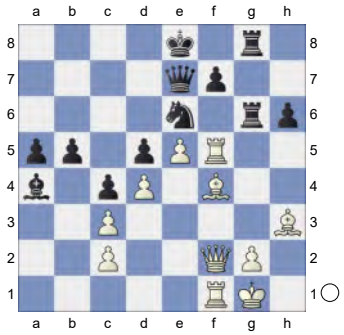
(Diagram)



26.Bf4 g6



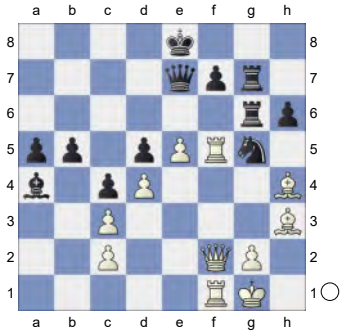
27.hxg6 1.12/17
[27.Rf6!+- 2.57/21 is the precise move to win. Rxf6 28.exf6 Qxf6 29.Re1+ *(29.Bxh6 Qxf2+ 30.Rxf2 gxh5∓)* 29...Ne6 30.Qf3 *(30.Bxh6? Qxf2+ 31.Kxf2 Bxc2-+)* 30...gxh5 *(30...Bxc2? 31.Qxd5 Qxf4 32.Bxe6+-)* 31.Bxh5]
27...Rexg6± 28.Bh3 -0.09/15
A strong pair of Bishops.
[28.Bf3± 0.94/21]
28...Ne6 1.40/13
[28...b4!= -0.09/15]



29.Bg3 0.00/21 **R8g7** 2.18/22

[29...Rxg3? perishes. 30.Rxf7 Qg5 31.Rf6 Rxh3 32.Rxe6+ Kd8 33.Ra6+-]
[29...Ng5!= 0.00/21 and Black stays safe. 30.Rxg5 *(30.Bg4? Ne4-+* Discovered Attack, Double Attack*)* 30...hxg5 *(30...Rxg5 31.Bh4±)*]

30.Bh4+- Ng5

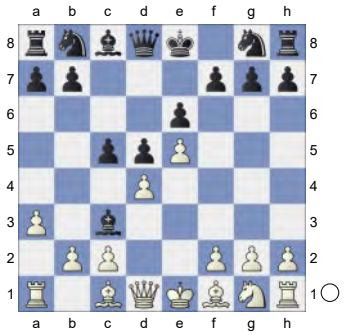


Weighted Error Value: White=0.40/ Black=0.48. Loss on time!?

0-1

108 **C19**
☐ **Sevian,Samuel** **2687**
■ **Gadimbayli,Abdulla** **2507**
Airthings Masters Play-In (4) 03.02.2023
[Kitty Kat]

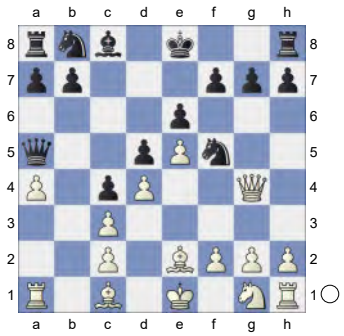
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Leko,P: 'Inf 65/287' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Bd3 c4 9.Be2 Nf5 10.a4N 10.h4 is the modern continuation. 10.h4 ist die moderne Fortsetzung.

[10.h4 Qa5 11.Bd2 Qa4 12.Bd1 Nc6 13.h5 h6 14.Ne2 Bd7 15.Nf4 0-0-0 16.0-0 f6 17.Ng6 Rhg8 18.Re1 Qa5 19.Qf4 fxe5 20.Nxe5 Nxe5 21.Qxe5 g6 22.Bf4 Bc6 23.Qxe6+ Bd7 24.Qe5 Bc6 1-0 5.f4 00 6.Nf3 Na6 (2665)-Main Symmetric with 8...d6 (2507) (m/5) 114/(50) 2012 (8)]
[10.Nf3 Nc6 11.Qh5 *(11.a4 Bd7 12.h4 0-0-0 13.Qf4 f6 14.a5 Rhf8 15.exf6 gxf6 16.Qxc7+ Kxc7 17.g4 Nd6 18.g5 Ne4 19.Ra3 e5 20.Be3 Rde8 21.Rg1 exd4 22.Nxd4 fxg5 23.hxg5 Nd6 24.Ra1 Re7 25.a6 b6* 0-1 Cardoso Cardoso,J (2498)-Ibarra Jerez,J (2563) Chessable Masters Play In rapid 2023 (9)*)* 11...Bd7 12.g4 Qa5 13.Bd2 Nh6 14.Qg5 0-0 15.Rb1 f6 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Rxb7 Rg6 18.Qf4 e5 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.Qxe5 Re8 21.Rb8 Rge6 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Qf4 Nxg4 24.Rg1 ½-½ Leko,P (2605)-Beliavsky, A (2650) 65/287 Belgrad 1995]

10...Qa5

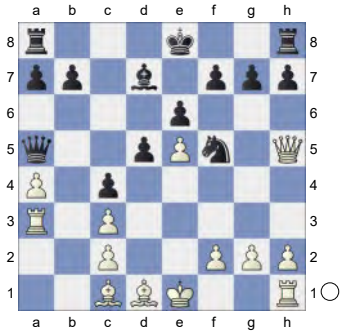


11.Ra3 Nc6 12.Nf3 White is slightly better. **12...Bd7 13.Qh5N** -0.99/21

[Vorgänger: 13.0-0± 0.46/19 stays ahead. Nce7 14.Nh4 0-0 15.Nxf5 Nxf5 16.Qh3 0.21/20

(16.h4⩲ 0.60/20) 16...Ne7 17.Bg5 Rfe8 18.Rfa1 Ng6 19.Qg3 Rac8 20.h4 Strongly threatening h5. h6 21.Bc1 Rc6 22.Qg4 aiming for h5. Kh7 23.h5 ½-½ (23) Hernandez Fernandez,N (2251)-Dahlgren,J (2308) ICCF email 2015]

13...Ncxd4∓ 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.Bd1 Nf5



16.0-0 0-0

[16...Bxa4 17.Bg4∓]

17.Bg4 Ne7

[17...Bxa4 18.Bxf5 exf5 19.Qxf5∓]

18.Bg5 -1.23/19

[⊼18.Qh4 -0.80/20 f6 *(18...Ng6 19.Qg3∓)* 19.exf6 Rxf6 *(19...Ng6 20.Qg3⩲)* 20.Bg5]

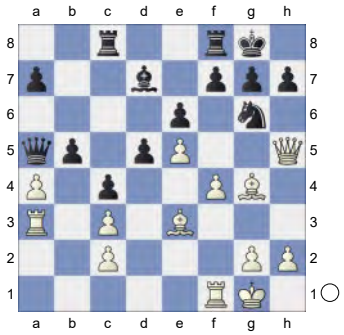
18...Ng6 19.Be3 Rac8 -0.76/20

[19...Bxa4 20.f4]

[⊼19...b5 -1.25/19 20.Bc5 Rfc8]

20.f4 b5

[20...Bxa4?! 21.Bd4∓ *(21.f5 exf5 22.Bxf5 Rce8⩲)*]



21.f5 exf5

[21...Nxe5 22.fxe6 Bxe6 23.Bxe6+- *(23.Qxe5 Bxg4 24.Bd4 f6=)*]

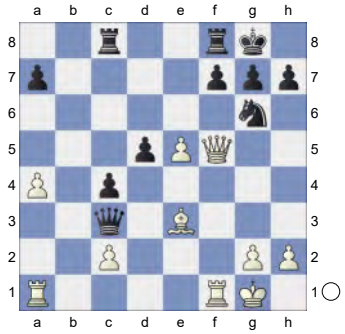
[21...b4 keeps more tension. 22.Raa1 b3 23.Bd4 exf5 24.Bxf5 Be6]

22.Bxf5 Bxf5

[22...Nxe5 23.Qxh7#]

23.Qxf5 b4 24.cxb4 Qxb4 25.Raa1 Qc3 0.25/22

[25...Rc7∓ -0.81/20]



26.Bxa7= d4 27.Qe4! Rcd8 1.01/23

[27...d3= 0.22/20]

28.a5 0.55/22

[28.Bb6⩲ 1.01/23 Rde8 *(28...Rd7? 29.a5+-)* 29.Bxd4 *(29.Qxd4 Qxc2 30.a5 Rxe5⩲)*]

28...d3!⩱

[28...Rfe8? 29.a6 f5 *(29...Rxe5 30.Qc6⩲; 29...Nxe5? 30.Bb6+-)* 30.Qxf5+-]

29.cxd3 0.09/21

[29.Bb6⩱ 0.58/21 Rc8 30.Bd4]

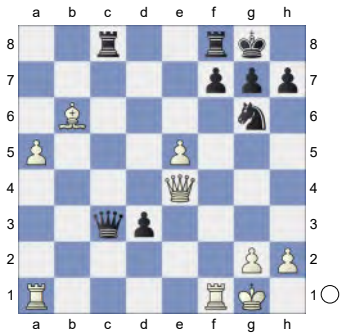
29...cxd3 0.75/22

[29...Qxd3= 0.09/21 30.Qxd3 cxd3]

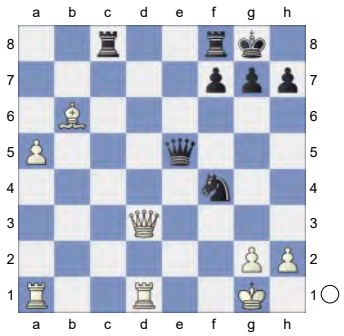
30.Bb6↑ White is more active. **30...Rc8** 1.88/21

[Black should try 30...Rd7⩱ 0.67/21]

(Diagram)

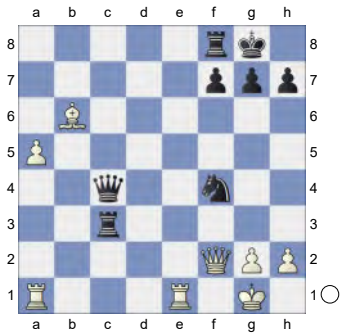


31.Rfd1 0.89/21
[31.a6+- 1.88/21]
31...Qxe5 32.Qxd3 Nf4 1.35/22
[Better is 32...Rc6 0.92/22]

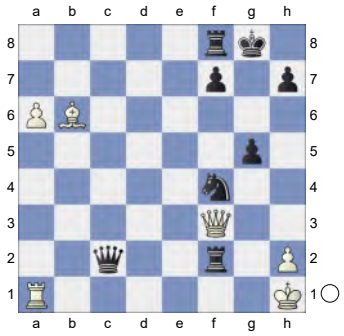


33.Qf3! Rc3 2.13/22
[33...Rc2± 1.38/22]
34.Qf2 0.90/21
[34.Re1!+- 2.13/22 has better winning chances. Qg5 35.Be3 *(35.Qxc3? Qxg2#)* 35...Rxe3 36.Rxe3 Nxg2 37.Re4 Nh4+ 38.Qg3 Nf3+ 39.Kh1]
34...Qe4 1.91/22
[34...Rc6± 0.90/21 35.Kh1 Nd5]
35.Re1 Qc4 2.10/23
[35...Qb4 1.67/22 was called for.]

(Diagram)

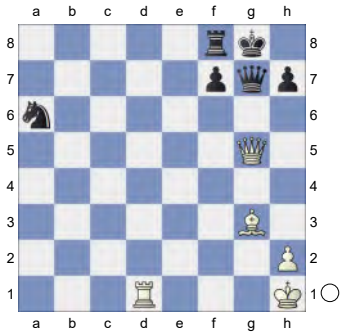


36.Rf1? 0.51/23
[White should play 36.Qd4+- 2.10/23]
36...g5 1.03/24
[36...Nd5± 0.51/23]
37.Kh1 Rc2 38.Qf3 a6 is the strong threat.
[38.Qd4? Qc6 *(38...Nxg2? 39.Qxc4* Deflection *Rxc4 40.Kxg2+-)* 39.Rf3 Rxg2-+ *(39...Nxg2 40.Qf6±; 39...Nxg2 40.Qf6±)*]
38...Rxg2 39.a6 Qc2? 3.76/22
[39...Rb2± 0.93/21 keeps fighting. 40.Be3 Ng6 41.Bxg5 Qc2 *(41...Ne5 42.Qg3±)*]
40.Rf2 Rxf2

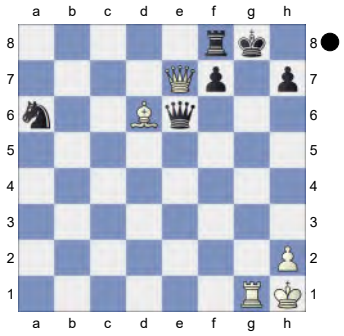


41.Bxf2 And now a7 would win.
41...Nd3? 6.70/25
[41...Qb2 2.28/20 42.Rd1 h6 *(42...Nh3? 43.Bc5+-)*]
42.Bg3 2.91/23
[⌓42.Bd4 6.70/25]
42...Qb2 4.25/23 Prevents a7
[⌓42...Qc3 2.91/23 43.Rf1 Qd4]
43.Rd1+- Nc5 6.70/26
[⌓43...Ne5 4.17/22 44.Qd5 Ng6]

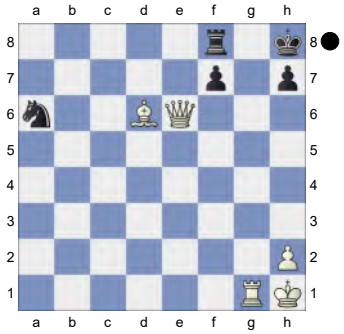
44.Qd5 3.22/23
[⌓44.a7 6.70/26 Ne6 45.a8Q
(45.a8B Qg7+-; 45.a8R h6+-)
45...Rxa8 46.Qxa8+ Kg7 47.Qe4
(47.Qa1 Qxa1 48.Rxa1 f6+-)]
44...Nxa6 45.Qxg5+ Qg7



46.Qe7 Qg6? 19.04/28
[46...Qg4 2.84/25 47.Rf1 Qe6]
47.Bd6 Qe6 48.Rg1+



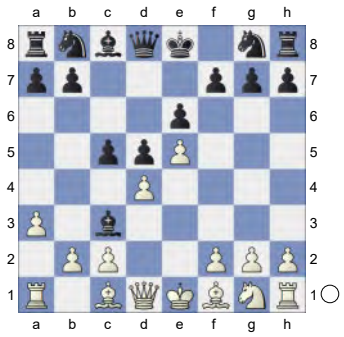
Deflection **48...Kh8 49.Qxe6**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.48/ Black=0.73
1-0

109 **C18**
□ **Cheparinov,Ivan** **2687**
■ **Stevic,Hrvoje** **2626**
CRO-chT Bol (9.4) 22.09.2013
[Iotov,Valentin]

Fier, Alexandr: 'One of our subscribers asked about the other lines without 6.f4 in the Erdos - Stevic game, so I'm giving an overview of the options in these positions when Black has a setup with ... e5, ...f5 and ...Be7.'
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 Fier, Alexandr **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 A logical plan in such a pawn structure: 0-0, ♘d2, b4-b5 with the ultimate goal of utilising the light-squared bishop on g2. This is most likely the best way to counteract this variation - at least from a positional point of view.
6...Qa5
[6...Ne7]
[6...Qc7]
7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 Kf8
[8...g6]
9.Qd1
[9.Bd3 c4 10.Be2 with chances for both players Qxc2]
[9.c4 Nc6 10.dxc5
A) 10...Nxe5 11.Qd4± -0.24/19 with a small practical advantage for

White. *(11.Qf4!* 0.24/21 feels stronger. *Nxc4 12.Nf3)* 11...Nxc4 12.Nf3!;

B) 10...Qxc2 11.Nf3 is also level Nxe5!? 12.Qg3 Fier, Alexandr *(12.Nxe5 Qb2 13.Rd1! Qxe5+ 14.Be2 Nf6)* 12...Nxf3+ 13.gxf3 f6 0.88/20 *(13...Ne7=* 0.10/19 *)* 14.Qc7 0.19/19 *(14.Rg1±* 0.88/20 *g6 15.Qc7)* 14...Qb2!= *(14...Qg6?* 3.47/20 14...Qb2 0.28 *15.c6 Qf7 16.Qd8+±* *Qe8!?* The logical continuation! Delay White's counterplay on the queenside and activate the rook on a8. *17.Bb4+ Kf7 18.cxb7 Bxb7 19.Qc7+)* 15.Qd8+ -0.07/5 *(⌓15.Rc1* 0.29/20 *)* 15...Kf7= 16.Rd1]

[9.Ra2

A) 9...Nd7 forces some definition in the center 10.Nf3 b6 11.h4 Ne7 these kind of position are hard to understand. White can sometimes play a committal f3 12.h5 h6 13.Rh3 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Qxa6 15.Qf4 Kg8 16.Ra1 Qa4 17.Kd1 Rc8 18.g4 -1.00/19 *(18.Ne1∓* -0.53/20 *)* 18...Qc4 -0.46/20 with a complex position, which looks slightly better for White *(18...cxd4∓* -1.00/19 *19.Nxd4 Nc6 20.Nxc6 Qxf4 21.Bxf4 Rxc6)* 19.Ne1 is bad, but was played in Khismatullin, D (2657) -Skoberne, J (2509)/EU-ch 11th Rijeka 2010. Qf1 -0.32/18 and White has the advantage. *(19...Nc6∓* -0.74/18 *20.Rd3 Rf8)*;

B) 9...Nc6 10.Nf3 b6= 11.Bd3 Ba6 12.0-0 Bxd3= 13.cxd3!? c4 (Fier, Alexandr) is an interesting alternative 14.dxc4 Qxc4 Black goes for a full attack 15.Raa1 Na5 16.Qf4 h6 Prevents Ng5. 17.Bc1 Qa4 18.h4 and Black can try ...g5-g4 and then meet Rac1 with .. .Bd8. The question will be whether White's counterplay is faster or not Morley, P (2315)-De Carlos Arregui, I (2361)/email 2011. Ne7 doesn't make too much sense to me, and after 19.h5 -0.42/19 *(19.Qd2=* -0.11/18 *)* 19...Rc8∓ 20.Bd2 Qc2 21.c4 -0.75/22 Black has good potential for an attack, he has good squares for all his pieces *(21.Rfc1∓* -0.31/20 *Qd3 22.Ra2)* 21...Nb3 -0.01/20 *(21...Nxc4∓* -0.75/22 *22.Bb4 Qe4 23.Qxe4 dxe4)* 22.Rad1 -1.13/21 *(22.Bb4!=* -0.01/20 *Rxc4 23.Qh4)* 22...Rxc4∓ 23.Bb4 and Black is fine and managed to win in Flores, D (2578)-Peralta, F (2609)/ARG-ch 88th Resistance/ Saenz Pena 2013. Ke8!? 24.Rfe1!? - denying b4 as early as possible. a5 (Fier, Alexandr) was another interesting option suggested by Tony K, entering a Botvinnik System 25.Bd6 b5 26.g4 -1.41/23 *(⌓26.Nh4* -0.99/22 *)* 26...Nc6∓ 27.Kg2 and White can try one of the typical ideas in this position, with a4 28.Kg3 -2.27/21 *(28.Kf1∓* -1.28/20 was necessary.*)* 28...Rg8!?-+ to open the center before Black develops his pieces in a harmonous way 29.Kg2 g6 30.Qxh6 gxh5 with good prospects in McNab, C (2466)-Greet, A (2433)/ Edinburgh Quality Chess 2009. 31.Qxh5 (Fier, Alexandr) was analyzed in Erdos, V (2650)-Stevic, H (2626)/CRO-chT Bol 2013. Qg6 (Fier, Alexandr) would transpose

into another kind of position, basically a Closed Sicilian with reversed colors. Inhibits Ng5. 32.Qxg6 (Fier, Alexandr) when I received the email, ChessPub Support mentioned that the critical lines are with 5.d4 or 5.e3, so I'm also taking a look at these moves: Rxg6]

9...Nc6

[9...b6±

A) 10.c4

A1) 10...Ne7± Even though Black's pieces seem to work together at the moment, it is difficult to find future moves for Black. The lack of counterplay could definitely create a long-lasting advantage for White! 11.dxc5 bxc5 0.28/20 *(⌓11...dxc4 -0.05/19 12.Nf3 Bb7)* 12.Nf3= Nbc6 13.Bd3 -0.50/19 *(13.c3± 0.41/20 Qa5 14.Be2)* 13...dxc4∓ 14.Be2 Nd5 15.0-0 h6 16.Be3 Nxe3 1.07/20 *(16...Kg8= -0.29/19)* 17.fxe3± Kg8± 18.Qd6 Kh7 1.18/22 *(18...Rb8± 0.56/19)* 19.Qxc5 0.53/20 *(19.Ng5+!± 1.18/22 hxg5 20.Bf3)* 19...Ba6± 20.Nd4! Nxd4 21.exd4 Qd7 22.c3 0.16/20 *(22.Rf4± 0.49/19)* 22...Rhc8;

A2) 10...Ba6 11.cxd5 Qxd4± 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.dxe6 Qxe5+ 14.Ne2 Qxe6 15.0-0 Rd8 16.Nf4 Qc4 1.60/20 *(16...Qc6= 0.21/20* remains equal.*)* 17.Qf3!± Nc7 1.45/21 *(⌓17...Rxd2 0.94/21 18.Qa8+ Ke7 19.Rae1+ Kd7)* 18.Bc3± Hoping for Rfe1. Nb5? 5.78/25 *(18...Nf6± 1.16/20* is more resistant.*)* 19.Rad1+- Nd4 20.Rxd4 cxd4 21.Bb4+ Ne7± 22.Re1 Fier, Alexandr: 'is more logical, trying to finish development' Kg8 23.Rxe7 White wants to mate with Nd5! Qxc2 24.Nd5 Qg6 25.Re8+;

B) 10.h4 (Fier, Alexandr) was more precise

B1) 10...Ne7 11.h5 h6 12.Rh4 Ba6 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.Rf4 Qd7 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.Nh3± Rc8?! 17.g4

B1a) 17...Qe7 0.78/19 17...Nd8 0.21 (Fier, Alexandr) is a thematic move and the game could continue like this: 18.g5! hxg5 1.21/20 *(⌓18...Ke8 0.72/20)* 19.Nxg5± Qxg5?? 12.23/21 *(19...Nd8± 1.24/20)* 20.Rxf7+!?;

B1b) 17...Nd8= 0.11/20;

B1c) 17...Qe8 0.78/19 18.g5± Ne7 19.gxh6

B1c1) 19...Rxh6 1.22/21 19...gxh6 0.71 20.Rh4± 0.27/20 *(20.0-0-0!± 1.22/21)*;

B1c2) 19...gxh6 20.Rf6 Nf5? 2.64/19 *(20...Ng8± 0.94/21* was called for.*)* 21.Nf4;

B2) 10...Nc6 11.Nf3 Ba6 12.h5 Bxf1 13.Kxf1 h6 14.Rh4 Nge7 15.Rf4 0.08/18 *(15.dxc5± 0.47/21 Qb5+ 16.c4 dxc4 17.a4 Qxc5 18.Qe2)* 15...cxd4 16.cxd4 Kg8 17.Kg1 Rc8± The positioning of the black knight on b6 is just unnatural. This and Black's lack of counterplay are the reasons why such a position would be a practical nightmare to Black. 18.Qb1 Nf5 0.44/19 *(18...g5=*

0.00/20 *19.hxg6 Nxg6)* 19.c3 0.11/20 *(19.Kh2±* 0.44/19 *)* 19...Na5 20.g4 Ne7;

B3) 10...Ba6 11.Bxa6 and White can go away from the pin by tactical means Nxa6 12.h5 h6

B3a) 13.Nf3 cxd4 14.cxd4 Qc4 0.55/19 *(14...Rc8=* 0.15/20 *)* 15.c3± Ne7 16.Qb1= Nc6 Fier, Alexandr 17.a4 Na5 18.Rh3 Rb8 19.Qd1 with a pleasant position for White Nc7 (Fier, Alexandr) is just bad 20.Nh4 Nb3 21.Ra3 and White is clearly better Nxd2 - following nice tactical motifs! 22.Qxd2 b5;

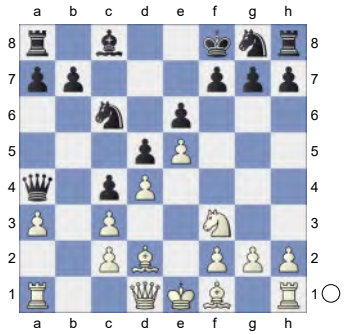
B3b) 13.Rh4! and both knights are hostages, so White is better 13...Rc8 (Fier, Alexandr) is not enough 14.Rf4 cxd4 15.cxd4 Ne7 16.Qf3 and White's passed pawn is much more dangerous than Black's one ⌓Ke8 0.82/21 Fier, Alexandr: 'is also logical, but White can claim an advantage after' *(16...Qe8±* 0.44/20 *)* 17.c3 0.39/20 *(17.Ne2±* 0.82/21 *)* 17...Rf8± 18.Nh3 Nb8 19.Qg4 Rg8 20.Qf3 Rf8 21.Qg3 Rg8! 22.Qf3]

[9...cxd4 10.cxd4 b6 11.Bb4+ Ne7 12.Ne2= Ba6 Fier, Alexandr 13.Qd2 Qd7 with a typical kind of position, as seen in Spraggett, K (2585)-Dolmatov, S (2615)/Hastings 8990 1989. 14.g4 (Fier, Alexandr) is also possible and after Nbc6 0.46/18 *(14...h5=* 0.11/19 *)* 15.h4 Rc8 16.h5 it looks like White's chances are slightly preferable h6!? it's strange to open the queenside, but Black can get the c6-square for the knight 17.Rh3 Ke8!? 18.Rf3]

10.Nf3 c4 0.77/19

[10...Nge7 0.50/17 10...b6 0.19 11.Qb1 *(11.dxc5 Qe4+ 12.Be2 Nxe5 13.0-0 Nxf3+ 14.Bxf3 Qa4 15.Bf4 Qxf4 16.Rb1 f6 17.Re1 Kf7 18.g3 Qc7 19.Qd4 Rd8 20.c4 e5 21.Qh4 e4 22.Bh5+ Kg8 23.cxd5 Rxd5 24.Be2 Rxc5 25.Qxe4 Bf5* Donchenko,A (2669)-Volkov,M (2258) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (44)*)* 11...a6= 12.Qb2 (Fier, Alexandr) was quite direct, but Black's position can be unpleasant after Nf5 13.g4 Nfe7 14.h3 h5 Strongly threatening ...hxg4. 15.Rg1 Rb8 16.Be3 b6 17.Bd3 Bd7 since White's bishop is much better than Black's one 18.Kf1! Be8 19.Ng5 Kg8]

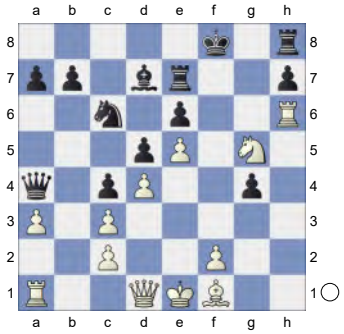
[10...b6= 0.19/20]



11.h4± White is better. **11...Nge7N**

[11...f5 Fier, Alexandr 12.h5 Bd7 1.29/20 *(⌓12...h6* 0.91/19 *)* 13.h6± and White is somehow getting out of the pins gxh6 14.Bxh6+ Nxh6 15.Rxh6 and finally the pieces are more or less unpinned. Ng5 is the strong threat. Re8 2.10/19 *(15...Ke7!±* 0.66/19 *)* 16.g4 1.20/17 *(*White should try *16.Ng5+-* 2.10/19 *)*

16...fxg4 17.Ng5 Re7 2.32/20 *(17...Ke7± 1.30/20 was worth a try.)*



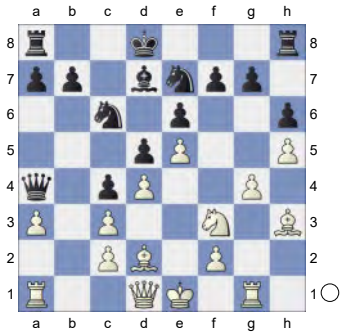
18.Kd2! and White can try to work in the endgame]

[11...Bd7 (Fier, Alexandr) was also possible 12.h5 f5 *(12...h6 13.Be2 Nge7 14.Nh4 Ke8 15.f4 Kd8 16.g4 Kc7 17.Qb1 Rag8* 14. Winawer Shulman Mainline-5.a3 (8.Qg4 9.Qd1 13.Be2) *)* 13.Rh4 0.74/19 *(⌓13.h6* 1.18/20 *)* 13...Be8 14.Ng5 Ke7 15.g4 And now gxf5 would win. Nh6 2.28/18 *(15...h6±* 1.26/20 *)* 16.Bh3+- fxg4 2.47/20 *(16...Bd7±* 1.51/17 *)* 17.Bxg4+- Nd8 18.Nxe6 Nxg4? 4.79/20 *(18...Nxe6* 2.40/18 *19.Bxe6 Qc6)* 19.Nc5+- Qc6 20.Qxg4 Ne6 8.01/23 *(⌓20...Bf7* 4.65/20 *21.Bg5+ Kf8)* 21.Bg5++- Nxg5 22.Qxg5+ Kf8 23.Rf4+ Kg8 24.Qe7 Bxh5 25.Ne6]

12.h5 h6! 13.g4 Ke8 14.Bh3

[14.g5= Nf5?? 15.Nh4 Nce7 16.Nxf5 Nxf5 17.Bh3+-]

14...Bd7 15.Rg1 Kd8



16.g5 Kc7

[16...hxg5 Fier, Alexandr

A) 17.Rxg5 -0.31/21 17.Nxg5 0.61 g6 0.16/20 *(17...Kc7∓* -0.31/21 *)*;

B) 17.Nxg5 Rf8 18.Nh7]

17.gxh6 Fier, Alexandr: '!' **17...gxh6**

18.Bf4

[18.Nh2 Rag8 19.Rxg8 Rxg8 0.90/19 *(19...Nxg8±* 0.58/20 *20.Ng4 Nce7)* 20.Ng4 0.55/18 and the endgame is level *(20.Bxh6±* 0.90/19 *Rg1+ 21.Nf1)*]

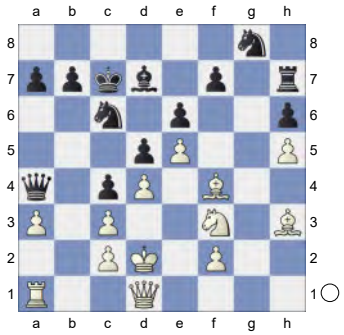
18...Rag8? 19.Rxg8 Nxg8

[19...Rxg8 Fier, Alexandr 20.Bxh6 0.01/20 *(*White should play *20.Kd2±* 0.74/19 *)* 20...Rh8= 21.Qd2 aiming for Bg4. Qa5]

20.Kd2

[20.Nh2!=]

20...Rh7



21.Qe2? 0.49/18

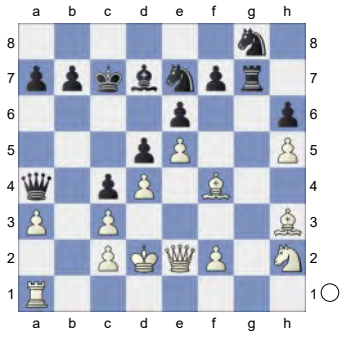
[21.Nh2± 0.97/18]

21...Nce7 1.20/20

[21...Kb6± 0.49/18]

22.Nh2 b5=

[22...Rg7



23.Ng4! Nf5]

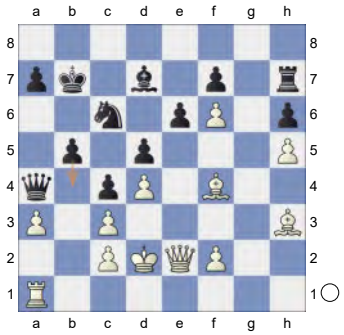
23.Ng4 Kb7? 4.02/21 Fier, Alexandr: 'Fearlessly going into some strange complications.'. This move loses the game for Black.

[23...Nf5? 4.65/20 23...b4 1.28 24.Nf6 Nxf6 8.99/23 *(⌓24...Nxd4 4.24/19 25.cxd4 Qa5+ 26.c3 Nxf6)* 25.exf6++- with a draw Nd6 *(25...Kc6! 26.Qe5)* 26.Bxd6+ Kxd6 27.Qe5+= Kc6! Fier, Alexandr: 'was more prudent' 28.Qb8 Fier, Alexandr: 'giving some air to Black's king'. Inhibits Rh8.]

[23...b4± 1.46/21 is a better defense.]

24.Nf6+- Nxf6 25.exf6 Nc6

[25...Ng8? 6.96/22 25...Nc6 2.90 26.Qe5 and the d6-pawn is going to fall]



26.Bd6 1.67/22 Against b4

[26.Qg4 Nxd4 27.cxd4 Black must now prevent Qg8. c3+ 28.Kd3∞ Threatens to win with Qg8. Qc4+ (Fier, Alexandr) is ok for White 29.Ke3]

[⌓26.Qg4 3.56/23 Nxd4 27.cxd4 Qa5+ 28.c3]

26...Qa5 2.69/23

[⌓26...b4 1.67/22]

27.Rg1?! Nxd4? 5.04/22

[27...Qd8]

[27...Qd8 2.71/24 28.Qf3 *(28.Rg7 Rxg7 29.fxg7 Qg5+ 30.Qe3 Qxg7=)* 28...a6]

28.Qe3?! Active counter play! White is clearly winning. **28...Qb6** Fier, Alexandr: '?' Fier, Alexandr: 'Now the exchanges leads to a draw.'

[28...Nc6 29.Rg7 Fier, Alexandr: 'and Black has an initiative, but White should be ok, since the threats on the back rank give enough counterplay' d4 30.Qf3]

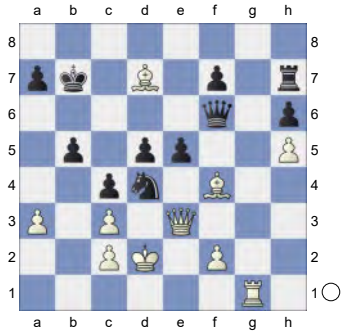
29.Bf4

[29.cxd4 Qxd6 30.Rg7 Rh8 31.Rxf7 Kc8? 5.47/22 *(31...Re8* 2.65/19 *32.Qxh6 Kc6)* 32.Re7]

29...e5

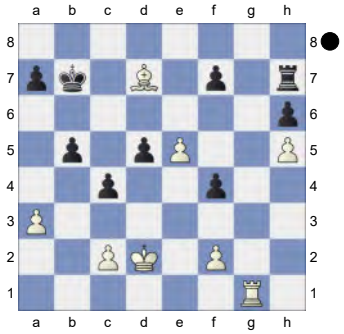
[29...Nf5 7.74/24 29...Nc6 4.86 30.Bxf5 exf5 31.Rg7 Qxe3+ 32.Kxe3 and the pawn on d6 is still alive, so Black has chances. Rh8 Fier, Alexandr: 'it's hard to understand what's going on in this position, since there are too many pieces hanging' 33.Rxf7 Fier, Alexandr: '!?' Fier, Alexandr: 'since everything is hanging, the natural laws of chess are not working' Kc6 34.Kd2 Be8 35.Rc7+ Kb6 36.f7]

30.Bxd7 Qxf6



31.cxd4 exf4 32.Qe5∓ Fier, Alexandr: '!' Fier, Alexandr: 'was better, and sufficient to enter the same position with a pawn up, since White can't get away from the pins' **32...Qxe5** Fier, Alexandr

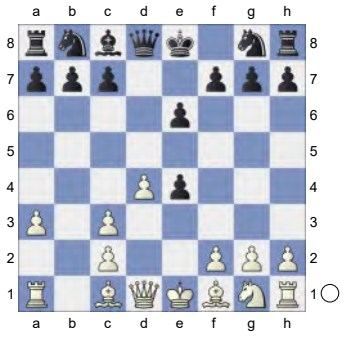
33.dxe5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.47. An unexpected result.
½-½

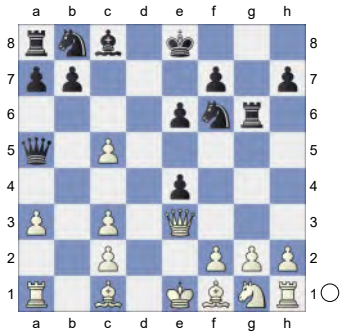
110 **C15**
□ **Amin,Bassem** **2683**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2795**
Casablanca Chess 2024 rapid (4.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 dxe4**

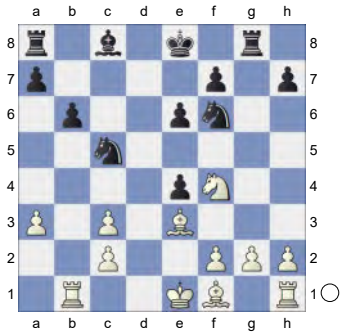


6.Qg4 Nf6 7.Qxg7 Rg8 8.Qh6 c5 9.dxc5N
[9.Bb2 Nc6 10.f3 cxd4 11.cxd4 Qa5+ 12.Qd2 Qxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Bd7 14.Re1 exf3 15.Nxf3 0-0-0 16.g3 Ng4 17.Kc1 Na5 18.Bc3 Bc6 19.Be2 Bxf3 20.Bxf3 Nc4 21.a4 Nb6 22.a5 Na4 23.Ba1 Rd6 1-0 Collier,D-Starcke Oesterreich 83/423 2001]
[9.Ne2 Nbd7 10.Ng3 Qc7 11.Qe3 cxd4 12.cxd4 b6 13.c4 Bb7 14.Be2 h5 15.0-0 h4 16.Nh1 e5 17.Bb2 exd4 18.Bxd4 0-0-0 19.Rfd1 Rg6 20.Rab1 Rdg8 21.g3 Ng4 22.Qc3 hxg3 23.Nxg3 Nxh2 0-1 Gloeckler,C (1936)-Rodriguez Urbaneja,R (1864) corr 11. Finale der BB-SFR 2009 24.Kxh2 f5 25.Bh5 Rh6 26.Kg1 Rxh5 27.Kf1 Rh3 28.Qb3 Rgxg3 29.fxg3 Rxg3 30.Qb2 e3 31.Bxe3 Qxc4+ 32.Qe2 Qe4 33.Qd3 Qf3+ 34.Ke1 Qxe3+ 35.Qxe3 Rxe3+ 36.Kf2 Rxa3 37.Rbc1+ Nc5 38.Rg1 Bc6 0-1 Deuer,M (1936)-Rodriguez Urbaneja,R (1864) AUT-chT Austria 1991]

9...Rg6 10.Qe3 Qa5

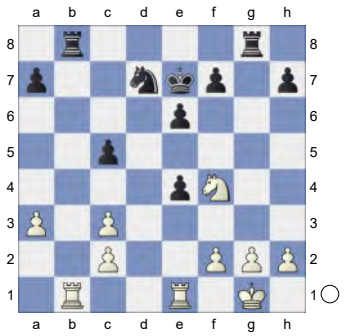


11.Rb1 The position is equal. **11...Nbd7 12.Ne2 Qxc5 13.Qxc5 Nxc5 14.Be3 b6 15.Nf4 Rg8**

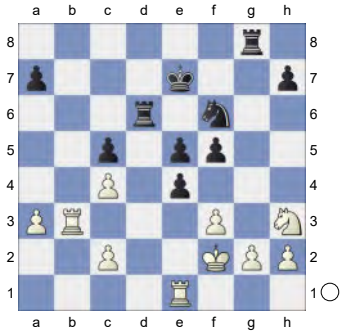


16.Bb5+ Bd7 Threatens to win with ... Bd7xb5. **17.Bxc5! bxc5 18.Bxd7+**

Nxd7 19.0-0 Ke7 20.Rfe1 -1.14/22
[20.f3∓ -0.41/21]
20...Rab8∓

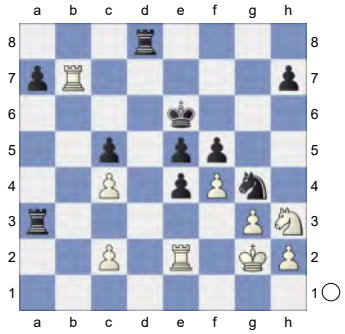


21.Rb3 f5 22.f3 Nf6
[22...exf3 23.Rxe6+ *(23.Nxe6? Rxg2+ 24.Kf1 Rxb3∓)* 23...Kf7 24.Ra6±]
23.Kf2 -1.74/23
[23.fxe4∓ -1.16/25 is a better defense. Nxe4 24.c4]
23...e5-+ 24.Nh3 Rb6 -1.24/22
[24...Rbd8-+ -1.64/21 And now ...Rd8-d2+ would win. 25.Kf1 Rd2]
25.c4 -1.93/22
[25.Kf1∓ -1.24/22]
25...Rd6 -0.97/24
[25...Rd8-+ -1.93/22 Hoping for ... Rd8-d4. 26.Rb5 Rxb5 27.cxb5 Rd2+ 28.Re2 Rd4]

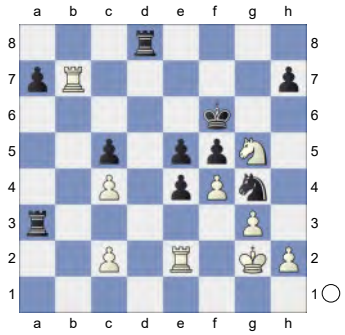


26.Rb7+ Ke6 27.g3 Ra6 -0.61/20
[27...Rd2+∓ -1.07/21 28.Re2 Rxe2+ 29.Kxe2 exf3+ 30.Kxf3 Ng4 31.Rxh7 Nxh2+ 32.Kg2 Ng4 33.Rxa7 Ne3+ 34.Kf3 Nxc2 *(34...Nxc4 35.Nf2∓)*]

28.f4∓ Ng4+
[28...Rxa3 29.Ng5+ Kd6 30.Nf7+ Ke6 *(30...Kc6 31.Re7=)* 31.Rd1 *(31.Nxe5 h5=)* 31...Ng4+ 32.Ke2+- *(32.Kg1 Ra6=)*]
29.Kg2 -1.47/21
[29.Kg1!∓ -0.68/22]
29...Rd8 -0.04/22
[29...Rxa3∓ -1.47/21 White must now prevent ...Rg8-d8. 30.Kg1 h5]
30.Re2? -2.07/20 This move loses the game for White.
[30.Ng5+= -0.04/22 and White is okay. Kf6 31.Kh3]
30...Rxa3-+

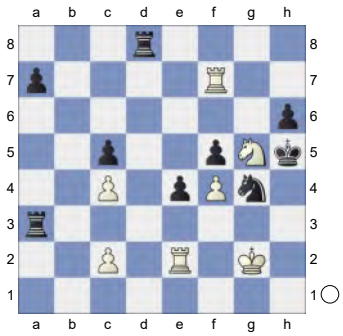


31.Ng5+ Kf6

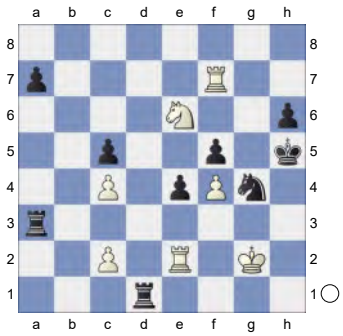


...e5xf4 is the strong threat. **32.h4?** -5.45/24
[32.Rxh7 -1.94/19 Rd1 33.c3]
32...exf4 33.gxf4 h6 34.Rf7+ Kg6 35.h5+ Kxh5

(Diagram)



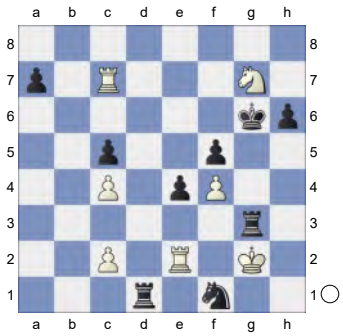
36.Ne6 Rd1



(→ ...Kh5-h4) **37.Ng7+ Kg6 38.Rc7 Ne3+ 39.Kh2 Nf1+**

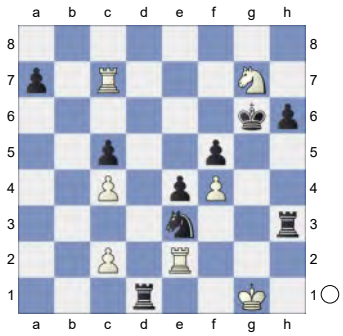
[39...Nxc4? is the wrong capture. 40.Rg2+ Kf6 41.Ne8+ *(41.Rxc5? perishes. Ne3-+)* 41...Ke6 42.Rg6+ *(42.Rxc5? Ne3-+)* 42...Kd5 43.Rd7++- Skewer *(43.Rxh6? gets mated. Rd2+ 44.Kh1 Ra1#; 43.Rxh6? Rd2+ 44.Kh1 Ra1#)*]

40.Kg2 Rg3+



41.Kh1 Rh3+ 42.Kg1 Ne3+

(Diagram)



Discovered Attack (Check). Weighted Error Value: White=0.72/Black=0.18 (very precise)

0-1

111 **C19**

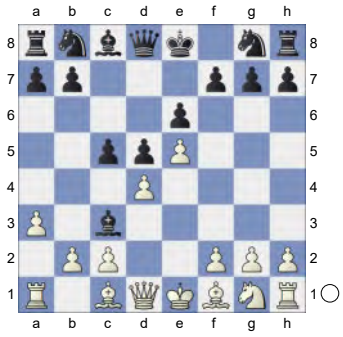
□ **Oparin,Grigoriy** **2681**

■ **Adhiban,Baskaran** **2551**

Qatar Masters Open 2023 (7.10)

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7 7...Qa5 is the modern continuation. 7...Da5 ist die moderne Fortsetzung. **8.h5 h6 9.Bd2** 0.08/23

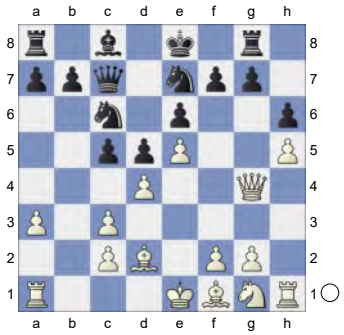
[9.Nf3± 0.53/19 might be stronger.]

[9.Rb1 b6 10.Qg4 Rg8 11.Bb5+ Kf8 12.Bd3 Ba6 13.dxc5 Bxd3 14.cxd3 Nd7 15.d4 bxc5 16.Ne2 Rb8 17.Rxb8+ Qxb8 18.0-0 c4

19.Rd1 Qb1 20.Rd2 Nb6 21.Rb2 Qd3 22.Bd2 Ke8 23.Nf4 Qe4 ½-½ Vachier Lagrave,M (2778)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2784) Carlsen Inv Prelim rapid 2020 (2.2)]

9...Nbc6= 10.Qg4 The position is equal.

10...Rg8



11.Nf3N

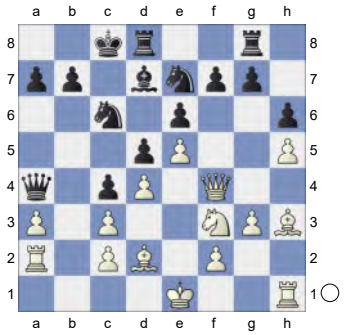
[11.dxc5 Nxe5 *(11...Qxe5+ 12.Ne2∓)* 12.Qb4 Nd7=]

[11.Bd3 c4 12.Be2 Bd7 13.Qf4 0-0-0 14.Nf3 Rdf8 15.a4 Qa5 16.0-0 f6 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Rfb1 a6 19.Ra2 Nf5 20.Rab2 Nd8 21.Rb4 Qc7 22.Qxc7+ Kxc7 23.Bf4+ Kc8 24.g3 Bc6 25.Nh2 e5 0-1 Martic,I (2274)-Zanan,E (2485) EU-ch 23rd Vrnjacka Banja 2023 (5) 26.dxe5 fxe5 27.Bxe5 Re8 28.Ng4 Nf7 29.f4 Nxg3 30.Bf3 Nxe5 31.fxe5 Ne4 32.Kh2 Nd2 33.Be2 Nxb1 34.Rxb1 Rg5 35.Nxh6 Rexe5 36.Bg4+ Kc7 37.Nf7 Rxh5+ 38.Bxh5 Rxh5+ 39.Kg3 Bxa4 40.Re1 Bc6 0-1 Ho,C (2274)-Schmoyer,C (2485) 12/(156) Cande 2011 (5)]

11...c4 12.Qf4N

[Vorgänger: 12.a4 Qa5 13.g3 b5 1.12/21 *(13...Bd7± 0.59/20)* 14.Bh3± Rb8 15.0-0 bxa4 16.Nh4 0.03/23 *(16.Ra2± 1.10/21)* 16...Bd7 1.13/20 *(16...a3= 0.03/23 remains equal.)* 17.Qd1? -0.68/19 *(Better is 17.Ra2± 1.13/20)* 17...a6 0.82/19 *(17...a3∓ -0.68/19 keeps the upper hand.)* 18.Kh2? -0.93/18 ;0-1 Oberoi,S (2146)-Korley,K (2402) US Masters Charlotte 2021 (9) *(18.Ra2± 0.82/19)*]

12...Bd7 13.g3 Qa5 14.Bh3 Qa4 15.Ra2 0-0-0

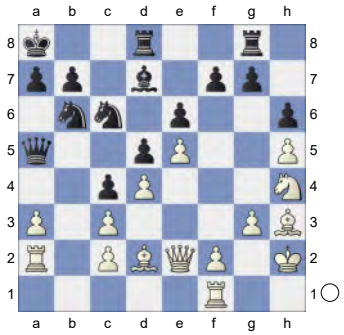


16.Qe3

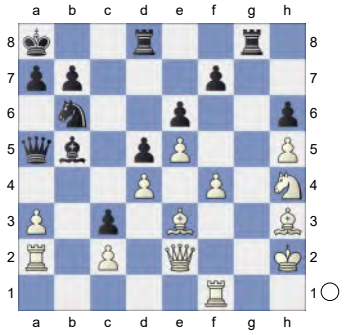
[16.Qxf7? Rdf8-+]

16...Kb8 17.0-0 Ka8 18.Qe2 Nc8 19.Nh4 Nb6 20.Kh2 Qa5 0.56/21

[20...g5= 0.00/20]



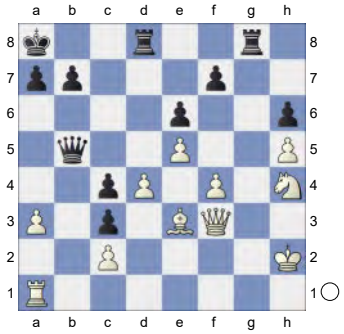
21.f4± g6 22.g4 gxh5 23.gxh5 Nxd4 1.77/20 **24.cxd4+- c3 25.Be3 Bb5**



26.Qf2 Bxf1 27.Bxf1

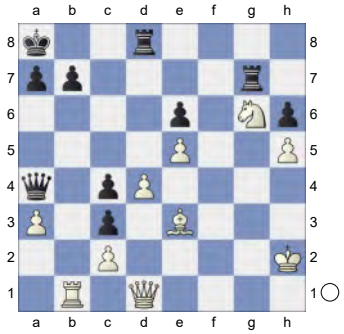
[27.Qxf1?! Nc4 28.Qf2 Rde8=]

27...Nc4 28.Bxc4 dxc4 29.Ra1 1.05/20
[White should try 29.Qf3!+- 1.67/21]
29...Qd5 1.64/21
[29...Rg4± 1.05/20]
30.Qf3 Qb5 2.88/22
[30...Qxf3 1.70/21 was worth a try. 31.Nxf3 b5]

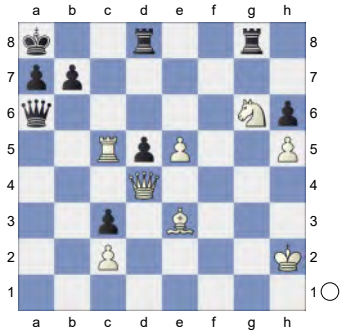


31.f5 Qb2 32.Qd1
[32.Rc1 Rxd4 33.Qf2 *(33.Bxd4 Qxc1 34.fxe6 Qxc2+ 35.Ng2 fxe6-+)* 33...Rd2 *(33...Qxa3 34.fxe6 fxe6 35.Ng6=)* 34.Bxd2 cxd2 35.Qxd2 Qxe5+ 36.Kh1 Qe4+ 37.Ng2 Qxf5∓ *(37...exf5 38.Re1±)*]
32...Qb5 33.Rb1
[33.Bxh6 Qc6 34.Kh3 exf5= *(34...Qe4 35.Qf3±)*]
33...Qa4 34.fxe6
[34.Bxh6? Rxd4 35.Qxd4 Qxc2+ 36.Kh3 Qxb1-+]
34...fxe6 35.Ng6 Against Rd8-f8
[35.Bxh6? Rxd4 *(35...Qxa3? 36.Ng6+-)* 36.Qxd4 Qxc2+ 37.Kh3 Qxb1-+]
35...Rg7

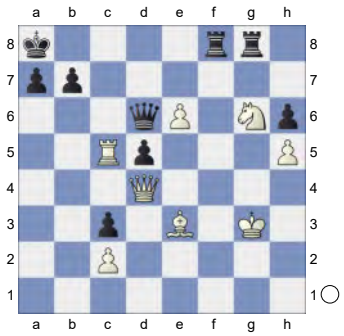
(Diagram)



36.Rb4
[36.Bxh6 Rh7 37.Rb4 Qc6=]
36...Qxa3 37.Rxc4
[37.Bxh6 Rxg6 38.hxg6 Qxb4∓]
37...Qa5 38.d5
[38.Bxh6 Rh7+-]
38...exd5 39.Rc5 Qa6 40.Qd4
[40.Rxc3 Qe6 41.Qf3 *(41.Bxh6 Rh7±)* 41...Rgg8+-]
[40.Bxh6? Rxg6 41.hxg6 Qxg6 42.Rxc3 Rg8-+ *(42...Qxh6+? 43.Kg2-+)*]
40...Rgg8



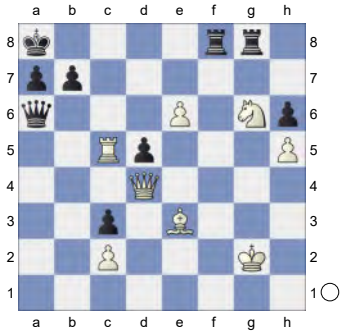
41.e6
[41.Rxd5? Rxd5 42.Qxd5 Qe2+ 43.Kg3 Qxe3+-+]
41...Rdf8
[41...Qxe6 42.Rc8+ Rxc8 43.Qxa7#]
42.Kg3→ Black is in trouble.
[42.Rxc3 Qe2+]
42...Qd6+
[42...Qxe6 43.Rc8+ Rxc8 44.Qxa7#]



43.Kg2! White threatens Rc5-c8+! and mate. White has strong compensation.

43...Qa6

[43...Qxe6 44.Rc8+ Rxc8 45.Qxa7#]



Strongly threatening ...Qa6-f1+. **44.Bf2!** Active counter play!

[44.Qxc3 leads to mate. Qe2+ 45.Kh1 Qxh5+ 46.Kg2 Qxg6+ *(46...Rxg6+ 47.Bg5 Qxg5+ 48.Qg3 Qxg3+ 49.Kh1 Qh4#; 46...Rxg6+ 47.Bg5 Qxg5+ 48.Qg3 Qxg3+ 49.Kh1 Qh4#)*]

[44.Rxd5 Qf1+ *(44...Qxe6 45.Qxa7#)* 45.Kh2 Qe2+ 46.Kh1 Rf1+ 47.Bg1 Qf3+ 48.Kh2 Qe2+ 49.Kh1 Qf3+ 50.Kh2 Qe2+ 51.Kh1=]

[44.Bxh6? Qf1+ 45.Kh2 Rf2+-+]

[44.Rb5? Rf5 45.Bf2 *(45.Rxd5 Qf1+ 46.Kh2 Qe2+; 45.Qc5? Rxh5 46.Kf3 Rh3+ 47.Kf4 Rxe3-+* Decoy *)* 45...Rxf2+ *(45...Qxb5 46.Qxa7#; 45...Rxh5 46.Kf3=)* 46.Kxf2 Qxb5-+]

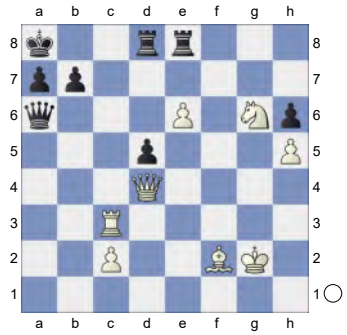
44...Rd8? 6.20/19

[Not 44...Qxe6 45.Rc8+ Rxc8 46.Qxa7#]

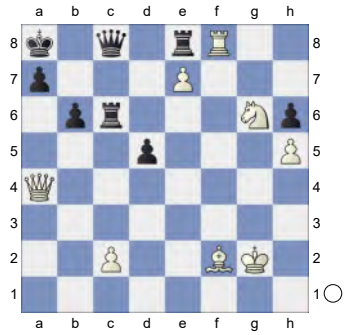
[44...Rxf2+ 2.35/21 45.Kxf2 Qxe6 46.Qxd5 *(46.Rxd5 Rb8+-)* 46...Qf6+ 47.Qf3 Qd8 48.Qxc3 *(48.Rxc3 Qd2+ 49.Kg3 Rb8+-)* 48...a6]

45.Rxc3 Rge8 7.00/20

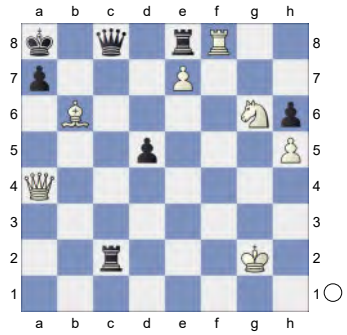
[⌓45...Rde8 4.12/20 46.Re3 *(46.Qxd5 Qxe6 47.Qxe6 Rxe6±)* 46...Qc6]



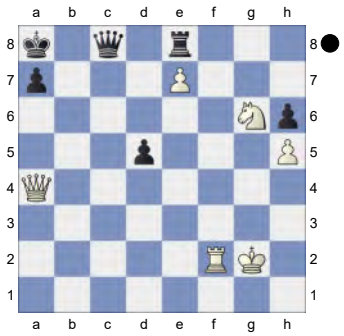
Black is weak on the dark squares **46.e7 Rd6 47.Rf3** Threatening mate with Rf3-f8. **47...b6 48.Rf8 Qc8 49.Qa4 Rc6**



50.Bxb6! Rxc2+



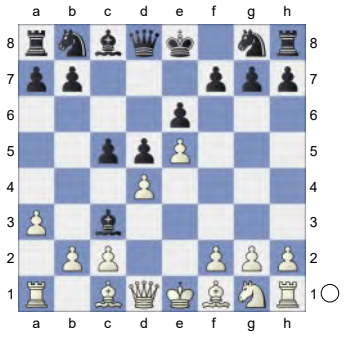
51.Bf2 Rxf2+ 52.Rxf2



Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.54
1-0

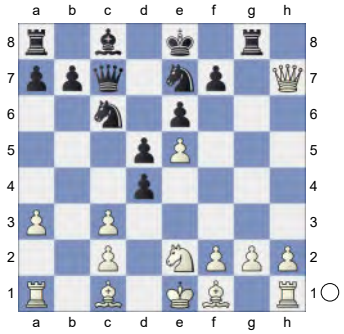
112 **C18**
□ **Zhigalko,Sergei** **2680**
■ **Nedilko,Vasily** **2413**
EU-ch 12th Aix les Bains (1) 22.03.2011
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

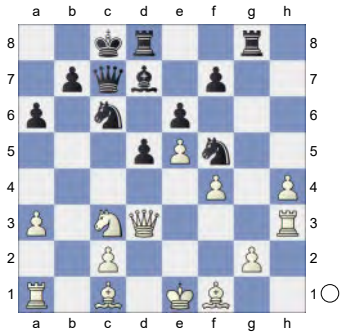


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Ne2 Nbc6

(Diagram)

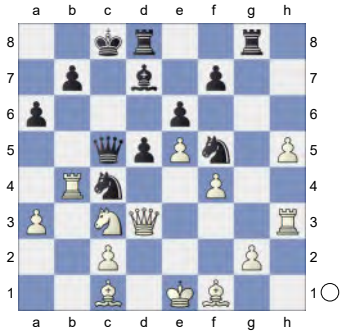


11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 Bd7 13.Nxc3 a6 14.h4 Nf5 Strongly threatening ...Nxe5! **15.Rh3 0-0-0**

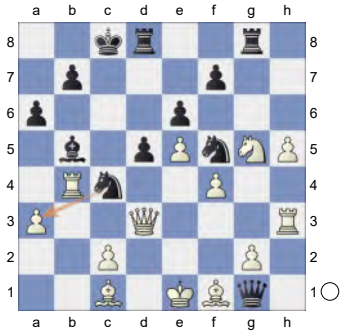


16.Rb1 0.23/18
[16.h5± 0.68/18]
16...Na5 0.63/18
[16...Ncd4!= 0.23/18]
17.Rb4 0.19/18
[17.h5± 0.63/18 should be considered.]
17...Nc4 0.85/19
[17...Rg4= 0.19/18]
18.h5± Qc5N 1.59/21
[⌓18...Nh6 0.82/18]
[18...Bc6 19.Ne2 Bb5 20.a4 *(20.Nd4 Nxe5 21.Qc3 Nxd4 22.Qxc7+ Kxc7 23.Rxd4 Bxf1 24.Kxf1 Nc4 25.h6 Rg4 26.Rdd3 Rh8 27.f5 Kd6 28.fxe6 Kxe6 29.Rh5 Ne5 30.Rc3 f6 31.Rc7 Rc4 32.Rxc4 dxc4 33.Ke2 Kf7 34.Rh3 b5* Lanin,B (2127)-Comp Hiarcs (2148) Tel Aviv 2018 76 telechess [Ahues, FS 1959/12] ½-½ (41) *)*
20...Bc6 *(20...Qc5 21.Qc3 d4*

22.Qb3 Na5 23.Rxb5 Nxb3 24.Rxc5+ Nxc5 25.Ng1 Rg3 26.Ba3 d3 27.Rxg3 Nxg3 28.cxd3 Nxa4 29.Ne2 Nxh5 30.g4 Rxd3 31.gxh5 Rxa3 32.h6 Ra1+ 33.Kf2 Rd1 34.h7 Rd8 35.Nd4 Mu,K (2696)-Ernst,H (2716) Great Britain 2008 CBM 92 [Michalczak] 0-1 (42)) 21.Nd4 Nxd4 22.Qxd4 a5 23.Rb1 Bxa4 24.Ba3 b5 25.Bd6 Qc6 26.Rc3 Rg4 27.Qa7 1-0 (27) Azar,P-Salter,D corr ICCA 2000]



19.Ne4! Qg1 20.Ng5 Bb5



21.Qe2 1.16/19 Dancing on a razor blade.

[21.Nf3?! Qc5±]

[⌓21.Qf3 1.49/17]

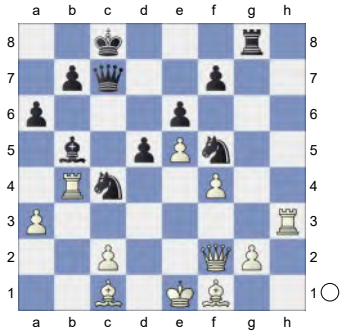
21...Qc5 2.56/18

[21...Nxa3± 1.16/19 keeps fighting. 22.Rc3+ Kb8]

22.Qf2+- Qc7 23.h6 Rxg5 24.h7 Rgg8 25.hxg8Q

[Don't do 25.hxg8N Rxg8 26.a4 Be8 27.Bxc4 dxc4]

25...Rxg8



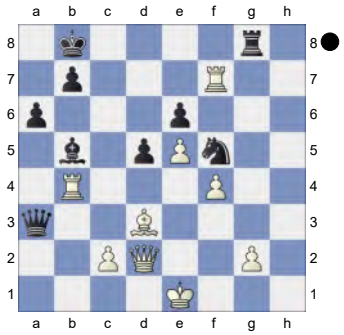
26.Bd3 Kb8 Inhibits Qa7+. **27.Rh7** 0.01/19

[27.Bxf5± 0.98/19 exf5 28.Be3]

27...Nxa3= aiming for ...Qc3+. Decoy

28.Bxa3 Qc3+ 29.Qd2 Qxa3 30.Rxf7? -1.66/24

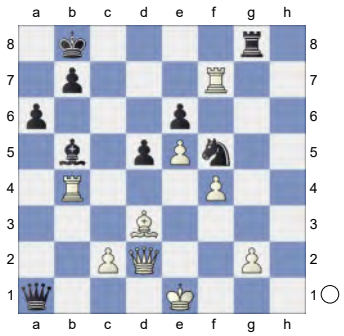
[30.Bxf5= 0.01/19 and White has nothing to worry. Qa1+ 31.Qd1 Qc3+ 32.Qd2 Qa1+ 33.Qd1 Qc3+ 34.Qd2 Qa1+]



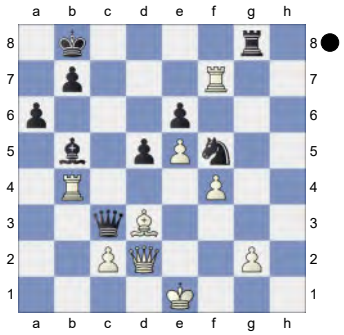
30...Qa1+ -1.12/23

[30...Rxg2!!-+ -1.66/24 31.Qxg2 Qc1+ 32.Kf2 Qe3+ 33.Kf1 Ng3+ 34.Qxg3 Qxg3 35.Rxb5 *(35.Rf8+? Ka7-+)* 35...axb5 36.Bxb5 Qg6 37.Rf8+ Kc7]

(Diagram)



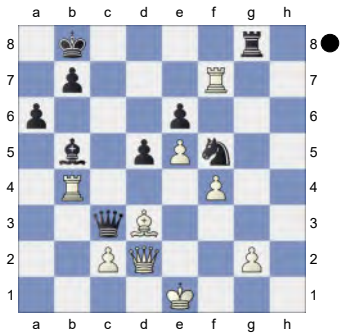
31.Qd1∓ Qc3+ Black has strong compensation. **32.Qd2**



Qa1+ -0.01/18

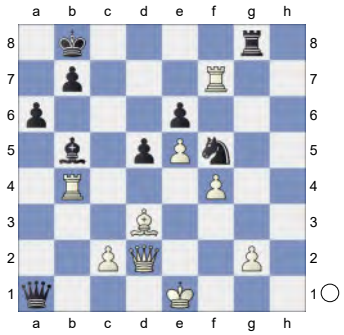
[32...Qc5!-+ -1.89/24 (-> ...Qg1+) 33.Rxb5 *(33.Bxb5? axb5 34.Rxf5 Qg1+ 35.Ke2 Rxg2+ 36.Kd3 Rg3+ 37.Ke2 Qh2+ 38.Kd1 Rg1+ 39.Qe1 exf5-+)* 33...axb5 34.Rxf5 Qg1+ 35.Bf1 exf5 36.Qxd5 Qe3+ 37.Kd1 Rc8]

33.Qd1= Qc3+ 34.Qd2



Qa1+ -0.01/28

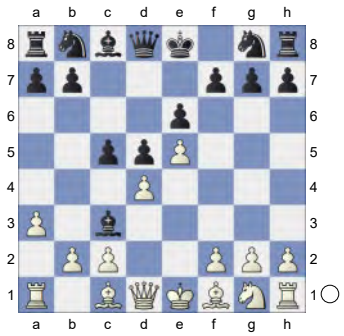
[34...Qc5!∓ -0.78/25 35.Rxb5 *(35.Bxb5? axb5 36.Rxf5 Qg1+ 37.Ke2 Rxg2+ 38.Kd3 Rg3+ 39.Ke2 Qh2+ 40.Kd1 Rg1+ 41.Qe1 exf5-+)* 35...axb5 36.Rxf5 Qg1+ 37.Bf1 exf5 38.Qxd5 Qe3+ 39.Kd1 Rc8 40.Bxb5 Qg1+ 41.Kd2 Qf2+ 42.Be2 Qxf4+ 43.Kd1 Qb4]



Black escapes into a draw.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.40/ Black=0.38. Loss on time!?
1-0

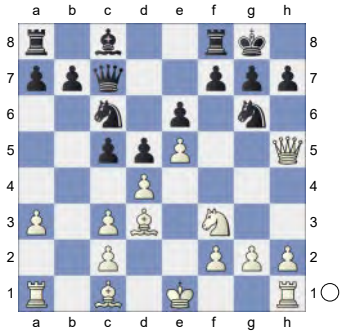
113 **C18**
□ **Akopian,Vladimir** **2679**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2716**
Olympiad-38 Dresden (8) 21.11.2008
[Ftacnik,Lubomir]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

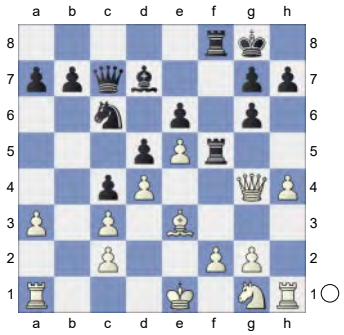


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7

(Diagram)



11.Be3 c4 Breaking through the defences in this system is anything but easy for White. The games of top grandmasters are indicating that Black is holding his own after the immediate advance of his pawn to e5. **12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4!?N** Akopian came prepared for the young French talent with a slightly shocking novelty. Taking the knight on d4 is probably untenable for Black at this moment. **13...Bd7 14.h4 Rf5** The defender might have fared better after recapturing on e5 with the pawn. The knight on e5 is a magnificient piece, but the coordination of pieces was diminished. **15.Ng1 Raf8**



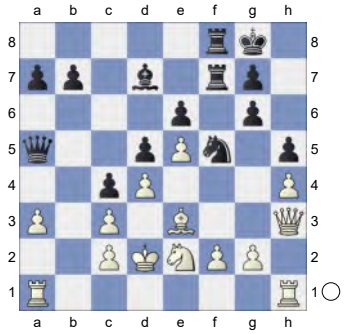
16.Ne2 Ne7

[16...b5 17.Ng3 Qa5 18.Kd2 Be8 19.f3 Ne7 20.Bg5 Nc6 21.Be3 Ne7 22.Bg5 Nc6 1/2 Sokolov,A (2561)-Vachier Lagrave,M (2681)/Pau 2008]

17.Ng3 Qa5 18.Kd2!! Akopian is displaying his best side. Black is short of two tempi in order to finish his development and coordinate his pieces. Due to the blows by the white pieces, he will never find the time for it... **18...h5 19.Qh3! R5f7**

[19...Nc6 20.Ne2± Qc7 21.g4 Rxe5 22.Qg3 hxg4 23.dxe5 Nxe5 24.Bf4 Rxf4 25.Qxf4 Nf3+ 1/2 Fedorchuk,S (2671)-Vachier Lagrave,M (2632)/ Paris 2008 26.Kc1 e5 27.Qe3 Qc6 28.Rd1 Bf5 29.Ng3]

20.Ne2 Nf5



21.Bg5 The king on f8 looks misplaced; all the white pieces are attacking with vigour. **21...Ne7**

[21...Nh6 22.Bxh6 *(22.f4 Ng4)* 22...gxh6 23.f4 Kg7 24.Rhg1 Rg8 25.g4 hxg4± 26.Qxg4 Kh7 27.h5 g5]

22.f4 Nf5

[22...Nc6 23.g4 b6 24.gxh5 gxh5± 25.Rhg1]

23.g4 hxg4

[23...Ne7 24.Bxe7 Rxe7± 25.gxh5!? gxh5 26.Rhg1]

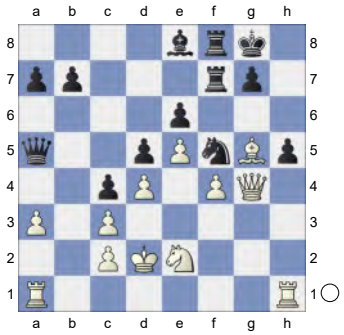
24.Qxg4! The beautiful and perfect point of the deep combination. Vachier Lagrave can not accept the offered material due to the mating attack by the reduced number white pieces. **24...Be8**

[24...Ba4 25.h5 gxh5 26.Qxh5 Rd7 27.Qg6 Qb6 28.Rh2 Bxc2 29.Kxc2 Qb3+= 30.Kc1 Ne3 31.Kd2]

25.h5 gxh5

[25...Rd7 26.hxg6 Bxg6± 27.Rag1 *(27.Bd8± Qxd8 28.Qxg6 Qe8)*

27...Bh7 *(27...Qb6 28.Bf6 Bh7 29.Qh5 g6 30.Rxg6+ Bxg6 31.Qxg6+ Rg7 32.Bxg7 Nxg7 33.Rh7+- Qc7 34.Qh6)* 28.Qh5 g6 29.Bf6 Rg7 30.Qg5]



26.Qxh5 Rd7

[26...Nh6+- 27.Qh4 Rf5 28.Bxh6]

27.Qh7+ Kf7 28.Rh6 Nxh6+-

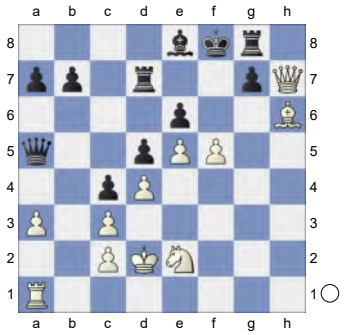
[28...b5 29.Rf6+ Ke7 30.Rxf5+]

29.Bxh6 Rg8

[29...Ke7+- 30.Bg5+ Kf7 31.f5 exf5 32.Rf1]

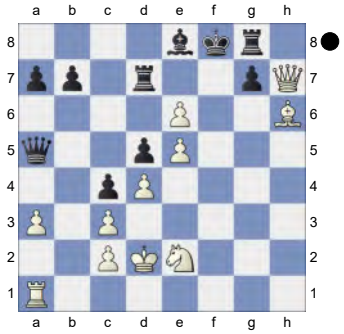
30.f5 Kf8+-

[30...Qb6 31.Rf1]



31.fxe6

(Diagram)



1-0

114 **C18**

□ **Lautier,Joel** **2678**

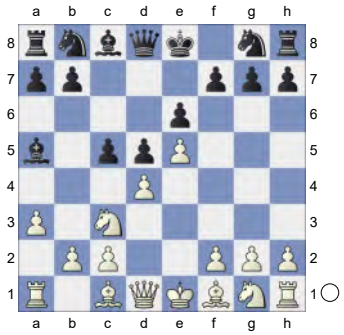
■ **Degraeve,Jean Marc** **2557**

FRA-chT Top 16 GP Haute (8) 04.05.05

[Erenburg,Sergey]

(100min+30sec)/40+(50min+30sec)/20+(10min+

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Ba5



The trade of dark-squared bishops is black's main idea in this variation. White has occupied more space, locating his pawns on the light squares. So his dark-squared bishop becomes very important. **6.b4** Other possibilities are: **6...cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7** Preparing f7-f5. It is important to have the pawn on g6, so that Black will be able to take on f5 with the pawn. In this way,Bblack will not allow White to occupy a stronghold on e4. **8.f4 Bd7** Black has tried the following continuations as well: **9.Nxc7+**

covering the f4 square.

[9.Nf3 Bxb5 10.Bxb5+ Nd7± 1-0 Dreev,A-Illescas Cordoba,M/ Montpellier 2002/CBM 86 ext (30)]

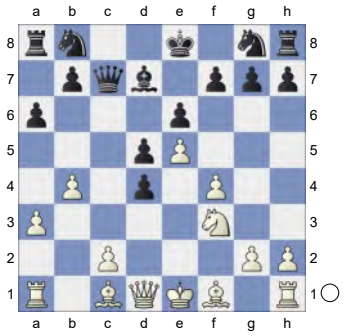
9...Qxc7 10.Nf3!?N In the previous game White prefered

[10.Bb2 Ba4 11.Bd3 Nc6 12.Nf3 Nge7 13.0-0 a6 14.Qe2 Qb6 15.Qf2 Bb5 16.Bxd4 Nxd4 17.Nxd4 Bxd3 18.cxd3 Rc8 19.Rac1 0-0 20.g3 h6 21.Kg2 Rfd8± Bykhovsky,Av-Kanstler, B/Beersheba/1996/ 22.Kg1 a5 23.bxa5 Qxa5 24.Qb2 Qa6]

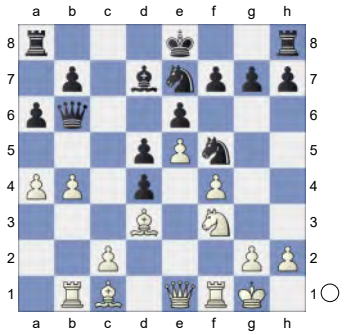
10...a6

[10...Ba4 11.Ra2 *(11.Bd3)* 11...Nc6 12.Bd3 Nh6 13.Bb2 Nf5 14.Qd2 Qb6 15.Bxf5 exf5 16.Bxd4 Qb5 17.e6+- 1-0 Sakaev,K-Popchev,M/ Belgrade 1996/EXT 99 (23) fxe6 18.Bxg7 Rg8 19.Bd4 Qc4 20.c3+- Rg4 21.Rb2 Rc8 22.Kf2 Nxd4 23.cxd4 Qc3 24.Qe2 Kd8 25.g3]

[10...a5 11.Bd2 axb4 12.axb4 Rxa1 13.Qxa1 Nh6 14.Bd3 Nf5 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4± --→ 1/2-1/2 McShane, L-Azmaiparashvili,Z/Rethymnon 2003/ CBM 098/[McShane] (66) Black tried also Nc6 17.Qf2 0-0 18.0-0 Ne7 19.Be3 f5 20.exf6 Rxf6 21.Bd4 Rf7 22.Be5 Qc8 23.Qh4 h6 24.Rf3]



11.a4 Ne7 12.Bd3! From this position White's bishop can press Black's f5 pawn. **12...Nf5 13.0-0 Nc6 14.Qe1** White has space advantage, and now he will complete his development. Black has no other plan, except of attacking White's centre: **14...Qb6 15.Rb1!** emphasizing a background in location of black's queenside knight. **15...Nce7**



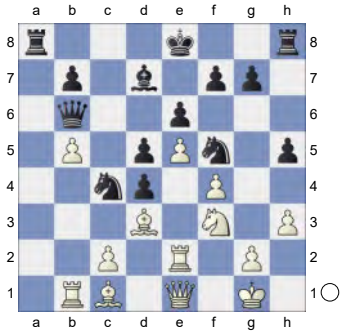
16.b5! opening the d-file for the rook. **16...axb5 17.axb5** Threatening with the capture on b6, as well as with the strike c4-c5 . **17...Ne3? 18.Rf2 Nc4** Otherwise, the pawn f5 will be lost as well: **19.h3 Nf5**

[19...Bxb5 20.Qb4 Ra5 21.Nxd4 Nc6 *(21...Qxd4 22.Bxc4 Bxc4 23.Qxa5)* 22.Nxc6 bxc6 23.Bxc4 dxc4 24.Be3 Qc7 25.Rd2⇄ 1/2-1/2 Eriksson,J-McNab,C/Klaksvik 2003/ EXT 2004 (28)]

20.Re2 h5

[20...Bxb5 21.Qb4 Ra5 22.Bd2 Qa7 23.Qb3 *(23.Bxc4* 1-0 Psakhis,L-Vanheste,J/ Ostende 1992/TD (20) *Bxc4 24.Qxa5 Qxa5 25.Bxa5 Bxe2 26.Rxb7 0-0)* 23...Ba4 24.Qxb7 Qxb7 25.Rxb7 Ra8 26.Bb4]

(Diagram)

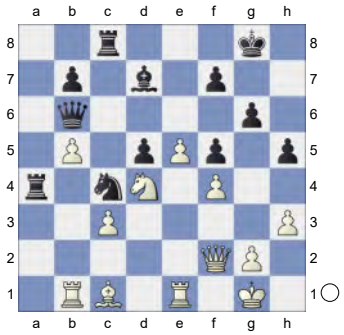


21.Qf2! A great positional exchange sacrifice ! Black's position without the light-squared bishops will become hopeless. **21...Ra4** protecting the f5-pawn.

[21...Nfe3]

[21...Bxb5 22.Bxf5 exf5 23.Nxd4 Ra5 24.Bd2 Nxd2 25.Rxd2]

22.Re1 g6 23.Bxf5 exf5 24.Nxd4 0-0 25.c3 White's domination is absolute. Black is an exchange up, but none of his pieces is active... **25...Rc8**

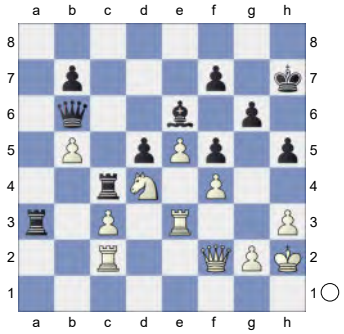


26.Be3+- Now White wins with the simple transfer of the light-squared bishop to a6 via f1. **26...Nxe3**

[26...Qa5 27.Nb3± 1-0 Kaspi,A-Oratovsky,M/Netanya 1993/EXT 98 (41)]

27.Rxe3 Be6 28.Kh2 Ra3 29.Rc1 White's material advantage is too big, therefore, Black resigned. **29...Rc4 30.Rc2 Kh7**

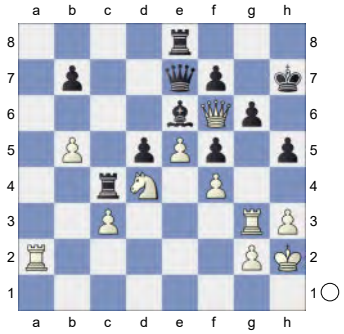
(Diagram)



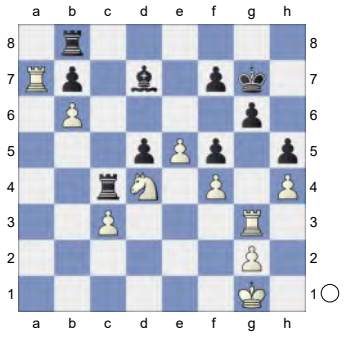
31.Rf3 Qc7 32.Qh4+- Black's position is losing after **32...Qd7** as well: **33.Rg3 Ra8 34.Qf6+- Re8±** comes to consideration.

[34...Qd8 35.Qxd8 Rxd8 36.Ra2]

35.Ra2 Qe7

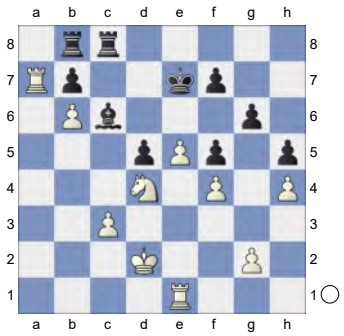


36.Qxe7 Rxe7 37.b6 Re8 38.h4 Kg7± /+- 39.Ra7!? Rb8 40.Kg1± Bd7

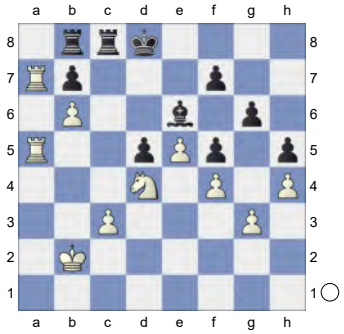


41.Kf2 Kf8 42.Ke2± /+- Less clear is **42...Ke8 43.Kd2 Rcc8 44.Re3 Ke7 45.Re1 Bc6**

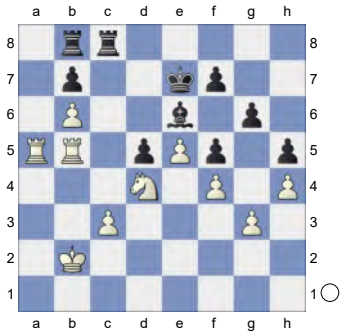
(Diagram)



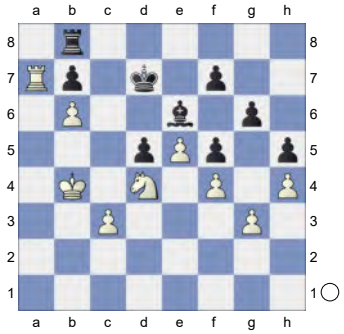
46.Rea1 Bd7± 47.R1a5 Be6+-
In my opinion, black should have sacrificed the pawn: **48.g3! Kd8 49.Kc2 Ke7 50.Kb2 Kd8±**



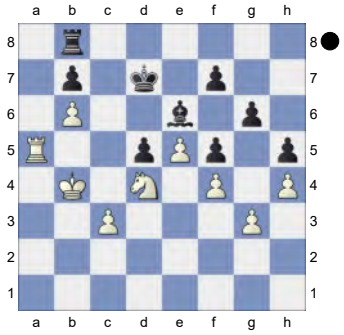
White's position is slightly better, thanks to a superior pawn structure. If white wins the d-pawn, Black has some compensation, due to the vulnerable position of the White monarch: **51.Rb5 Rc4 52.Raa5 Rbc8! 53.Rb3 Rb8**
[53...Kd7 54.Ra7 Rb8]
54.Rb4 Rcc8∞
[54...Rxb4+ 55.cxb4 Rc8 56.Rc5 Rxc5 57.bxc5 Bd7 58.Kc3]
55.Rbb5 Ke7+-



56.Rc5 Kd7 57.Rxc8 Rxc8+- 58.Ra7 favours white: **58...Rb8 59.Kb3 Kd8 60.Kb4 Kd7**



61.Ra5
[61.Ra5± Rc8 62.Rc5 Kd8 63.Rxc8+ Kxc8 64.Kc5 Kd7 65.Nb5 Kc8 66.Kd6 Kd8 67.Nc7]

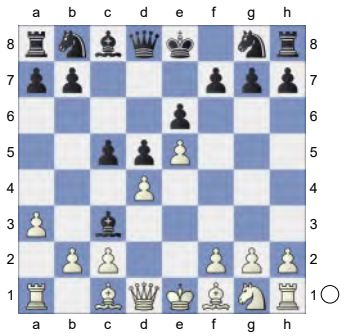


1-0

115 **C18**
□ **Dronov,Aleksandr Surenovic** **2676**
■ **Silva,Antonio Augusto M** **2550**
corr WC29/final 20.06.2015
[Kitty Kat]

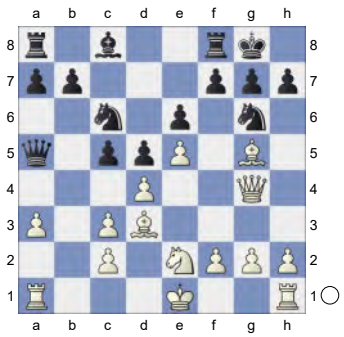
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Bg5 Qa5 10.Ne2 Ng6 0.07/19

[⌓10...cxd4 -0.26/18 11.Bxe7 Nxe7]

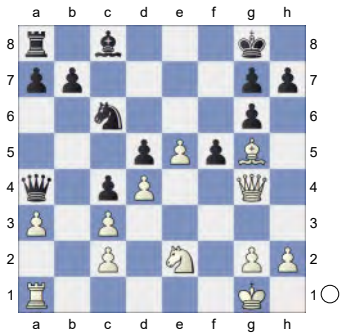


11.0-0= **Qa4** **12.f4** **c4** White has an edge. **13.Bxg6 fxg6 14.f5 Rxf5**

[Much worse is 14...gxf5 15.Qg3∓]

15.Rxf5 exf5 0.49/22

[15...gxf5= -0.01/24 16.Qg3 Kf7]



16.Qg3 0.08/21

[16.Qf3± 0.49/22 Qa5 17.Qg3]

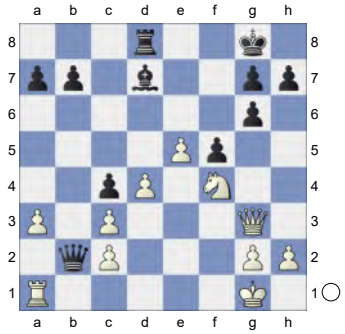
16...Bd7 0.57/21

[16...Be6= 0.08/21]

17.Nf4!± **Nd8** 0.74/21 Against e6

[17...Be8= 0.01/18]

18.Bxd8± **Rxd8** **19.Nxd5** **Qb5** **20.Nf4 Qb2**

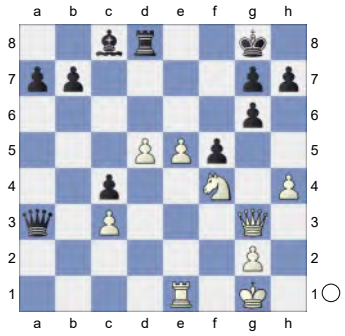


21.Rd1 **Qxc2** **22.Re1** **Qb3** **23.d5 Qxa3** 0.65/20

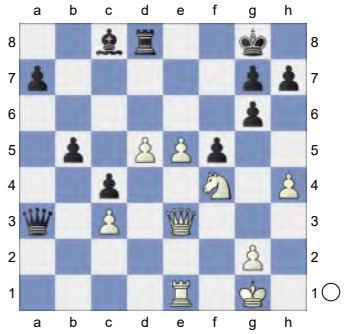
[23...a5!= -0.02/16]

24.h4 **Bc8** 1.32/21

[Black should try 24...Qc5+± 0.68/19 25.Kh2 b5]



25.Qe3! **b5N**



26.d6 **b4** **27.Qc5** **Qxc3** **28.Re3** 1.24/18

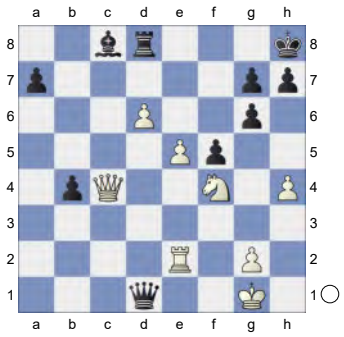
[28.Rf1+- 1.73/20]

28...Qd2 Hoping for ...c3. **29.Qxc4+ Kh8** 2.38/23

[⌓29...Kf8 1.71/25 30.Re2 Qc3

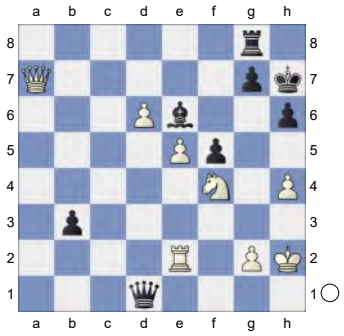
31.Qxc3 *(31.Ne6+ Bxe6 32.Qxe6 Qc5+ 33.Kh2 Re8=)* 31...bxc3]

30.Re2+- Active counter play! **30...Qd1+**



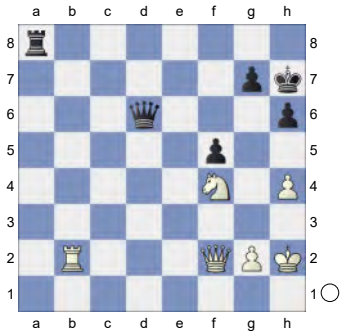
31.Kh2 And now Qc7 would win. **31...b3 32.Qc7 Rg8 33.Qxa7 h6 34.Nxg6+ Kh7 35.Nf4 Be6** 3.95/21

[35...Rf8 2.65/21 is a better defense. 36.Qf2 Bd7]

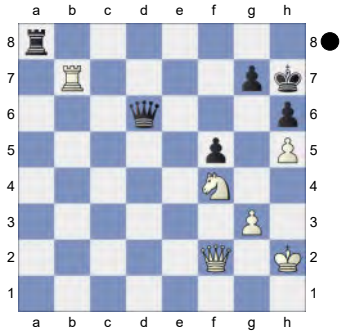


36.Qf2! Bd7 37.e6 aiming for Rd2. **37...b2 38.Rxb2 Bxe6 39.Nxe6 Qxd6+ 40.Nf4 Ra8?** 4.43/22

[40...g5 2.49/22 might work better.]



41.h5 White is clearly winning. **41...Ra4 42.g3 Ra8 43.Rb7**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.29 (precise)

1-0

116 **C16**

□ **Bu,Xiangzhi** **2675**

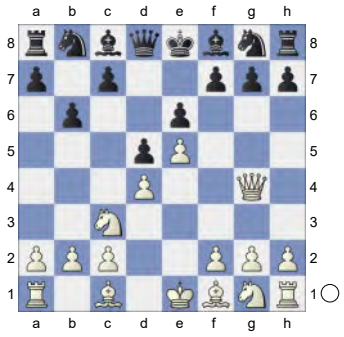
■ **Adly,Ahmed** **2631**

FIDE World Cup (1.1) 28.08.2011

[Krasenkow,Michal]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.Qg4 Bf8

[5...Kf8 6.Nh3 c5 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Qc7 9.Bd2 Ba6 10.Bd3]



6.Nf3

[6.Nh3]

6...Qd7 7.a4 Nc6

[7...Ba6 8.Nb5 c6 9.Nd6+]

[7...c6 8.a5 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.axb6 axb6 11.0-0 Kd8 12.Bd2 Kc7 13.Na4 g6 14.c4]

8.Bd2

[8.Be2 Nb4]
[8.Bb5 a6 9.Be2 Nb4 10.Bd1]
[8.Nb5 Nb4 9.Na3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.b3]

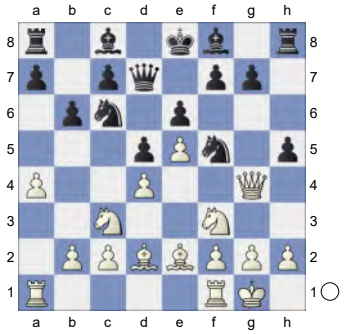
8...Nge7

[8...Nb4 9.Rc1]

9.Be2

[9.Nd1]
[9.Ne2]

9...Nf5 10.0-0 h5



11.Qf4 g6

[11...g5 12.Qxg5 *(12.Nxg5 Ncxd4 13.Bd3)* 12...Bh6 13.Qxh5]

12.Bb5 Bh6

[12...a6 13.Bxc6 Qxc6 14.Rac1= 1/2 Graf,A (2445)-Klovans,J (2400)/Frunze 1988/TD (27) Dozens of games ended in a draw after Bh6 15.Ng5 Qc4=]

13.Ng5 An attempt to keep tension in this dull position. **13...Nfxd4**

[13...a6]

14.Rad1

[14.Nxd5 exd5 15.e6 Nxe6 16.Bxc6 Nxf4 17.Bxd7+!= 1/2 Szabo,V (2356)-Loinjak,S (2517)/Lechenicher SchachServer 2009/Telechess CBM 139 (51) Kxd7]

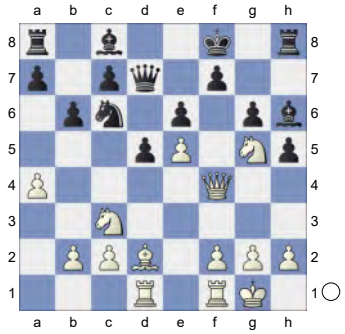
14...Kf8

[14...0-0 15.Qxd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd7 Bxd7= 1/2 Le Quang,L (2664)-Tkachiev,V (2636)/Wijk aan Zee 2011/CBM 141 (35) 17.Nxe6 fxe6 *(17...Bxd2 18.Nxf8)* 18.Bxh6 Nxc2]
[14...a6 15.Bxc6 Nxc6= 1/2 Grau,R-Guimard,C/Buenos Aires 1937/HCL (43) 16.Qf6!? 0-0 17.Nf3]
[14...Bb7 15.Qxd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd7+ Kxd7 17.Nxf7 Bxd2]

15.Bxc6

[15.Nce4 dxe4 16.Bb4+ Nxb4]

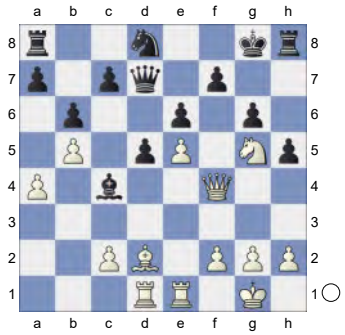
15...Nxc6



16.Nce4 Bxg5 17.Nxg5 Ba6 18.Rfe1 Kg8?! Obvious but poor. **19.b4 Bc4**

[19...b5 20.c4]

20.b5 Nd8



21.Bb4 Qe8 22.Re4 Missing a good chance:

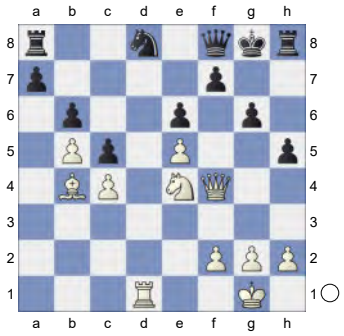
[22.Qxc4 dxc4 23.Ne4 Kg7 24.Nf6 c5 25.Nxe8+ Rxe8 26.Bc3 a6]

22...Bxb5

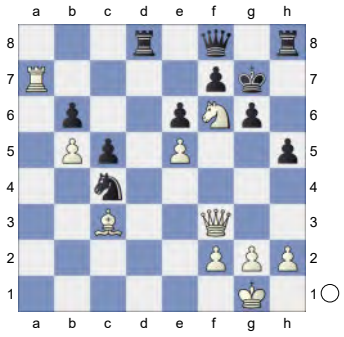
[⌓22...Ba2± 23.Re3!? Bc4! was essential to prevent ♘e2-g3. 24.Qxc4 *(24.h4 Ba2 25.Rg3)* 24...dxc4 25.Ne4 looks more appropriate. On e5 this knight disrupts Black's own pieces.]
[22...dxe4 23.Nxe4]

23.axb5 dxe4 24.c4

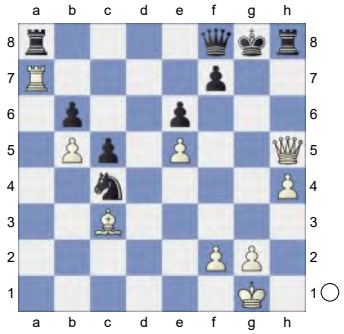
[24.Nxe4 Qxb5!+-]
24...c5 25.Nxe4 Qf8
[25...cxb4 26.Nf6+ Kg7 27.Nxe8+±]



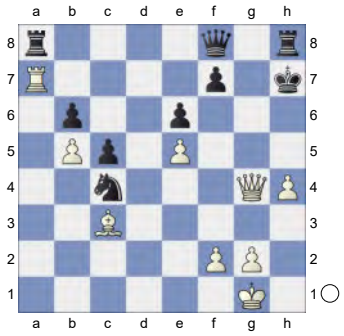
26.Nf6+
[26.Bc3 Qh6 27.Ng5]
26...Kg7 27.Bc3
[27.Be1 Nb7 28.Nd7]
27...Nb7 28.Qf3
[28.Rd7□ Rd8 29.Rxb7 Rd1+]
28...Na5
[∮28...Rd8= 29.Nd7!]
29.Rd7 Rd8
[29...Nxc4 30.Ne4⇄]
30.Rxa7
[30.Nxh5+ Kg8]
30...Nxc4?



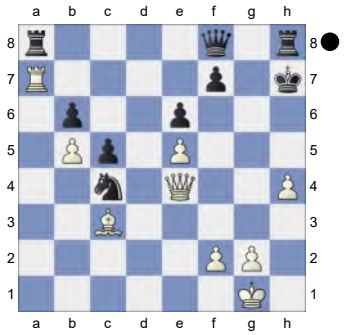
31.h4 Ra8 32.Nxh5+
[32.Rb7 was quite late but still more stubborn: Rb8 *(32...Ra3 33.Ne4 Rxc3± 34.Qf6+! Kg8 35.Nxc3!?)* 33.Nd7]
32...gxh5? Immediately losing material.
33.Qf6+ Kg8 34.Qg5+ Kh7 35.Qxh5+ Kg8



36.Qg5+ Kh7 37.Qh5+ Kg8 38.Qg4+ Kh7 39.Qe4+ Kg7 40.Qg4+ Kh7



41.Qe4+

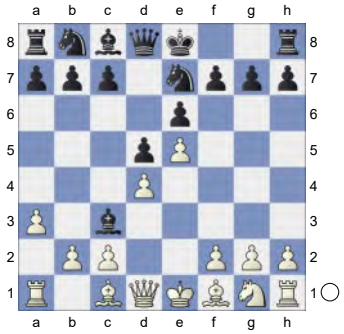


1-0

117 **C18**
□ **Short,Nigel D** **2675**
■ **Psakhis,Lev** **2581**
Monarch Assurance 08th (3) 08.11.1999
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4**

e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+



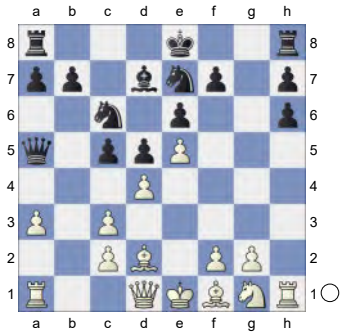
6.bxc3 c5N

[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.h4 Nbc6 8.h5 Qa5 9.Bd2 Bd7 10.h6 0.33/18

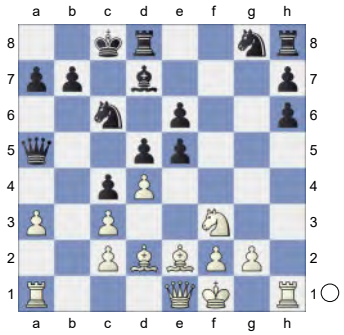
[10.Qg4! 0.65/17 might be stronger.]

10...gxh6±

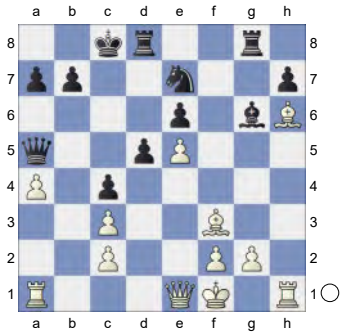


11.Nf3 0-0-0! 12.Bd3 White has compensation. White is slightly better.

12...c4 13.Be2 Ng8 14.Kf1 f6 15.Qe1 fxe5



16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Ne7 18.Bxh6 Rhg8 Prevents Bg7. **19.Bf3 Be8 20.a4 Bg6**

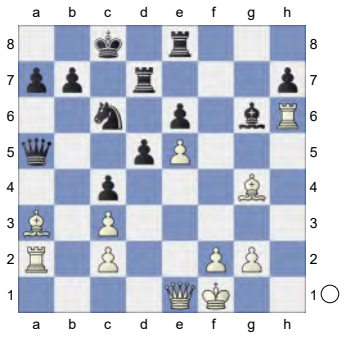


21.Ra2 -0.43/19

[21.Bg5 Rd7∓]

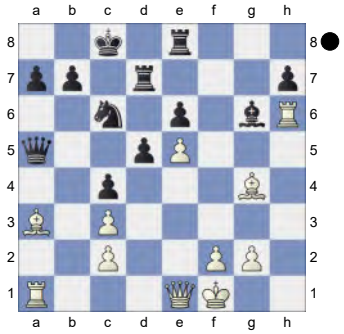
[21.Qd2= -0.02/16]

21...Rd7
[21...Be4!? 22.Bxe4 dxe4=]
22.Bc1 -0.84/18
[22.Rh3= -0.21/18]
22...Nc6 -0.16/18
[22...Be4!∓ -0.84/18 aiming for ... Bxf3. 23.Bxe4 dxe4]
23.Ba3 -0.92/21
[23.g3= -0.16/18 keeps the balance.]
23...Qxa4∓ 24.Rh6 -1.17/20
[24.Bg4∓ -0.44/20 Bd3+ 25.cxd3 Rxg4 26.d4]
24...Qa5 -0.49/18
[24...Bxc2∓ -1.17/20 Threatens to win with ...Bd3+. 25.Ra1 *(25.Rxe6 Be4∓)* 25...Bf5]
25.Bg4 Re8

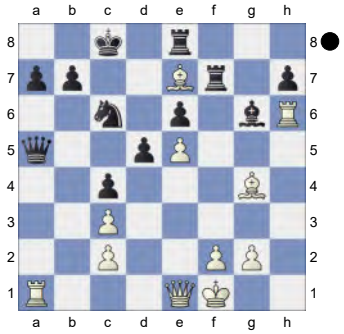


26.Ra1 -1.40/21
[⌓26.Qa1 -0.87/18]
26...Qa4 0.01/21
[Black should play 26...d4∓ -1.40/21 27.Bd6 Qxc3]
27.Qc1= Qa5 -0.01/18
[27...Bxc2? 28.Rxe6 Rxe6 29.Bxe6 Nxe5 30.Kg1+-]
[27...d4!∓ -0.34/21]
28.Qe1

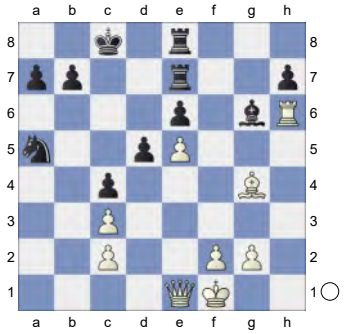
(Diagram)



Rf7 -0.28/19
[Better is 28...d4!∓ -1.16/18 29.Bd6 Qxc3]
29.Be7 -1.42/20

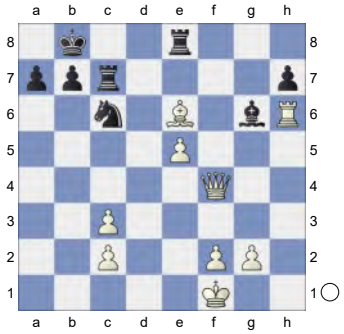


Rfxe7! 0.87/21 **30.Rxa5± Nxa5**

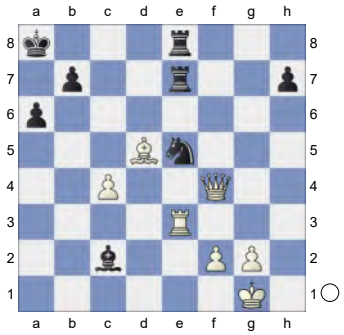


31.Qd2 0.80/19
[⌓31.Qe3 1.14/19]
31...Nc6? 2.77/21 This move loses the game for Black.
[31...Kc7± 0.80/19 is a better defense.]
32.Qxd5!+- Kb8 33.Qxc4 Rc7 34.Qf4
[Stronger than 34.Bxe6 Nd8 35.Qb4 Nxe6∓]
34...Ne7 3.57/20
[34...Ree7 2.40/18 was called for.

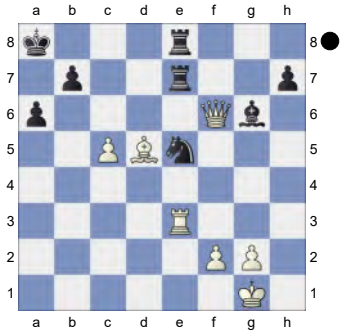
35.g3 Nd8]
35.Bxe6 Nc6



36.Bd5 Nxe5 37.c4 a6 3.66/21
[⊿37...Nd7 2.50/21 38.Qd6 Nb6]
38.Rh3 Bxc2 5.60/23
[38...Ree7 3.59/20 might work better. 39.Re3 Nc6]
39.Re3 White is clearly winning.
39...Rce7 40.Kg1 Ka8 7.83/23
[⊿40...Ba4 5.17/21 41.Qf6 Kc8]



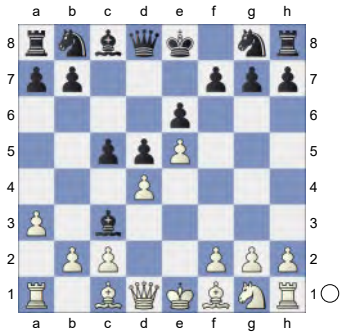
41.c5 Bg6 42.Qf6



Against Nc6.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/ Black=0.59
1-0

118 **C18**
□ **Anton Guijarro,David** **2673**
■ **Hungaski,Robert Andrew** **2477**
World Blitz 2024 (9.69) 30.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.h4 h6N
[7...Qa5 8.Bd2 Qa4 9.Nf3 c4 10.h5 h6 11.Nh4 Nge7 12.Qg4 Rg8 13.Qd1 Bd7 14.g3 0-0-0 15.Bh3 Kb8 16.0-0 Rh8 17.Kh2 Rdf8 18.Qc1 Qa5 19.a4 Ka8 20.f4 g6 21.g4 gxh5 22.gxh5 Cuartas,J (2508)-Iniyan,P (2460) Montcada 2018 [Bozic,Vitomir] ½-½ (88)]
[7...Bd7 8.h5 Qa5 9.Bd2 0-0-0 10.Nf3 c4 11.h6 gxh6 12.g3 f6 13.Bh3 h5 14.0-0 h4 15.Nxh4 fxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Re1 Nc6 18.Bxe6 Nf6 19.Bg5 Ne4 20.Bxd8 Bxe6 21.Bxa5 1-0 (21) Sadvakasov,D (2629)-Rapport,R (2752) Düsseldorf GER 2023 [John Watson]]
[7...Nge7 8.h5 h6 9.Nf3 Bd7 *(9...Qa5 10.Bd2 c4 11.a4 Bd7 12.Qc1 0-0-0 13.Nh4 Qc7 14.f4 Rdf8 15.g3 f6 16.Nf3 Rf7 17.Bh3 Rhf8 18.Be3 Kb8 19.Qa3 Nc8 20.Kd2 Rg8 21.Nh4 N8e7 22.Rhg1*

Ka8 23.Nf3 a6 24.Qc5 Ortiz,M (2188)-Gabriel,D (2009) San Salvador 2023 1-0 (42)*)* 10.a4 Qa5 11.Bd2 0-0-0 12.Be2 f6 13.c4 Qc7 14.cxd5 exd5 15.exf6 gxf6 16.dxc5 Nf5 17.Bd3 Rhg8 18.Kf1 Rg4 19.g3 Nxg3+ 20.fxg3 Qxg3 21.Qe2 Ne5 22.Nxe5 Anton Guijarro,D (2673)-Papasimakopoulos,A (2379) New York 2024 1-0 (33)]

[7...h5 8.a4 Qa5 9.Bd2 c4 10.g3 Bd7 11.Bh3 0-0-0 12.Ne2 Nge7 13.Bc1 Ng6 14.Ba3 f6 15.f4 Nge7 16.0-0 Rdf8 17.Qd2 Rf7 18.Bd6 Ng8 19.Rfb1 Nh6 20.Rb5 Qd8 21.Rab1 b6 22.a5 Zakaryan,D (2296)-Petrosyan,G (1718) Dzhubga 2023 1-0]

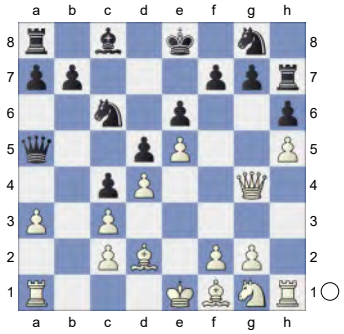
8.h5

[8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Bf4 Nc6=]

8...Qa5 9.Bd2 c4 0.65/19

[9...Nge7= 0.30/18]

10.Qg4± Rh7

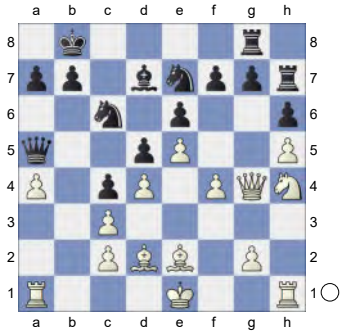


11.a4 Bd7 12.Nf3 0-0-0 13.Nh4 Nge7 14.f4 0.22/19

[14.Be2± 0.58/17]

14...Rg8= 15.Be2 Kb8

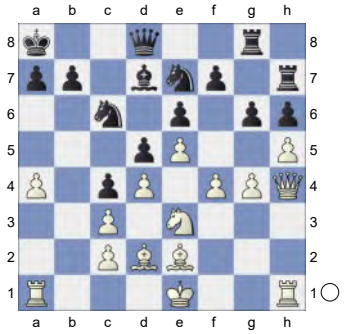
(Diagram)



16.Qh3 Ka8 17.g4 g6 18.Ng2 Bc8 0.65/18

[18...b5 0.33/19 is superior.]

19.Ne3 Qd8 20.Qh4 Bd7



21.Kf2 g5 22.fxg5 hxg5 23.Qg3 f6 1.06/20

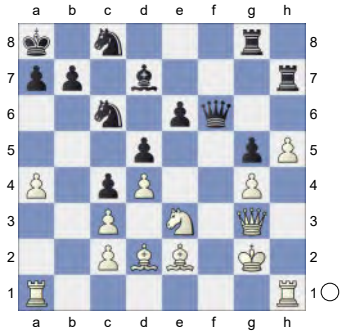
[23...Nc8± 0.65/17]

24.exf6± Nc8 25.Kg2 0.73/20

[25.Qf3?! Nd6=]

[⌓25.Rhf1 1.06/20]

25...Qxf6

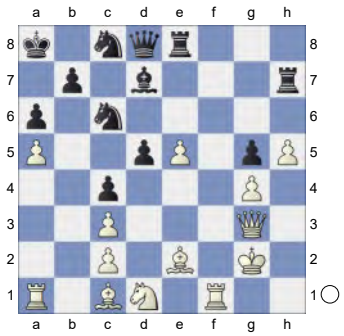


26.Rhf1 Qe7 27.Bc1 Qd8 28.a5 0.28/21

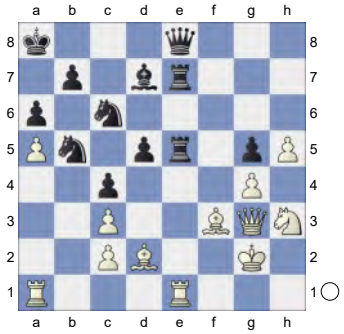
[28.Rf2± 0.81/19]

28...a6= 29.Nd1 e5 30.dxe5 Re8

(Diagram)

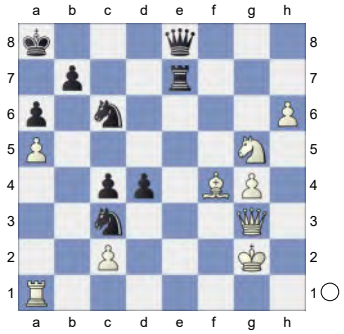


31.Bf3 -0.70/21
[31.Be3± 0.53/19]
31...Rxe5 0.75/19 &Nero is more active.
[31...Nxe5∓ -0.70/21 stays ahead. 32.Be2 Bc6]
32.Nf2 0.06/20
[32.Be3!± 0.75/19]
32...Qe8 0.62/18
[Black should play 32...Nd6!= 0.06/20]
33.Bd2± N8a7? 2.25/22
[33...Nd6± 0.74/20 was worth a try.]
34.Rfe1 Strongly threatening Rxe5.
34...Rhe7 35.Nh3 And now Rxe5 would win. **35...Nb5**

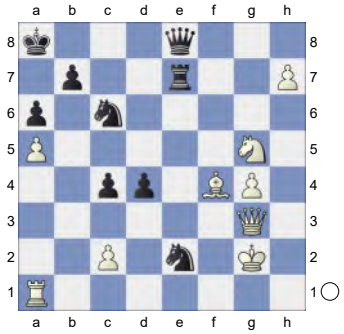


36.Nxg5 d4 37.Rxe5 0.10/19
[37.Rad1± 1.02/19]
37...Nxe5= 38.Bf4? -1.92/21
[38.cxd4 Nxd4 39.Bd1 *(39.Bb4? Rg7-+)* 39...Nxg4! 40.Bxg4 Bxg4 41.Qxg4 Re2+ 42.Kh3 Rxd2∓]
[38.Re1= 0.16/20 and White has nothing to worry.]
38...Bc6? 0.99/20
[38...Nxf3-+ -1.92/21 39.Nxf3 Re2+ 40.Kf1 Nxc3 41.Nxd4 Ne4]

39.Bxc6!± Nxc6 40.h6 0.01/19
[40.cxd4± 0.40/20 should be considered. Ncxd4 41.Kh3 *(41.c3 Ne2∓)*]
40...Nxc3=

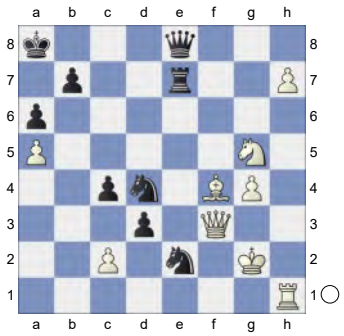


41.h7 Ne2 1.50/22
[41...Re2+? 42.Kf1 Ne7 43.Re1+- *(43.Qxc3 dxc3 44.Kxe2 Ng6+ 45.Kf3 Qd8+-)*]
[41...Rxh7!= 0.01/19 keeps the balance. 42.Nxh7 Qe4+ 43.Kf1 Qh1+ 44.Qg1 Qf3+ 45.Qf2 Qh1+ 46.Qg1 Qf3+ 47.Qf2 Qh1+ 48.Qg1]



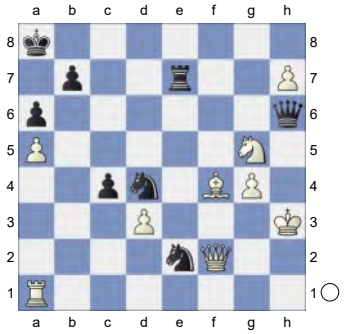
42.Qf3!± d3
[42...Nxf4+? 43.Qxf4 Re2+ 44.Kf1]
43.cxd3? -4.20/19
[43.Rh1± 0.75/20 stays on course. Ncd4

(Diagram)



44.h8Q! Nxf3 45.Bd6 *(45.Kxf3 dxc2 46.Qxe8+ Rxe8+-)*]

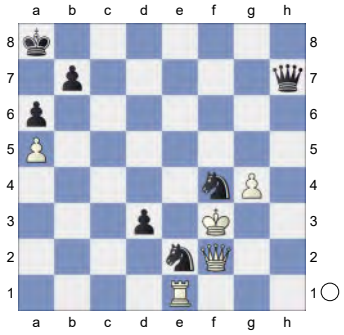
43...Ncd4-+ 44.Qf2 Qc6+ 45.Kh3 Qh6+



46.Kg2 Rxh7 Threatens to win with ... Qc6+. **47.Nxh7 Nxf4+ 48.Kg3 Nde2+** Pair of Knights! **49.Kf3 Qxh7** -8.38/22

[⌓49...Qc6+ -#9/19 50.Ke3 Qc5+ 51.Kd2 Qxf2 52.Rf1 Qxf1 53.Ke3 Nxd3 54.Ng5 Qf4+ 55.Kxe2 Qf2+ 56.Kd1 Qe1+ 57.Kc2 Qc1#]

50.Re1 cxd3



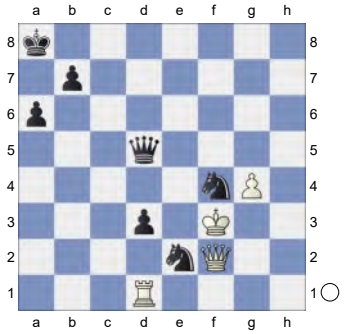
51.Ke3 Qe7+ 52.Kd2 Qb4+ 53.Ke3 Qxa5 -22.58/20

[⌓53...Qd4+ -#13/20 54.Kf3 Qd5+ 55.Ke3 Qe5+ 56.Kf3 d2 57.Rxe2 d1Q 58.Qe1 Qdxe2+ 59.Qxe2 Nxe2 60.g5 Nd4+ 61.Kg2 Qe2+ 62.Kh3 Qf3+ 63.Kh2 Ne2 64.g6 Qg3+ 65.Kh1 Qh3#]

54.Rd1 Qc5+ -19.95/22

[⌓54...Qe5+ -#18/22 55.Kf3 Qd5+ 56.Ke3 Qd4+ 57.Kf3 Qd5+ 58.Ke3 Qb3 59.Rb1 Qxb1 60.Qh2 Qc1+ 61.Kf3 d2 62.Qh8+ Ka7 63.Qd8 d1Q 64.Qxd1 Qxd1 65.Kf2 Qd3 66.Ke1 Qg3+ 67.Kd1 Qc3 68.g5 Qc1#]

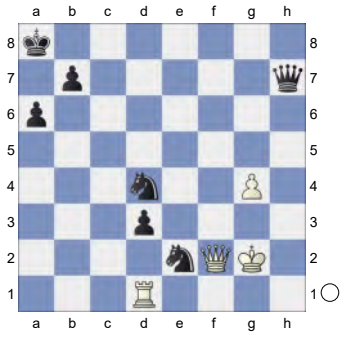
55.Kf3 Qd5+



56.Ke3 Qe5+ 57.Kf3 Nd4+ 58.Kg3 Nfe2+ -14.03/23

[⌓58...Ng6+ -#16/21 59.Kg2 Nf4+ 60.Kg3 Nde2+ 61.Kf3 Nh3 62.Rxd3 Neg1+ 63.Kg2 Nxf2 64.Rd8+ Ka7 65.Kxg1 Nxg4 66.Kg2 Ne3+ 67.Kf3 Qf6+ 68.Kg3 Qg5+ 69.Kf3 Qf6+ 70.Ke2 Qxd8 71.Kxe3 a5 72.Ke4 a4 73.Kf5 a3 74.Kg4 a2 75.Kf3 a1Q 76.Kg4 Qg7+ 77.Kf4 Qdd4+ 78.Kf5 Qgg4#]

59.Kh3 Qh8+ 60.Kg2 Qh7



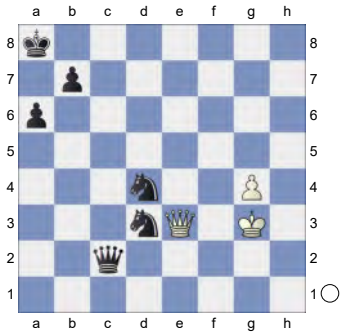
White must now prevent ...Qe4+. **61.Qe3 Qd7 62.Rxd3 Qc6+ 63.Kf2 Qc2?** -0.56/19

[63...Qf6+-+ -10.16/22 64.Kg2 Nf4+ 65.Kg3 Nde2+ 66.Kf3 Nd5+ 67.Kxe2 Nxe3 68.Kxe3 Qh6+ 69.Kf3 Qh3+ 70.Ke4 Qxg4+ 71.Ke3 b5]

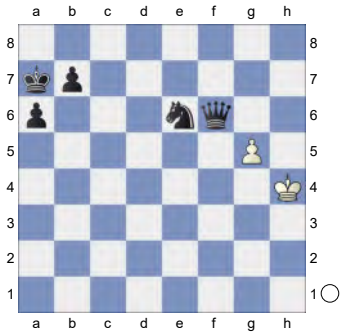
64.Kg2? -15.95/29

[64.Rd2∓ -0.56/19 Qc4 65.Rxe2 Nxe2 66.Qxe2 Qf4+ 67.Qf3 Qd4+ 68.Ke2]

64...Nf4+ 65.Kg3 Nxd3



66.Qxd4 Nc5 67.g5 Qf5 Prevents Qd5. aiming for ...Ne4+. **68.Kh4 Ne6 69.Qh8+ Ka7 70.Qf6 Qxf6**

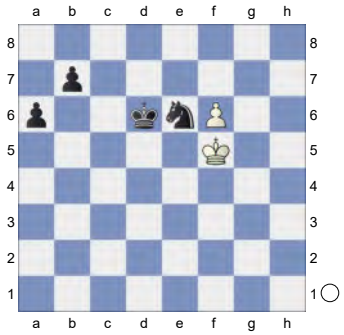


71.gxf6 Kb6 -16.48/25

[⊼71...a5 -#17/24 72.Kh5 a4 73.Kg6 a3 74.Kf5 Nf8 75.Kg4 a2 76.f7 a1Q 77.Kf4 Qf6+ 78.Ke4 Kb6 79.Kd3 Qf3+ 80.Kd2 Kc5 81.Ke1 Kd4 82.Kd2 Qg2+ 83.Kd1 Kd3 84.Ke1 Qg1#]

72.Kg4 Kc6 (-> ...a5) **73.Kf5 Kd6** -21.21/29

[⊼73...Kd5 -#13/24 74.Kg6 a5 75.Kh7 a4 76.Kg6 a3 77.f7 a2 78.f8B Nxf8+ 79.Kg5 Ke4 80.Kf6 a1Q+ 81.Kf7 Qh8 82.Ke7 Qg7+ 83.Ke8 Kf4 84.Kd8 Qd7#]



Black used his chance.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.95/ Black=0.78

0-1

119 **C18**

□ **Anton Guijarro,David** **2673**

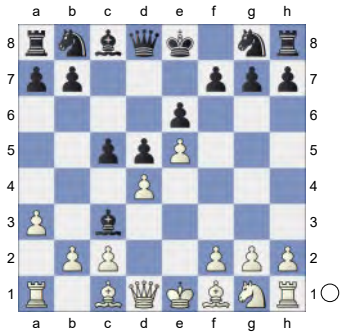
■ **Papasimakopoulos,Alexandros**

World Blitz 2024 (3.55) 30.12.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

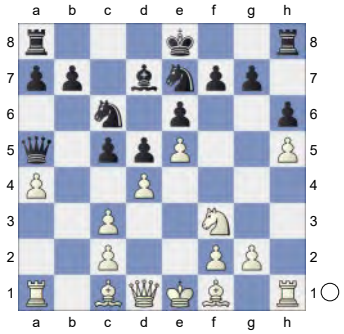


6.bxc3 Nc6 7.h4 Nge7 8.h5 h6 9.Nf3 Bd7 is the legacy move (9...Qa5). ist old school (9...Da5). **10.a4N**

[10.Bd3 Qa5 11.Bd2 c4 12.Be2 0-0-0 13.Nh4 *(13.0-0 Rdf8 14.a4 Kb8 15.Qc1 Qc7 16.Re1 Nc8 17.Qa3 a5 18.Rab1 b6 19.Qc1 Ka7 20.Ra1 Qd8 21.g3 Qe8 22.Kg2 N6e7 23.Qd1 Bxa4 24.Bc1 Bd7 25.Ba3 Ka6 26.Qb1 Na7 27.Qb2 Nb5* Preuschat (2640)-Waagmeester, W (2525) Lugano 1993 Caro-Kann B13-B14 [Mchedlishvili,M; Izoria,Z] 1-0 (50) *)* 13...f6 14.f4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Rhf8 16.Bg4 Rf7 17.Rf1 Rdf8 18.Rf3 Nd8 19.Ke2 Ba4 20.Ra2 Rxf3 21.gxf3 Be8 22.Qg1 Qa4 23.Be3 Bf7 24.Kd2 Qe8 Thinius,M (2640)-Mirkovic,S (2586) Marl ICCF E 2011 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (39)]

[10.Rb1 Qc7 11.Bd3 c4 12.Be2 0-0-0 13.Bf4 Kb8 14.Qd2 Ka8 15.Nh2 Rdf8 16.Ng4 Nf5 17.Ne3 Nce7 18.Nf1 Ng8 19.Bg4 Qa5 20.Ra1 g5 21.hxg6 fxg6 22.Bxf5 Rxf5 23.Be3 Rf7 24.Ng3 Rfh7 Muchnik,L (2485)-Salvatore,C (2248) New Orleans 2023 Inf55 [John Watson] ½-½ (38)]

10...Qa5



11.Bd2 White has an edge. **11...0-0-0**
12.Be2!? An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **12...f6**
13.c4 Qc7 14.cxd5N

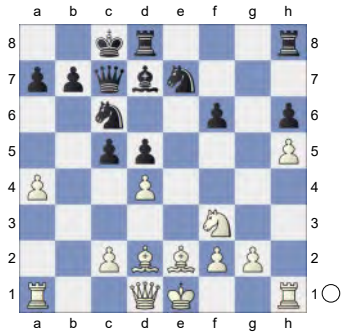
[14.exf6 gxf6 15.cxd5 Nxd5 16.dxc5 e5 17.c3 -0.08/18 *(17.c4⩲* 0.33/18 *Nde7 18.a5)* 17...Be6 0.49/20 *(17...e4=* -0.08/18 *18.Nd4 e3 19.fxe3 Qg3+ 20.Kf1 Rhe8)* 18.Qc2⩲ Nde7 19.0-0 Rhg8 1.42/18 *(19...Bg4⩲* 0.38/18 *)* 20.Nh4! 1-0 Strzelecki,K (2360)-Ziger,S (2275) Warsaw op 1988]

[14.exf6 looks sharper. gxf6 15.dxc5 Rhg8 16.a5]

14...exd5 15.exf6

[15.dxc5 fxe5 16.0-0 Kb8∓]

15...gxf6



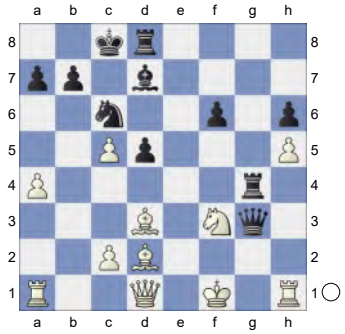
16.dxc5 Nf5 17.Bd3 0.34/20
This bishop pair is nice.

[17.a5!± 1.11/17]

17...Rhg8⩲ 18.Kf1 Rg4 19.g3 0.01/19

[19.a5⩲ 0.40/17 deserves consideration.]

19...Nxg3+ 0.83/19 **20.fxg3± Qxg3**



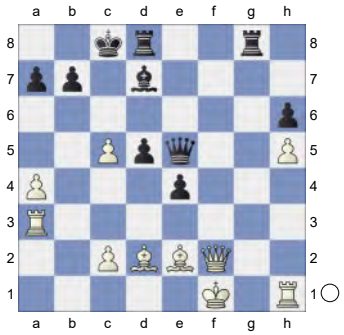
21.Qe2 Prevents Qg2+. aiming for Qf2.
21...Ne5

[21...Re8? 22.Qf2+-]

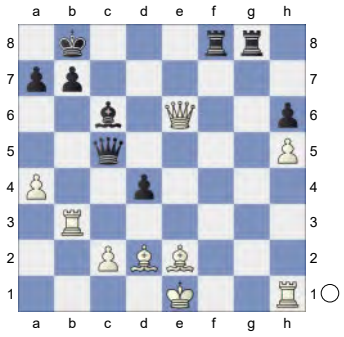
22.Nxe5 fxe5 23.Qf2 Against Rf8. And now Qxg3 would win.

[23.Bxh6 Rf8+!!]

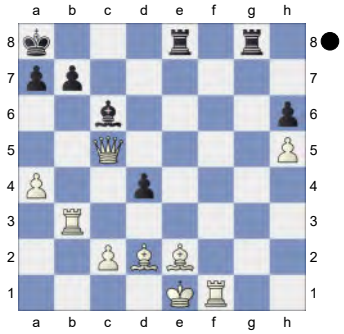
23...e4 24.Be2 Qe5 2.42/18
[24...d4 1.82/19 is a better defense.]
25.Ra3
[25.Bxg4? Qxa1+ 26.Kg2 Qg7-+]
25...Rgg8



26.Ke1? -0.98/20
[26.Bxh6 d4 27.Bf4 Qxc5∓]
[26.Bf4± 1.58/20 Qb2 27.Rg3]
26...d4∓ ...e3 is the strong threat. **27.Qf4**
[27.Bxh6? Qxc5 28.Rb3 Bxa4-+]
27...Qxc5 28.Rb3 Hoping for Rb4.
28...Rdf8? 4.43/21
[Much worse is 28...Qxc2?! 29.Bd1 Qc6 30.Rb1=]
[28...e3∓ -1.00/19 stays on course. 29.Bxe3 dxe3 30.Qxe3 Qd6]
29.Qxe4+- Bc6 30.Qe6+ Kb8



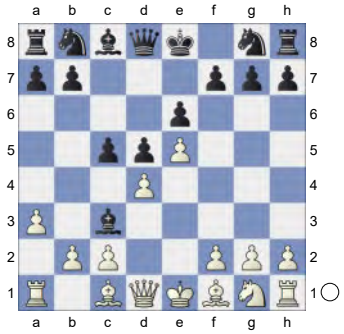
31.Rf1 -0.45/25
[31.Bb4!+- 5.76/22 Qd5 *(31...Re8 32.Qxe8+)* 32.Bd6+ Ka8 33.Qxd5 Bxd5 34.Bxf8 Rxf8 35.Rg1]
31...Re8∓ Black has compensation.
32.Qf5
[Don't go for 32.Qxh6? Qxc2 33.Qf4+ Ka8-+]
[32.Bf4+? Ka8 33.Qxg8 Rxg8-+]
32...Ka8? 16.73/22 **33.Qxc5**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.61/ Black=0.45
1-0

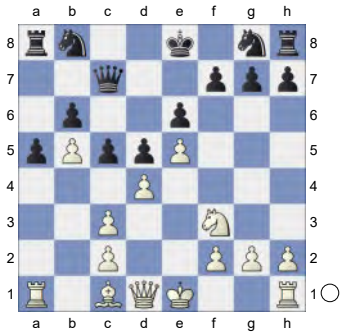
120 **C18**
□ **Sarana,A.** **2672**
■ **Masruri,R.** **2327**
Titled Tue 25th Feb Early blitz (3)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
A48: 1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6: Torre, London and Colle Systems **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



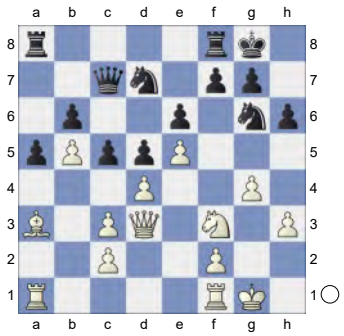
6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Nf3 b6 8.a4 Ba6 9.Bb5+ Bxb5 10.axb5 a5
[10...cxd4 11.Qxd4 Nd7 12.Ba3 Nc5 13.Bxc5 bxc5 14.Qg4 Kf8 15.0-0 Ne7 16.Ra6 Qb7 17.Qa4 Nc8 18.Ra1 Rb8 19.Rc6 Nb6

20.Qa3 Nd7 21.Nd4 g6 22.Ra6 Kg7 23.Rxa7 Qc8 24.Nxe6+ fxe6 25.Qa6 Vovk,Y-Horvath,J Vaujany 2010 1-0 (84)]

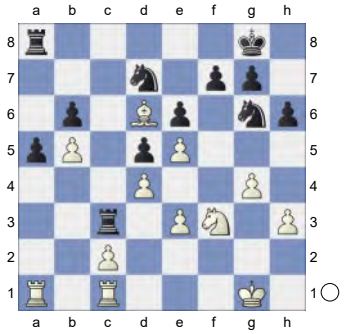


11.Ba3 White is slightly better.
[11.c4 dxc4 12.Ng5 cxd4 13.0-0 Ne7 14.Qf3 Nd5 15.Ba3 Ra7 16.Bd6 Qd8 17.Ne4 f5 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Rfe1 Rf7 20.Ng5 Ne7 21.Bxe7 Qxe7 22.Nxe6 Qa7 23.Qd5 Nd7 24.Nxd4+ Kf8 25.Qd6+ Kg7 Eperjesi,L (2340)-Mas,H (2315) Budapest 1997 [ChessCalisthenics] 0-1]
11...Nd7 12.0-0 0.19/19
[12.c4!± 0.60/20 might be stronger.]
12...Ne7= 13.Qd3N
[13.Ng5 h6 14.Qh5 g6 15.Qh3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nf5 17.c3 Qc4 18.g4 Ne7 19.f4 Nf8 20.Bxe7 Kxe7 21.f5 Nd7 22.fxg6 fxg6 23.Rf7+ Ke8 24.Raf1 Rc8 25.Nxe6 Qxc3 26.Ng7+ Kd8 27.Qh4+ Kc7 Starck,E-Tonn,W DDR 1973 1-0 (31)]
13...h6 14.h3 0-0 15.g4 -0.33/19
[15.Ra2= 0.00/18]
15...Ng6

(Diagram)

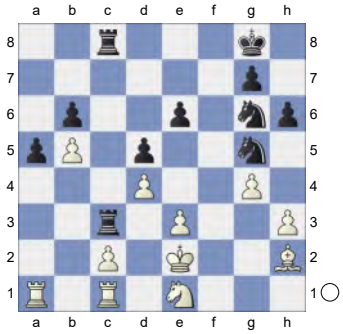


16.Qe3 -0.81/21
[16.h4= -0.18/19]
16...Rfc8∓ 17.Rfc1 cxd4 18.cxd4 Qc3! 19.Bd6 Qxe3 20.fxe3 Rc3

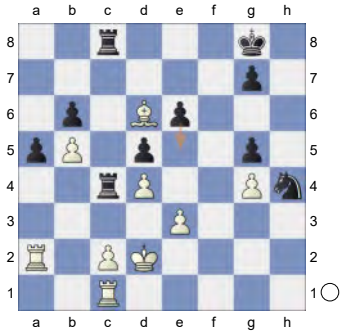


21.Kf2 -0.87/23
[21.Ra3∓ -0.49/24 Rac8 22.Rxc3 Rxc3 23.Kf2]
21...Rac8 22.Ne1 -1.69/22
[22.Ke2∓ -0.96/21]
22...f6!-+ 23.exf6 -2.53/23
[⊼23.Nf3 -1.73/21]
23...Nxf6 24.Ke2 Ne4 Against Bg3
25.Bh2 -4.09/24
[⊼25.Ba3 -2.64/22]
25...Ng5 -1.96/23
[⊼25...Rf8 -4.09/24 (-> ...Rf2+) 26.Nd3 Nh4]

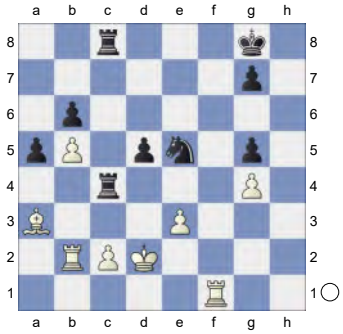
(Diagram)



Pair of Knights! **26.Ra2 Nxh3 27.Nf3 Ng5 28.Nxg5 hxg5 29.Kd2 Nh4 30.Bd6** -2.25/21
[⌓30.Rf1 -1.78/22]
30...R3c4

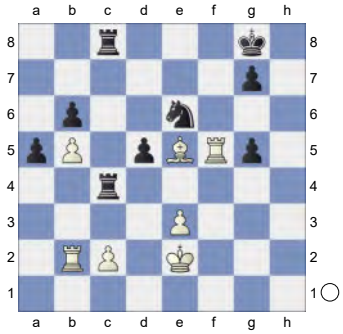


31.Rf1 -1.93/23
[31.Kd3∓ -1.44/23]
31...Ng6! 32.Rb2 Nh8 33.Be7 Nf7 34.Ba3 e5 35.dxe5 Nxe5

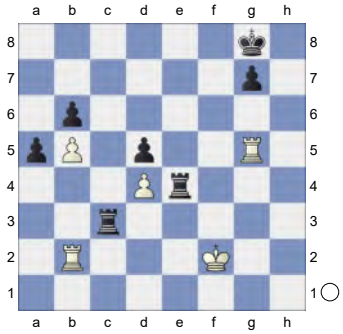


36.Bd6 Nxg4 37.Rf5 -4.49/21
[⌓37.Be7 -3.10/19]
37...Nf6 38.Be5 Ne4+ 39.Kd3 Nc5+ 40.Ke2 Ne6

(Diagram)

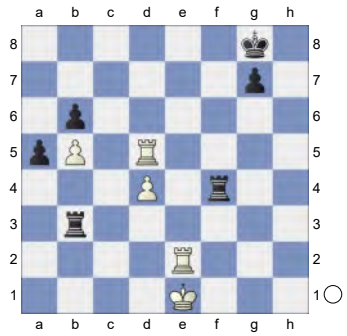


Against Bd4 **41.c3 Re4** aiming for ...g6. **42.Bd4 Nxd4+ 43.cxd4** Endgame KRR-KRR **43...Rc3 44.Rxg5 Rcxe3+**
[Avoid the trap 44...Rexe3+? 45.Kd1-+]
45.Kf2 Rc3

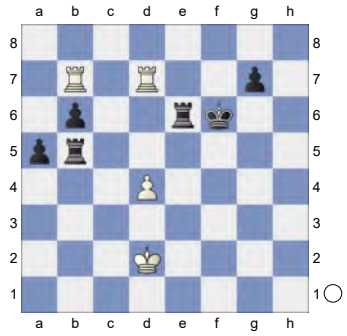


46.Rxd5 Rh4 47.Kg2 Prevents Rh2+. **47...Rg4+ 48.Kf2** -2.20/20
[48.Kf1 -1.66/20 might work better.]
48...Rh3 -1.28/20
[48...a4-+ -2.20/20 Strongly threatening ...a3. 49.Rd8+ Kh7]
49.Re2 -1.82/22
[49.Rc2∓ -1.28/20]
49...Rf4+! 50.Ke1 -2.03/22
[50.Kg2∓ -1.56/22 Rb3 51.Re8+ Kh7 52.Re7]
50...Rb3

(Diagram)

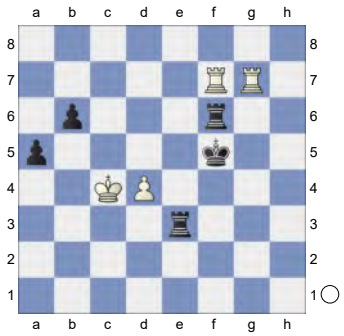


51.Re8+ -1.92/20
[51.Kd1∓ -1.38/21 is a better defense.]
51...Kf7 -1.40/20
[51...Kh7-+ -1.92/20 ...a4 is the strong threat. 52.Re7 Rg4]
52.Rb8∓ Re4+ 53.Kd2 -1.79/20
[53.Kd1∓ -1.20/21 was called for.]
53...Re6? -0.01/23
[53...Rg4!-+ -1.79/20 54.Rxb6 Rg2+ 55.Kc1 a4]
54.Rb7+ -0.59/24
[White should play 54.Rd7+= -0.01/23 Kg6 55.Rg8]
54...Kf6 55.Rdd7 Rxb5

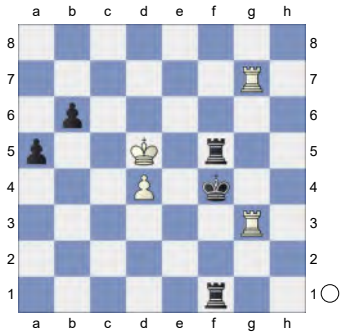


And now ...g5 would win. **56.Rf7+ Kg6 57.Rxg7+ Kf5 58.Kd3 Rb3+** -0.01/23
[58...Rb4∓ -0.43/19 is more appropriate.]
59.Kc4= Rbe3 60.Rbf7+ Rf6

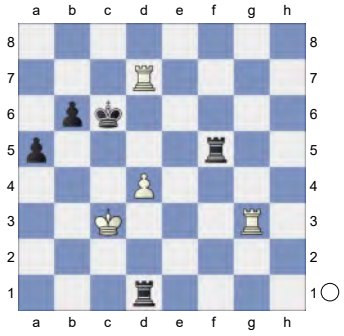
(Diagram)



61.Rb7 Re1 62.Rg2 Rc1+ 63.Kd5 Rf1 64.Rbg7 Kf4 65.R2g3 Rf5+

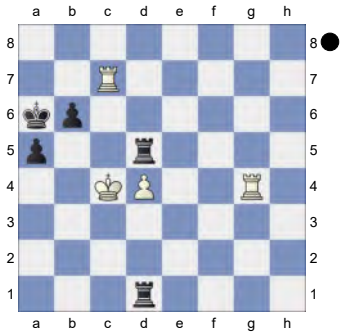


66.Kc4 -0.71/21
[66.Ke6= 0.01/20 remains equal. Re1+ 67.Kd7]
66...Rc1+!∓ 67.Kd3 Rd1+ 68.Kc3 Ke4
69.Re7+ -1.39/24
[⌓69.Rd7 -1.01/18]
69...Kd5 70.Rd7+ Kc6

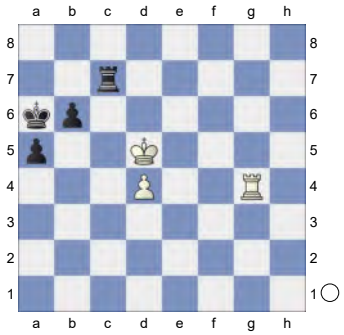


71.Rgg7? -3.00/22
[71.Rd8∓ -1.27/20]
71...Rd5 -1.41/23
[71...Rf3+-+ -3.00/22 72.Kc2 Rh1 73.d5+ Kb5]
72.Rc7+? -3.53/26
[72.Rxd5∓ -1.41/23 Kxd5 73.Rg6]

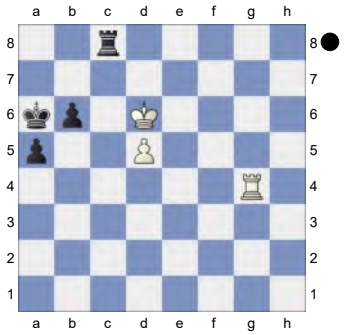
72...Kb5-+ 73.Rg4? -12.12/25
[73.Rb7 -2.82/20]
73...Ka6? -2.03/21
[73...Rc1+ -12.12/25 74.Kd2 Rxc7]
74.Kc4 -2.91/19
[⌓74.Rcg7 -2.03/21]



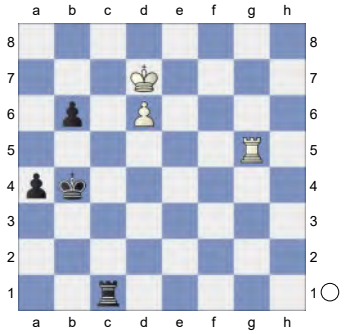
74...Rc1+? -1.12/20
[74...R5xd4+!!-+ -2.91/19 75.Rxd4 Rc1+ 76.Kb3 Rxc7]
75.Kxd5∓ Rxc7



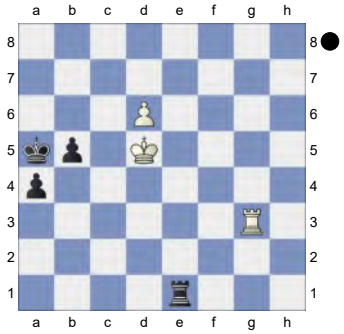
KR-KR **76.Kd6** -2.01/22
[76.Ke5∓ -0.90/22]
76...Rc8 77.d5



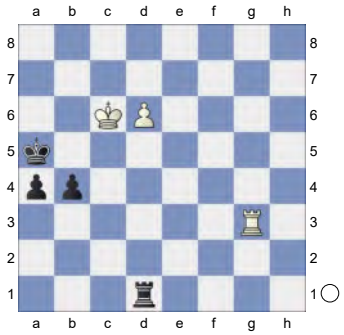
Kb5 0.00/23
[77...b5!∓ -1.31/22 Hoping for ...b4. 78.Kd7 Ra8]
78.Kd7 Rc1 79.d6 a4 80.Rg5+ Kb4



81.Rg4+ Ka5 82.Rg3 b5 83.Ke6 Re1+ 84.Kd5

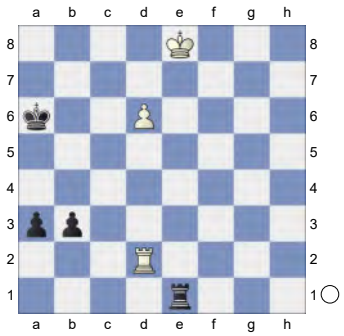


Rd1+ 0.00/23
[84...Kb6!∓ -0.93/24 White must now prevent ...Rd1+. 85.Rd3 Re8]
85.Kc6= b4

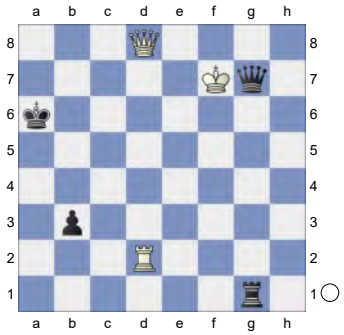


86.Rg5+ Ka6 Threatens to win with ... b3. **87.Rd5 Rc1+ 88.Kd7?** -10.22/21
[88.Rc5= 0.00/22 Rxc5+ 89.Kxc5]
88...a3 89.Rd2 b3 90.Ke8 Re1+

(Diagram)

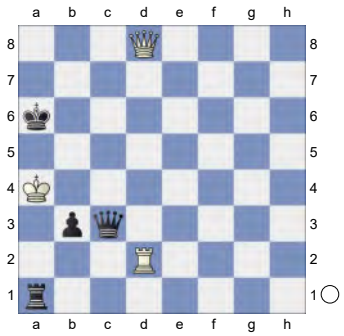


91.Kf8 a2 92.d7 Rf1+ -10.22/19
[⌓92...a1Q -#18/19 93.Rd6+ Kb5 94.d8Q Qh8+ 95.Kf7 Rf1+ 96.Rf6 Qxd8 97.Rxf1 b2 98.Rf5+ Kb6 99.Rf6+ Kc7 100.Rf1 Qd5+ 101.Kf8 b1Q 102.Rxb1 Qf5+ 103.Kg8 Qxb1 104.Kg7 Qf5 105.Kh8 Kd6 106.Kg8 Ke7 107.Kh8 Qg5 108.Kh7 Kf6 109.Kh8 Qg7#]
93.Kg8 a1Q 94.d8Q KQR-KQR
94...Rg1+ 95.Kf7 Qg7+

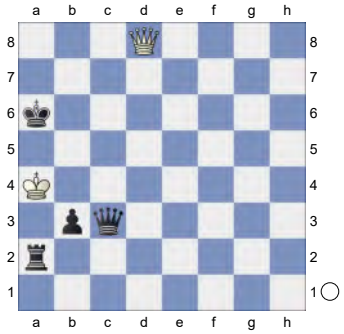


96.Ke6 Re1+ 97.Kd5 Qe5+
[Not 97...b2 98.Qd6+ Kb7 99.Qb4+ Ka8 100.Qa5+ Qa7 101.Qd8+ Qb8 102.Qa5+ Qa7 103.Qd8+ Qb8 104.Qxb8+ Kxb8 105.Rxb2+ Kc7 106.Ra2=]
98.Kc4 Rc1+ 99.Kb4 Qc3+
Black mates. **100.Ka4 Ra1+**

(Diagram)



101.Ra2 Rxa2#

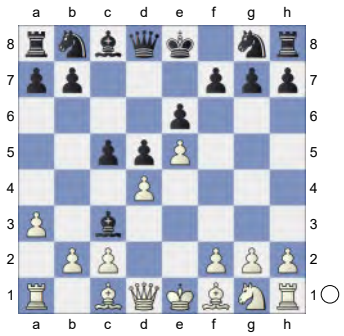


Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.23 (precise)
0-1

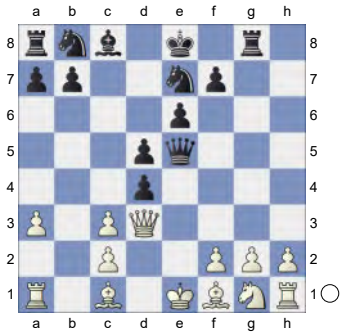
121 **C18**
☐ **Bacrot,Etienne** **2672**
■ **Lagarde,Maxime** **2597**
FRA-ch Blitz (11) 24.06.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Qd3 Qxe5+

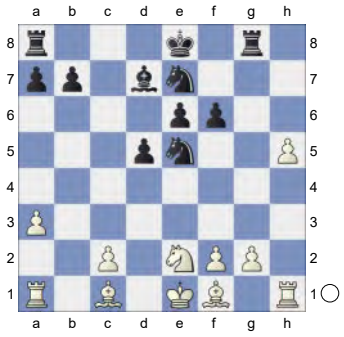


11.Ne2!

[Of course not 11.Qe2 Qc7 12.Qd3 Qxc3+ 13.Qxc3 dxc3∓]

11...dxc3 12.Qxc3 White has an edge.

12...Nbc6 13.Qxe5 Nxe5 14.h4 Bd7 15.h5 f6



16.Rb1 b6 17.Nd4 Kf7 18.f4N -0.01/18

[18.h6± 0.38/17]

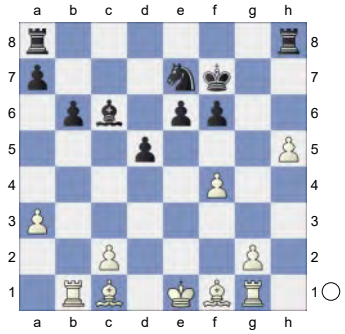
[18.g3 Nc4 19.Nb5 Bxb5 20.Rxb5 Rac8 21.Kd1 Nd6 22.Rb3 Ne4 23.Rh2 e5 24.Bd2 Nxd2 25.Kxd2 Kg7 26.g4 Kh6 27.f3 Rc5 28.Rc3 Rgc8 29.Rxc5 Rxc5 30.Re2 Kg5 31.Re3 d4 32.Rb3 Nd5 Barwinska,E (1940)-Majocha,P (2036) Polanica Zdroj 2022 0-1 (54)]

18...N5c6= 19.Nxc6 Bxc6 20.Rg1 -0.17/18

[20.Rb4 0.20/20 is more appropriate.]

20...Rh8 0.54/20

[20...Ba4= -0.17/18]



21.g4 0.18/19

[21.Be2!± 0.54/20]

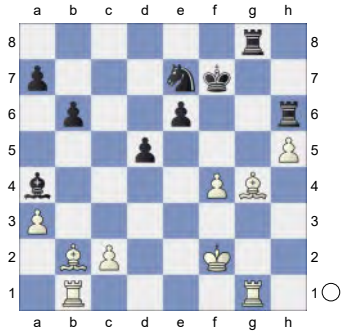
21...Rag8 0.60/22

[21...d4= 0.18/19]

22.Kf2!± f5 0.73/23

[22...Ba4± 0.39/19]

23.Bb2± Rh6 24.Be2 fxg4 25.Bxg4 Ba4

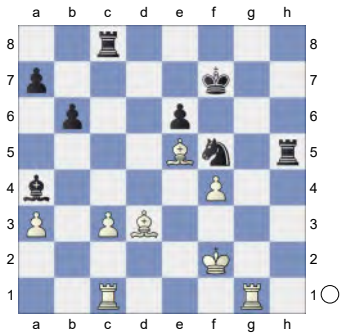


26.Rbc1 Rc8 27.Be2 Inhibits Rc4. This bishop pair is nice. **27...Nf5** Prevents Rg7+. **28.Be5 d4** 1.25/21

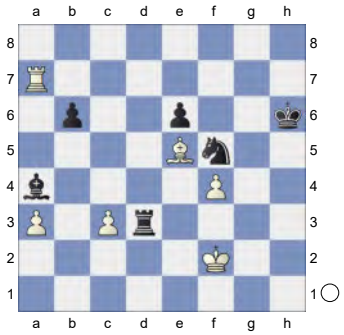
[⌓28...Be8 0.82/21]

29.c3 d3 30.Bxd3 Rxh5

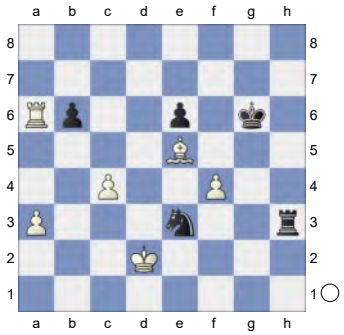
(Diagram)



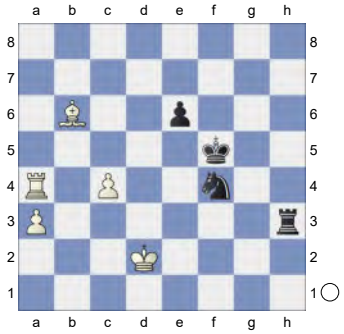
31.Rh1 Prevents Rh2+. **31...Rxh1 32.Rxh1 Rd8 33.Rh7+ Kg6** 1.73/23
[33...Ke8± 1.28/24]
34.Rg7++-
[Don't do 34.Rxa7?! Rxd3 35.Rxa4 Ne7±]
34...Kh6 35.Rxa7 1.28/20
[White should play 35.Bxf5+- 1.74/23 exf5 36.Rxa7]
35...Rxd3±



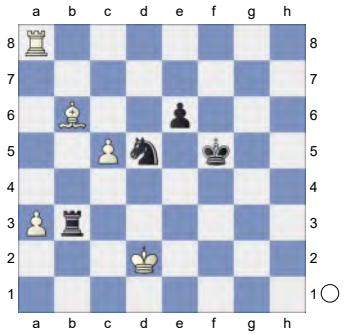
36.Rxa4+- Endgame KRB-KRN
36...Ne7 37.Ke2 Rh3 38.Kd2 Kg6 39.Ra6 Nd5 40.c4 Ne3



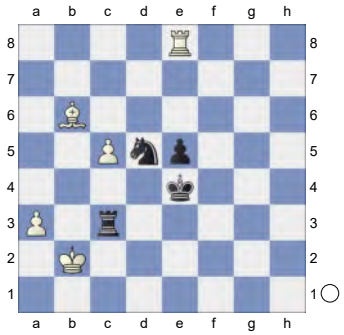
41.Ra4 Kf5 42.Bc7 Ng2 43.Ra8 0.01/25
[43.Bxb6± 0.65/21 Nxf4 44.Ra7]
43...Ne3= 44.Ra4 Ng2! 45.Bxb6 Nxf4



46.Ra8 Rb3 47.c5 And now Kc2 would win. **47...Nd5**

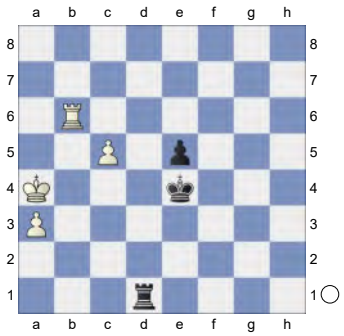


48.Kc2! Rc3+ 0.92/24
[48...Rg3!± 0.58/21]
49.Kb2± Hoping for a4. **49...Ke4 50.Re8 e5!**

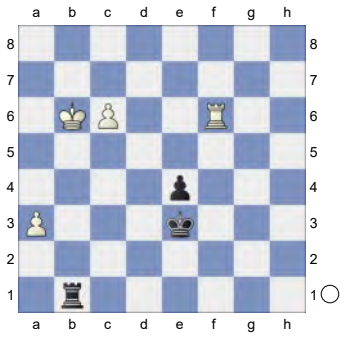


51.Rd8 Rd3 52.Rd6 0.22/21
[52.Ba5± 0.58/23 might be stronger. Ne7 53.Rd6]
52...Rd2+= 53.Kb3 Rd3+ 54.Ka4 Nxb6+ 55.Rxb6 Threatens to win with Kb4. KR-KR **55...Rd1?** 1.99/24
[55...Rd8± 0.39/22]

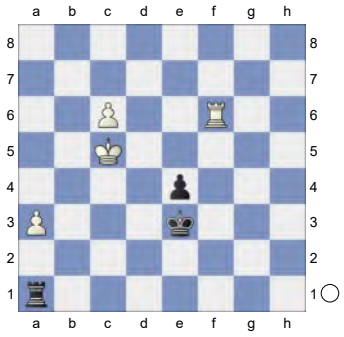
(Diagram)



56.Rd6 1.19/24
[56.Kb5+- 1.99/24]
56...Rc1± **57.Kb5** c6 is the strong threat. **57...Kf3** **58.Rf6+** **Ke3?** 3.16/23
[58...Ke4± 1.04/23 was worth a try. 59.Rh6 Kf5]
59.c6+- **e4** **60.Kb6** **Rb1+**

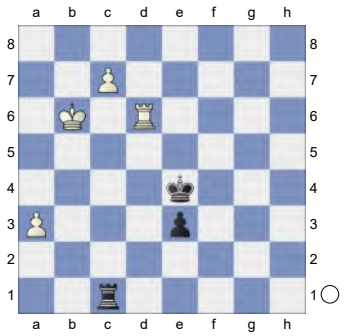


61.Kc5 **Ra1**

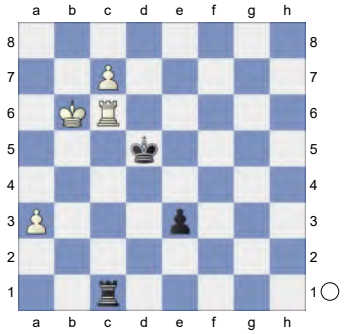


62.Rh6! **Kd3?** 13.08/20
[62...Kf4 3.20/20 63.c7 Rc1+ 64.Kb6 e3]
63.c7 **Rc1+** **64.Kb6** **e3** **65.Rd6+** **Ke4**

(Diagram)



66.Rc6 **Kd5**

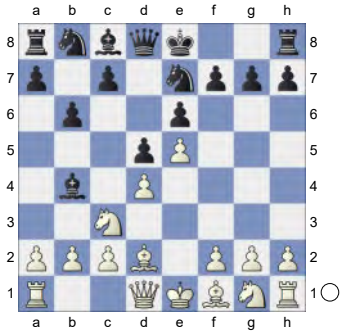


Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.19 (very precise)
1-0

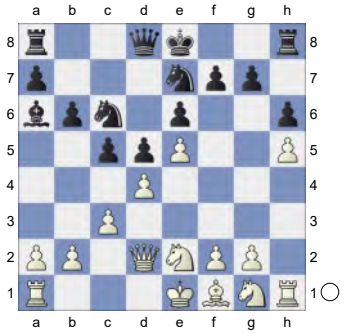
122 **C16**
□ **Vitiugov,N.** **2671**
■ **Enoeckl,P.** **2318**
Grand Prix PlusCity Blitz (5.14) 29.05.25
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 **e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** **Bb4** **4.e5** **Ne7** **5.Bd2** **b6**

(Diagram)

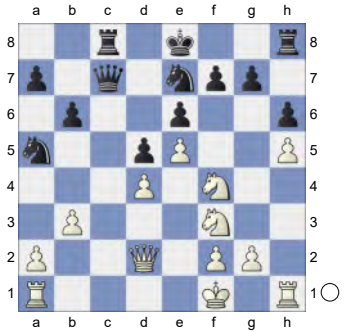


6.Nce2 Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 Ba6 8.h4
[8.f4 c5 9.Nf3 Nbc6 10.0-0-0 Bxe2 11.Bxe2 c4 12.g4 b5 13.f5 exf5 14.gxf5 Nxf5 15.Kb1 0-0 16.Rhg1 f6 17.Rg4 fxe5 18.dxe5 d4 19.Rdg1 Qe7 20.Qf4 Rae8 21.Rg5 Nxe5 22.Nxd4 Ng6 Bartel,M (2637)-Mista,A (2606) Polish League 2017 [Richard Palliser] 1-0 (35)]
8...c5 White has an edge. **9.c3N**
[9.h5 h6 10.f4 Nbc6 11.Nf3 Qd7 12.g4 0-0-0 13.0-0-0 Kb7 14.Kb1 Rc8 15.Ng3 Bxf1 16.Rhxf1 Nxd4 17.Nxd4 cxd4 18.Ne2 Rc5 19.Nxd4 Rhc8 20.f5 Nc6 21.Nxc6 R5xc6 22.c3 Qd8 23.f6 Qg8 Zawadzka,J (2386)-Petrik,T (2536) Aix les Bains 2011 CBM 142 Extra [ChessBase II] 1-0 (52)]
9...Nbc6 10.h5 h6

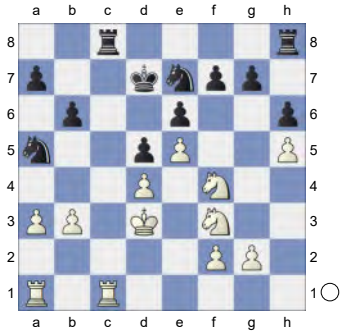


11.Nf3 Rc8 12.Nf4 Bxf1 13.Kxf1 cxd4 14.cxd4 Na5 15.b3 Qc7

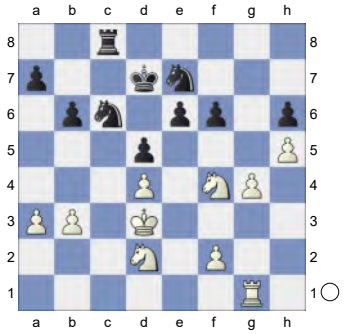
(Diagram)



16.Ke2 Qc2 17.Rhc1 0.01/22
[17.Nd3⩲ 0.35/22]
17...Qxd2+ 18.Kxd2 Kd7 19.Kd3 Nac6 20.a3 Na5 0.29/19
[⌓20...Rhf8 -0.28/20]

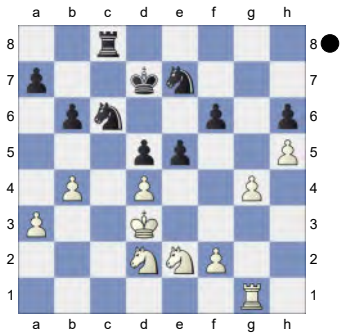


21.Nd2= Rxc1
[21...Nac6 with more complications. 22.b4 g5 23.hxg6 fxg6 24.b5 Na5]
22.Rxc1 Rc8 23.Rg1 Nac6 24.g4 f6 25.exf6 gxf6

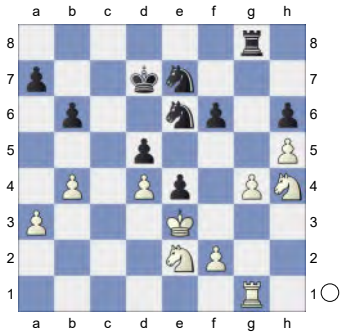


26.Ne2 e5 27.b4 -1.01/20
[27.dxe5= -0.01/21 fxe5 28.Ke3]

(Diagram)

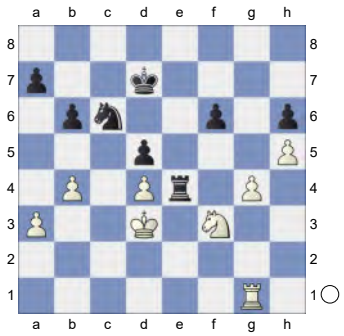


27...Rg8 -0.14/22
[Better is 27...Nxd4!∓ -1.01/20 28.Nxd4 exd4]
28.Ke3 Nd8 0.52/21
[Black should try 28...f5= -0.13/19]
29.Nf3 -0.32/21
[29.dxe5!± 0.52/21 fxe5 30.f4]
29...e4 0.01/22
[29...Nf7∓ -0.32/21 is superior.]
30.Nh4! Ne6 0.56/22
[30...Nf7= 0.01/21]

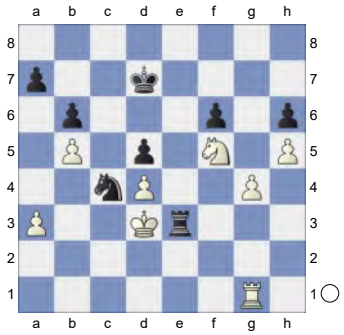


31.f3 0.01/21
[31.Nf5± 0.56/22]
31...exf3 32.Nxf3 Nc6 0.40/21
[32...Ng5= 0.01/21]
33.Nf4 0.01/24
[33.Nh4± 0.40/21]
33...Re8 34.Nxe6 Rxe6+ 35.Kd3 Re4

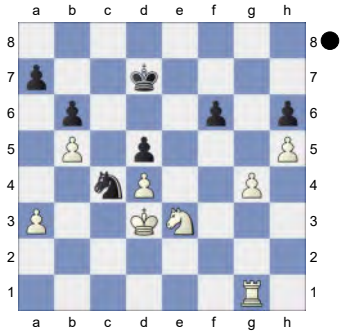
(Diagram)



36.b5 Na5 37.Nh4 Nc4 And now ... Re3+ would win. **38.Nf5** Prevents Re3+.
38...Re3+? 11.39/22



39.Nxe3

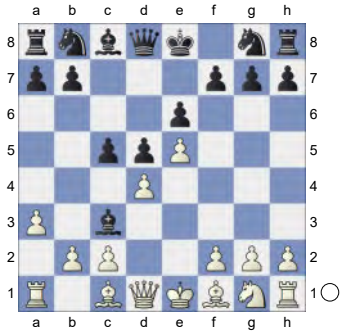


Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.20 (precise)
1-0

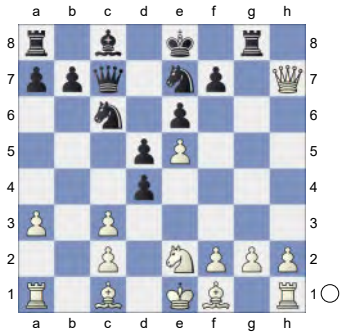
123 **C18**
□ **Volokitin,Andrei** **2671**
■ **Hou,Yifan** **2571**
Corus B Wijk aan Zee NED (5) 22.01.2009
[Neil]

Neil McDonald: 'The knight almost always has to be developed early in a game, but on many occasions a bishop, if it doesn't get in the way of the other pieces, can happily linger on its starting square. Consider the chess variant Fischer Random or Chess960. In that game the pieces are randomly assigned to the back rank at the start of play (with special rules ensuring that a player has bishops on opposite-coloured squares, and that the king begins in-between the rooks to make a form of castling on either side possible). There are 960 possible positions that begin the game, hence the name. If the bishops began on a1 and h1, out of the way of the other pieces, not preventing the king from castling nor the rooks being connected, I imagine they will stay there quite some time. --- Returning to standard chess, the bishop is normally compelled to get off the back rank for the benefit of the other pieces. But you should always be on the look out for the chance to keep the bishop at home. --- One such occasion occurs in the Winawer Poisoned Pawn variation of the French.'
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.d4 Neil McDonald **1...e6 2.e4 d5** Neil McDonald: 'A harmless transposition of moves.' **3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 Ne7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6



11.f4 Bd7 12.Qd3 dxc3 13.Nxc3 a6 14.Ne2 Rather surprisingly, this is the first time we have looked at this move on ChessPub. Previously we examined Rather surprisingly, this is the first time we have looked at this move on ChessPub. Previously we examined
[14.Rb1 and]
[14.h4]
14...Nf5
[Instead 14...0-0-0!? 0.74/20 14...Na5 0.16 leads to a fighting game. Routine development by White isn't good enough: leads to a fighting game. Routine development by White isn't good enough:
A) Black managed to build up a typical initiative at the cost of his kingside in the following encounter: Black managed to build up a typical initiative at the cost of his kingside in the following encounter:
15.Bd2 0.36/18 15.h4 0.69 Nf5

0.74/19 *(15...Na5!⩲* 0.36/18 *)* 16.Rg1⩲ d4 17.g4 Nh4 18.Rg3 f6 2.05/18 *(18...Kb8⩲* 1.35/17 *19.Rb1 Ka8)* 19.exf6+- e5 20.g5 Bf5 2.20/20 *(20...Rge8⩲* 1.52/17 was necessary.*)* 21.Qc4 e4 22.0-0-0 aiming for Nxd4! d3 23.cxd3 b5 24.Qc3? 0.19/18 *(24.Qc5!+-* 2.00/18 *Rd5 25.Qf2 Na5+ 26.Kb2 exd3 27.Nd4 Nc4+ 28.Ka2)* 24...exd3= 25.Ng1 0.41/19 *(25.Kb2!⩲* 0.97/18 Black must now prevent Nc1. *dxe2 26.Bxe2)* 25...Rd4⩲ 26.Kb1 0.01/21 *(26.f7!⩲* 0.85/19 *Rf8 27.Kb1)* 26...Rc4= 27.Qb2 Rd8! 28.Bc3!

A1) Black misses the chance for Black misses the chance for 28...Nb4! when 29.Bd2! *(if 29.Bxb4?* -6.47/23 29.Bd2 -0.71 *Rxb4 30.axb4 Qc2+* and Black wins. *)* 29...Nc2 intending 30... Qc5, hitting a3, maintains enough activity to off set White's kingside pawns. intending 30... Qc5, hitting a3, maintains enough activity to off set White's kingside pawns.;

A2) 28...Nb4!∓ -0.45/23 29.Bd2 Rc2;

A3) 28...Qxf4? 1.60/18 29.Nh3!⩲ Qc7 2.32/21 *(⌓29...Qd6* 1.69/20 *)* 30.Nf2+- Ng6 3.20/18 *(⌓30...d2+* 2.21/18 *31.Bd3 Bxd3+ 32.Rxd3 Rxd3 33.Nxd3 Qh7 34.Qxd2 Nf3)* 31.Bxd3+- Rxd3 32.Nxd3 Nf4? 5.63/20 *(32...Nd8* 3.15/19 *33.Qf2 Nf4)* 33.Ka1+- Nxd3 34.Rgxd3 Bxd3 35.Rxd3 Rg4 36.Qf2 Prevents Rg1+. Nd8 37.Qf5+ 1-0 Hedman, E-Akesson, J/ Stockholm SWE 2007.;

B) 15.h4⩲ 0.74/20;

C) 15.g3 0.11/18 15...Na5 0.69/19 *(15...d4=* 0.11/18 *)* 16.Qc3⩲ *(* Better to fight for the centre with the deployment Better to fight for the centre with the deployment *16.Nd4!?* and then Be2 etc.*)* 16...Nc4 17.Bg2 Kb8 18.0-0 Nf5 19.Rb1 -0.38/20 *(19.a4=* 0.01/17 *)* 19...Qc5+ 0.02/20 *(19...Bb5!∓* -0.38/20 *)* 20.Rf2!= Bc6 21.Qb4 Qa7 22.Bh3? -3.60/23 A blunder that allows a winning combination. *(22.Bb2=* 0.13/17 and White stays safe. *)* 22...Rh8-+ 23.Bxf5? -6.80/20 *(23.Bf1* -3.47/20 *Rxh2 24.Bg2)* 23...Rxh2!-+ Of course: f2 drops if the rook is captured. Of course: f2 drops if the rook is captured. 24.Qe1 Rdh8 (-> ...Rh1+) 25.Kf1 Rh1+ -4.11/5 *(⌓25...exf5* -8.55/25 *26.Ng1 Rh1)* 26.Ng1-+ d4 Strongly threatening ...Rxg1+. 27.Ke2 *(* White has no time to save the bishop as if *27.Be4 Ne3+ 28.Bxe3 Bxe4 29.Bd2 Rxg1+ 30.Kxg1 Rh1#)* 27...exf5 28.Bd2 Nxa3 29.Rb3 Nxc2 30.Qc1 d3+ 31.Rxd3 Qxf2+!? 0-1 Paehtz, E-Sedina, E/Dresden GER 2008. *(* Even more deadly was Even more deadly was *31...Nd4+! 32.Rxd4 Qxd4;* But anyway White resigned as she is annihilated after But anyway White resigned as she is annihilated after *31...Qxf2+ 32.Kxf2 R8h2+ 33.Kf1 Bg2+ 34.Ke2 Be4+ 35.Kd1 Bxd3)*]

15.h3 0-0-0? 0.78/19

[After 15...Na5!? an interesting possibility is an interesting possibility is Neil McDonald: 'intending 16...Bb5 gives Black more counterplay.'.

Threatens to win with ...Bb5.

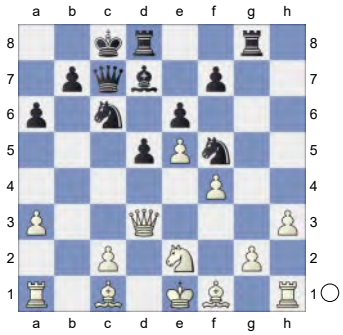
A) Alternatively some old analysis by Timman was tested after Alternatively some old analysis by Timman was tested after 16.g4

A1) 16...Ne7?! 17.Nd4 Nec6 18.Be3 Nc4 19.Nxc6 Bxc6 20.Bd4 f6 1.62/19 Against g5 *(20...0-0-0± 1.10/17)* 21.exf6+- Bg2 is the strong threat. Qxf4 22.Be2 and White won smoothly in Greet, A-Anderton, M/Hastings ENG 2009.;

A2) 16...Bb5 It would be very strange to avoid this natural move: 17.Qc3 Qxc3+ 18.Nxc3 Bxf1! 19.Rxf1 Nd4 20.Ra2 Rc8 21.Ne2 Rxc2 1.71/21 *(21...Nxe2⩲ 0.50/20 22.Kxe2 Rc4)* 22.Rxc2+- Nxc2+ 23.Kd1! Na1 24.Rg1 0.24/19 draw agreed in Wyss, J-Soozankar, A/Novokuznetsk RUS 2008. draw agreed in Wyss, J-Soozankar, A/Novokuznetsk RUS 2008. *(* Here Timman gives *24.Ng3* 0.01/18 24.Rf3 0.63 *Ke7* as unclear.*; 24.Rf3!±* 0.97/22 *)*;

B) 16.a4!? to prevent Bb5. Prevents Bb5.]

[15...Nce7⩲ 0.43/19]



Castling queenside at once doesn't seem to fit in with putting the knight onf5.

Castling queenside at once doesn't seem to fit in with putting the knight onf5. Neil McDonald: 'A dubious move;' Castling queenside at once doesn't seem to fit in with putting the knight onf5.

16.g4± **Nh4** **17.Bb2** Inhibits d4. White is better. **17...Kb8** **18.Nd4** 0.41/20

[18.0-0-0± 0.96/17]

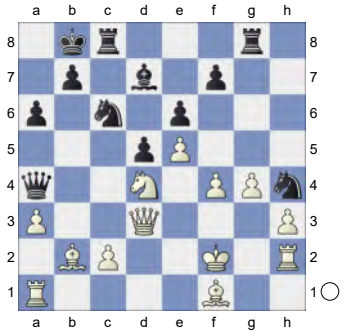
18...Rc8 **19.Rh2** Neil McDonald: 'The white rook enters the game via the second rank. As there is no requirement to move the bishop from f1 to arrange kingside castling or free the rook, he might as well remain there.'. Active counter play! **19...Qa5+** 0.94/21

[19...Nxd4⩲ 0.35/20 20.Bxd4 Qa5+ 21.c3 Rc4]

20.Kf2 -0.05/19

[White should try 20.Bc3± 0.94/21 Qxc3+ 21.Qxc3 Nxd4 22.Qb2 *(22.Qb4 Ndf3+ 23.Kd1 Nxh2=)* 22...Ndf3+ 23.Kf2 Nxh2 24.Bxa6]

20...Qa4



21.Ke3 Not only aesthetically pleasing but also a great decision. The king supports d4 and gets out of the way of any future Rxc2+. Not only aesthetically pleasing but also a great decision. The king supports d4 and gets out of the way of any future Rxc2+. Neil McDonald: 'White's bishop has stayed at home, but not the king. His journey to the third rank gets him out of the way of the rook on h2 so that c2 is defended again -

Black threatened 21...Nxd4 and then 22...Rxc2+. Observe the bizarre, yet appropriate arrangement of White's kingside pieces: the rook on h2, the king on e3, the bishop back on f1. There is an inner logic that governs a chess position. Most of the time this requires that the pieces go to conventional-looking squares, but sometimes you have to embrace oddity.' Not only aesthetically pleasing but also a great decision. The king supports d4 and gets out of the way of any future Rxc2+. **21...Ne7** 1.14/19

[21...Na5± 0.43/17 22.Qd2 *(22.Qh7 Ng6±)* 22...Nc4+ 23.Bxc4 Qxc4]

22.Qd2! Nc6 Against Qb4 **23.Nxc6+**

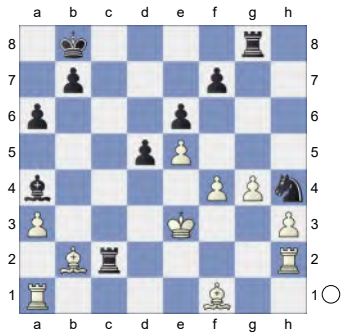
[23.Bd3 feels hotter. Nxd4 24.Bxd4 Nf5+ 25.Bxf5 exf5 26.g5]

23...Rxc6 24.Qb4 It is well worth giving up the c2 pawn to be rid of the queens. It is well worth giving up the c2 pawn to be rid of the queens. Neil McDonald: 'It's well worth White returning the extra pawn to get the queens off. Once his king is safe from attack he can focus on the task of advancing his kingside pawns. '. Against Qe4+ **24...Rxc2 25.Qxa4** Really sharp!

[25.Rxc2?! Qxc2 26.Rc1 *(26.Bxa6? d4+ 27.Kxd4 Bc6-+)* 26...Nf5+! 27.Kf3 Qh2 28.Bxa6 Qxh3+ 29.Kf2 Qe3+ 30.Kf1 Qf3+ 31.Ke1 Qh1+ 32.Kf2 Qh2+ 33.Ke1 Qh1+ 34.Kf2 Qh2+ 35.Ke1 Qg1+ 36.Kd2 Qg2+ 37.Ke1 Qg1+ 38.Kd2 Qg2+ 39.Ke1 Qg1+=]

25...Bxa4

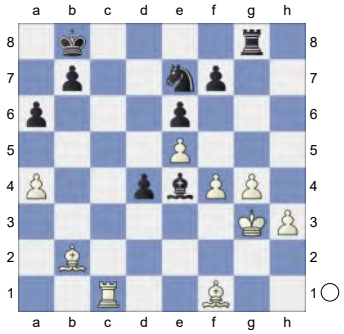
(Diagram)



26.Rxc2 Bxc2 27.Rc1 If you give this position to a computer program it might tell you that things aren't too bad for Black. However, an experienced Winawer player knows that White has achieved everything he could hope for from the opening- he has exchanged queens, kept a solid mass of kingside pawns, retained the bishop pair and has an active king that can go to g3 as necessary to support the kingside advanced. and White has a huge positional advantage similar to that he achieves in the game- see the note to move 27. If you give this position to a computer program it might tell you that things aren't too bad for Black. However, an experienced Winawer player knows that White has achieved everything he could hope for from the opening- he has exchanged queens, kept a solid mass of kingside pawns, retained the bishop pair and has an active king that can go to g3 as necessary to support the kingside advanced. and White has a huge positional advantage similar to that he achieves in the game- see the note to move 27. **27...Be4 28.Kf2!** Neil McDonald: 'The king heads over to g3 to facilitate the pawn advance of the passed h-pawn.'. Inhibits Ng2. **28...Ng6** 1.24/23

[Black should play 28...Nf3 0.82/22]

29.Kg3 Ne7 30.a4 d4



Neil McDonald: 'Hou Yifan sees no long-term answer to White's plan and so tries to mix things up by pushing her own passed pawn.' **31.Kf2** Neil McDonald: '!' '!' '!' '!' Neil McDonald: 'One sign of a good player is flexibility of thought. The white king has just come from f2, but now he returns there as the situation has changed. The most important element in the position is no longer White's striving for h3-h4, but rather the fight against the d4-pawn. As Nimzowitsch famously remarked: "a passed pawn is a criminal who should be kept under lock and key."'

[31.Bxd4? -0.43/21 31.Rd1 1.41 Nf5+! would be embarrassing for White.]

31...Rd8 32.Rd1 1.36/21

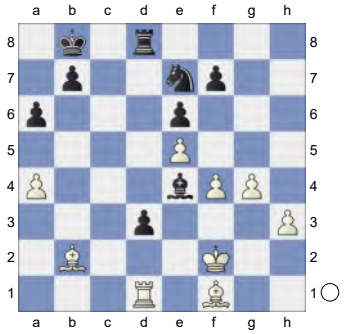
[32.Ba3+- 1.76/22 Nc6 33.h4]

32...d3? 1.94/21

[Neil McDonald: 'Black had to support the pawn with' 32...Nc6 Neil McDonald: ', though her long-term chances are bleak once White starts pushing his kingside pawns.']

[32...Nc6± 1.36/21 was called for.]

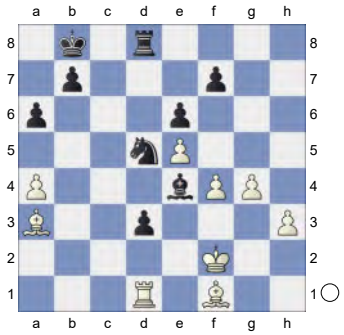
(Diagram)



This leads to the loss of the d-pawn. The only chance was This leads to the loss of the d-pawn. The only chance was Neil McDonald: 'Too rash;' This leads to the loss of the d-pawn. The only chance was **33.Ba3!+-** Neil McDonald: '!' '!' '!' '!' Neil McDonald: 'Perhaps Black missed the strength of this move. The bishop will go to d6 and cut off the defence of the passed pawn.'

[But not 33.Ke3?! Bc6±]

33...Nd5

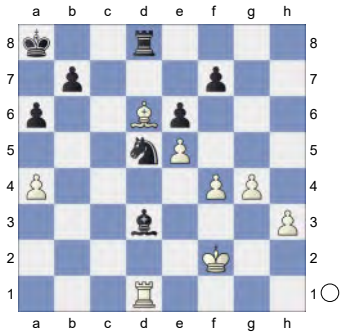


34.Bd6+!

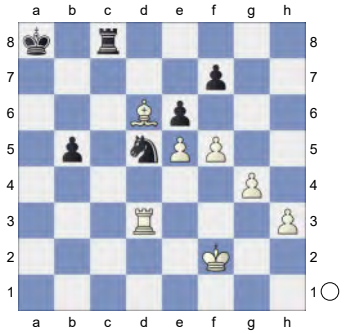
[Not 34.Bxd3 Nc3 35.Bxe4 Rxd1∓]

34...Ka8 35.Bxd3 Neil McDonald: 'After 35 moves the lazy bishop stirs from f1. It seems that only the temptation of a passed pawn was enough to overcome its indolence. But I'm being unfair. Whilst the white king has been gathering all the exclamation marks by gallivanting around in the centre, the bishop has been involved in two important strategic tasks whilst sitting unobtrusively on f1. It defended the pawn on h3, White's prime

strategic asset, and was at hand to squash Black's only hope of counterplay on the d-file. Before the exchange of queens it was at hand to guard the key e2- and g2-squares, and ready to defend its king. That's no bad tally for a single minor piece!' **35...Bxd3**

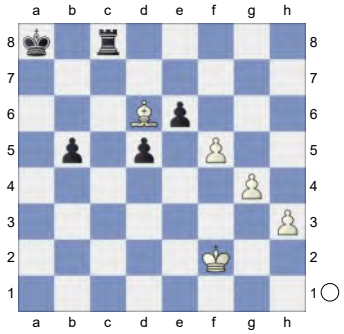


36.Rxd3 Endgame KRB-KRN **36...Rc8** **37.f5** **b5** 4.34/20
[⌓37...Ka7 2.94/19 38.fxe6 fxe6]
38.axb5 **axb5** 5.11/22
[⌓38...a5 3.44/21 39.h4 Kb7 40.fxe6 fxe6]

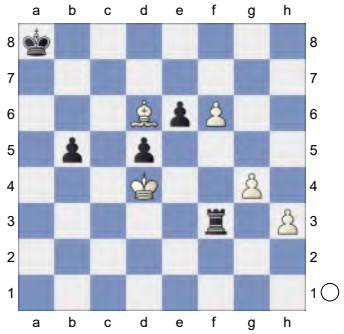


39.Rxd5! The white pawns bulldozer through on the kingside in an attractive finish. The white pawns bulldozer through on the kingside in an attractive finish. **39...exd5** KR-KB **40.e6** **fxe6**

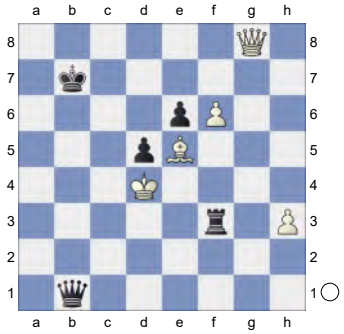
(Diagram)



41.f6 **Rc2+** **42.Ke3** **Rc3+** **43.Kf4** **Rc2** **44.Ke3?** 0.01/18
[44.g5+- 10.84/20]
44...Rc3+= Black cannot hold the game after this. **45.Kd4** **Rf3**

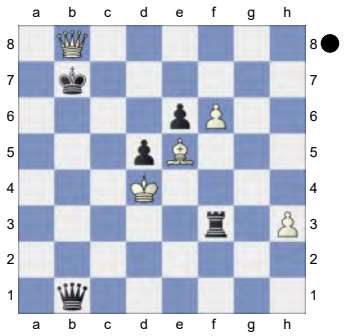


46.g5 And now Be5 would win. **46...Kb7** **47.Be5** **b4** **48.g6** g7 would kill now. **48...b3** Black loses the queen after Black loses the queen after **49.g7** **b2N** **50.g8Q** Threatening mate with Qb8+. **50...b1Q**



51.Qb8+

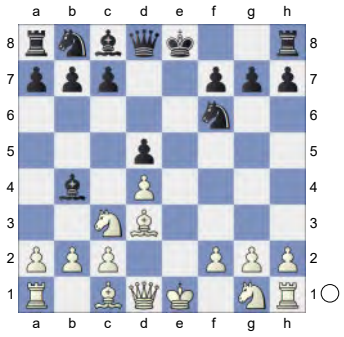
(Diagram)



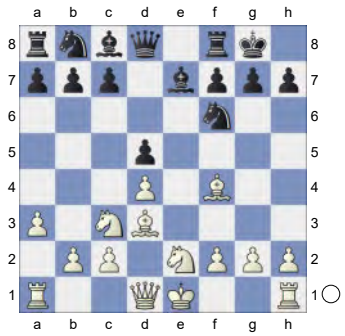
Skewer.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=1.02
1-0

124 **C15**
□ **Vokhidov,Shamsiddin** **2670**
■ **Khodko,Yurii N** **2354**
Titled Tue 21st Jan Early blitz (10)
[Kitty Kat]

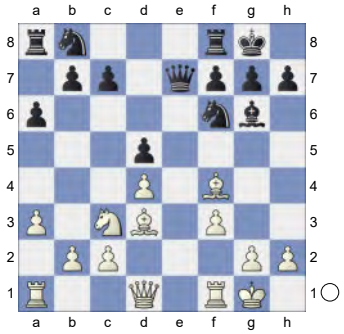
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nf6



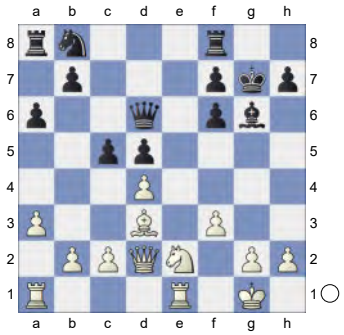
6.Nge2 0-0 7.a3N
[7.0-0 Re8 *(7...c6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 Re8 10.f3 Nbd7 11.Qd2 Nf8 12.Rae1 Bd6 13.Bg3 Ng6 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.Bxg6 fxg6 16.Nd1 g5 17.Nc1 Bf5 18.c3 Bg6 19.Nd3 Nd7 20.N1f2 a5 21.Ng4 Bf5 22.Nde5* C 06/30 (2767)-Das,A (2822) Leon 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (39) *)
A) 8.Bg5 c6 *(8...Be7 9.Nf4 Nbd7 10.Re1 h6 11.Bxf6 Nxf6 12.Nh5 c6 13.Nxf6+ Bxf6 14.Rxe8+ Qxe8 15.Ne2 Bg4 16.c3 g6 17.h3 Bd7 18.Qd2 Qe7 19.Ng3 Re8 20.Nf1 Kg7 21.Nh2 Bg5 22.Qc2 Bf4 23.Nf3* Schlechter,C-Lipke,P Vienna 1898 ½-½ *)* 9.a3 Bd6 10.Qd2 h6 11.Bf4 Nh5 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.Rfe1 Be6 14.Nd1 Nd7 15.c3 b5 16.Ne3 Nb6 17.Ng3 Nf4 18.Bb1 g6 19.Ne2 a5 20.Nd1 Nxe2+ 21.Rxe2 Bg4 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 Bruedigam,M (2386)-Tran,T (2402) Budapest 2023 ½-½ (94);
B) 8.a3 Bd6 9.Bf4 Bg4 10.Qd2 Bh5 11.Bxd6 Qxd6 12.Nf4 Bg6 13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.Rfe1 French 3. Nc3 vs-3... Bb4 Variation 23 3... Bb4;
C) 8.Ng3 Bg4 9.Nce2 Bd6 10.c3 c5 11.dxc5 Bxc5 12.h3 Bxe2 13.Nxe2 Nc6 14.Bf4 Ne4 15.Bxe4 ½-½ (15) Alekseev,E (2575)-Nikitenko,M (2463) Cheliabinsk 2022]
7...Bd6 8.Nb5 Be7 The position is equal. **9.Bf4 Na6 10.Nbc3 Nb8**



11.0-0 Bg4 12.f3 Bh5 13.Ng3 Bg6 14.Nf5 a6 0.23/17
[⌓14...Bxf5 -0.12/19 15.Bxf5 Nc6]
15.Nxe7+= Qxe7
(Diagram)



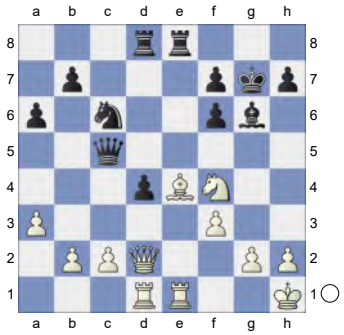
16.Re1 Qd7 17.Bg5 Qd6 18.Bxf6 gxf6 19.Qd2 Kg7 20.Ne2 c5



21.dxc5 Qxc5+ 22.Kh1 Nc6 23.Nf4 0.26/19

[23.f4!± 0.70/18]

23...Rfe8 24.Rad1 d4 25.Be4! Rad8



26.Nd3 Qh5 27.Kg1 Ne5 0.23/21

[27...Bxe4 -0.09/20 should be considered. 28.fxe4 *(28.Rxe4 Rxe4 29.fxe4 Qg5=)* 28...Qh4]

28.Qf2 Nc4 29.Bxb7 -0.40/21

[29.Bxg6!= 0.00/21 Rxe1+ 30.Nxe1 hxg6 31.Rxd4]

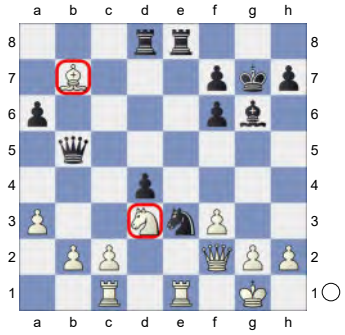
29...Ne3 0.35/21

[Black should play 29...Qb5∓ -0.40/21 30.Rxe8 Rxe8]

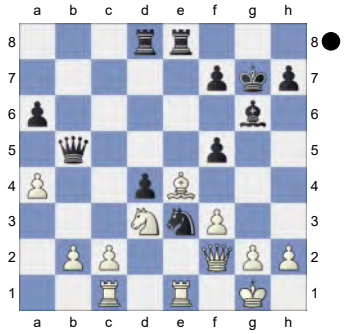
30.Rc1 -0.59/22

[30.Bxa6± 0.35/21 Nxd1 31.Rxd1]

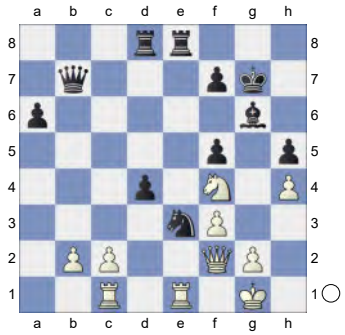
30...Qb5∓



31.Be4 f5↑ Black has good play. **32.a4?** -2.74/20



Loses the game. **32...Qxa4-+ 33.Bb7 Qb5 34.h4 h5 35.Nf4 Qxb7**



36.Qg3 Kh7 37.Nh3 -6.04/21

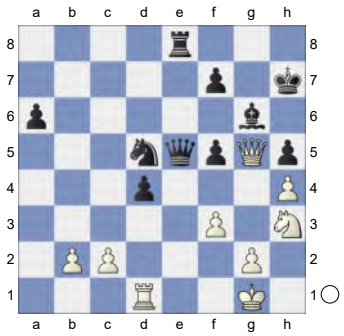
[⌓37.b3 -3.91/20]

37...Qb8 38.Qg5 Nd5 39.Rxe8 -6.88/21

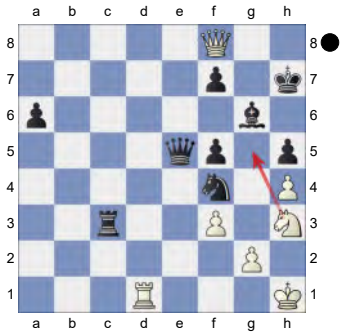
[⌓39.c4 -4.76/19 f6 40.Qd2 Rxe1+ 41.Rxe1]

39...Rxe8 40.Rd1 Qe5

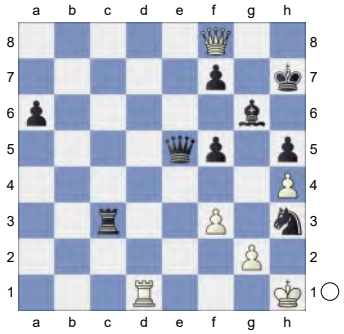
(Diagram)



Threatens to win with ...f6. **41.Kh1 Rc8 42.c3 dxc3 43.bxc3 Rxc3 44.Qd8 Nf4 45.Qf8**



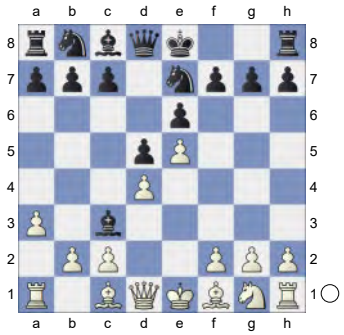
Nxh3



Weighted Error Value: White=0.59/ Black=0.23 (precise)
0-1

125 **C19**
□ **Kasimdzhanov,R.** **2670**
■ **Dgebuadze,A.** **2430**
Bundesliga 2022-23 (15.2) 30.04.2023
[Edouard,Romain]

Edouard,Romain, MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** Edouard,Romain, MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 c5 Edouard,Romain, MH: 'N'
[6...b6 Edouard,Romain, MH 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth,P (1739) Nuremberg Zabo op 23rd 2023 (1)*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 *(8.a4 Qd7 9.Bb5 c6 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.Ba3 c5 12.dxc5 Qc7 13.Nf3 bxc5 14.0-0 Bxd3 15.cxd3 Nd7 16.d4 0-0* Burnazovic,E (2574)-Aschenberg,A (2603) 32/71 Polanica Zdroj 1981*)* 8...h5 9.Qg3 *(9.Qd1 Qd7 10.Bd3 Ne7 11.Ne2 Qc6 12.Bg5 Nf5 13.0-0 Ba6 14.Ng3 Bxd3 15.cxd3 Qxc3 16.Rc1 Qxd4 17.Nxf5 exf5 18.Rxc7 0-0 19.e6 Na6 20.exf7+ Rxf7 21.Rxf7 Kxf7 22.Re1 Qg4 23.Re7+ Kg6* 1-0 Burnazovic,E (2560)-Shaposhnikov,Y (2509) 36/(116) London 1983*)* 9...Ba6 10.Ne2 Kf8 11.a4 Nc6 12.Nf4 Bxf1 13.Qxg6 fxg6 14.Nxe6+ Kg8 15.Nxd8 Bxg2 16.Rg1 Nxd8 17.Rxg2 Kh7 18.Be3

Nc6 19.Ke2 Rhe8 20.Rag1 Ne7 21.Kd3 1-0 7.♗b3 ♘c6 8.♘c3 b5_7152 (2464)-Pasanen,T (2371) Swiss Ch Pontresina 2000 (3)]

[6...Nd7 Edouard,Romain, MH 7.a4 a5 8.Qg4 Nf5 9.Bd3 h5 10.Qh3 Nf8 11.Nf3 Ng6 12.Bg5 f6 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Bc1 Kf7 15.g4 hxg4 16.Qxg4 Ngh4 17.Nxh4 Rxh4 18.Qf3 Qd6 19.Qg2 Qf8 20.Rg1 Qg7 21.Qxg7+ 1-0 Zheliandinov,V-Borisenko,G RSFSR-ch19 Voronezh 1959]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6

[8...f5 is the main alternative.]

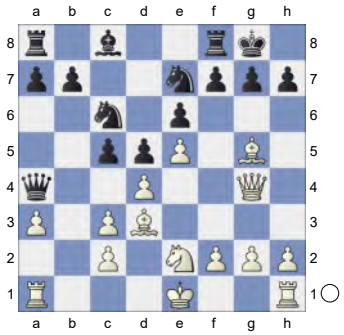
9.Bg5! now scores much better than the old 9.Qh5. Not the most frequent move. White usually plays 9.Qh5 or 9.Nf3. punktet besser als das ältere 9.Dh5.

9...Qa5 10.Ne2 Qa4 0.60/19

[10...Ng6 0.61/20 Edouard,Romain, MH: '10...cxd4 0.00' 11.0-0 Qa4]

[10...c4? 11.Bxe7 Nxe7 12.Bxh7+ Edouard,Romain, MH: '!']

[10...cxd4!= 0.05/20 Edouard,Romain, MH 11.Bxe7 Nxe7 12.Qxd4 Nc6]



11.f4!? Edouard,Romain, MH: '±!?' Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **11...Ng6** 2.02/20 Edouard,Romain, MH: '?'

[11...b6!= 0.20/19 Edouard,Romain, MH]

12.0-0 0.22/20 Edouard,Romain, MH: '?'

[12.dxc5? Edouard,Romain, MH Ncxe5 13.Qh5 Nxd3+ 14.cxd3 Qb5-+]

[White has to play 12.h4!+- 2.02/20 Edouard,Romain, MH]

12...a5?N 2.22/21

[Predecessor: 12...c4 0.22/20 Edouard,Romain, MH: '=' Edouard, Romain, MH: ' and Black has nothing to worry.' 13.Bxg6 fxg6 transposes to 10...Ng6. 14.f5 *(14.Ra2 Bd7 15.h4* is the main line.*)* 14...Rxf5 15.Rxf5 0.01/23 *(15.Ng3±* 0.46/23 Edouard,Romain, MH*)* 15...exf5 0.45/21 *(15...gxf5=* 0.01/23 Edouard,Romain, MH *16.Qg3 Kf7)* 16.Qg3 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' ±' Bd7 17.Nf4 Nd8 1.11/22 *(* Black should play *17...Be8±* 0.35/20 Edouard,Romain, MH*)* 18.Bxd8 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' ±' Rxd8 19.Nxd5 0.63/19 1-0 (43) Dronov,A (2676)-Silva,A (2550) ICCF email 2015 *(19.h4!±* 1.16/20 Edouard,Romain, MH *)*]

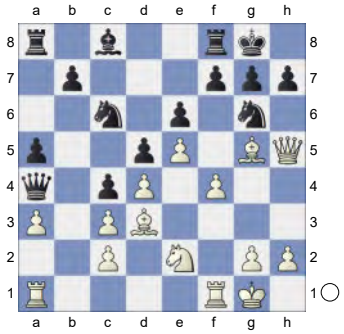
13.Qh5!? 3.17/21

[13.c4! 2.22/21 Edouard,Romain, MH: '⩲!' with a cute idea of trapping the black queen with Nc3 would have been a chirurgical punishment to Black's last move. cxd4 *(13...dxc4?* 4.32/19 Edouard,Romain, MH: '13... Nce7 1.93' *14.Nc3+-)* 14.cxd5 exd5 15.Qg3 With a digusting position for Black. The game move is very strong as well, though.]

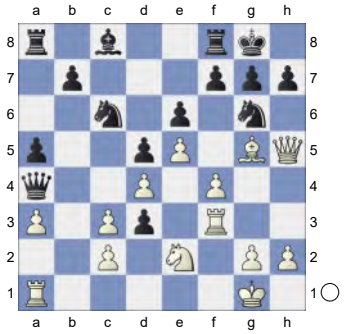
[13.dxc5 Edouard,Romain, MH Ncxe5 14.Qh5 Nxd3 15.cxd3 Qc2∓]

13...c4 Edouard,Romain, MH: '+-' Edouard,Romain, MH: '

(Diagram)

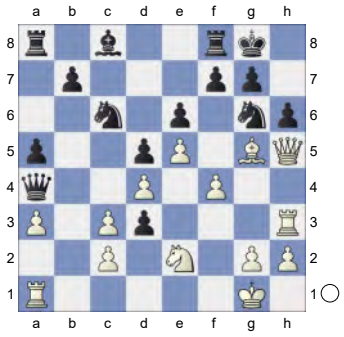


' **14.Rf3!** Edouard,Romain, MH: ' Threatens to win with Rh3!' The point. White's attack is devastating. **14...cxd3** Edouard,Romain, MH: '



' **15.Rh3** Edouard,Romain, MH: '!' **15...f5** Edouard,Romain, MH: '

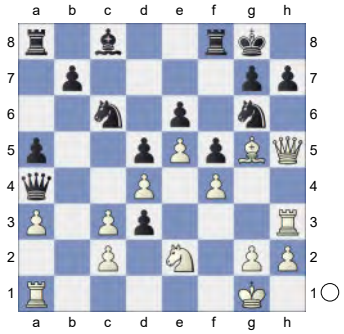
[15...h6 7.02/20 Edouard,Romain, MH: '15...f5 4.03



' 16.Bxh6+- Edouard,Romain, MH: '+-!' Nce7 Edouard,Romain, MH 17.Bxg7+- *(17.Rxd3? gxh6 18.Rh3 f5-+)*]

[15...dxe2 Edouard,Romain, MH 16.Qxh7#]

[15...f6 Edouard,Romain, MH 16.f5]



' **16.exf6** Edouard,Romain, MH: '!' **16...Kf7 17.Qxh7**

[17.cxd3 Edouard,Romain, MH Rg8±]

17...Rg8 18.f5!

[18.Rxd3 Edouard,Romain, MH Nf8 19.Qh5+ g6±]

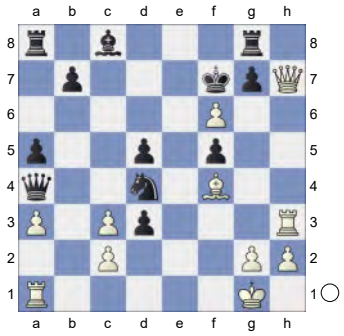
18...exf5 19.Nf4! Edouard,Romain, MH: '→' Edouard,Romain, MH: ' White attacks with force.' This look like a game of Tal. It's wonderful to see how the white pieces keep moving forward and forward.

[19.cxd3 Edouard,Romain, MH Nf8 20.Qh5+ g6+-]

19...Nxf4 20.Bxf4 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' White wants to mate with Rg3.' **20...Nxd4**

[20...Kxf6 #7/16 Edouard,Romain, MH: '?' Edouard,Romain, MH: '20... Nxd4 2.46' 21.Qxg8+-]

[20...Be6 21.Qh5++-]

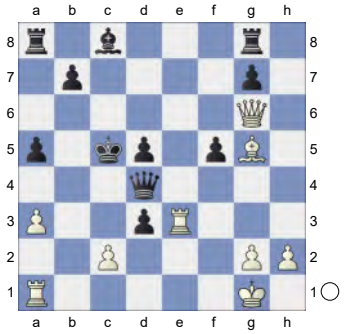


21.Qh5+ Kxf6 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' ... Ne2+ is the strong threat.' **22.Bg5+!**

[22.cxd4? (Edouard,Romain, MH) perishes. Qxd4+ *(22...dxc2 23.Re3 g5 24.Qh6+ Kf7 25.Qh7+ Rg7 26.Re7+* Skewer, Decoy *Kxe7 27.Qxg7+ Ke8 28.Re1+)* 23.Re3 Qxf4-+ *(23...Qxa1+? 24.Kf2+-)*]
[22.cxd3? Edouard,Romain, MH Ne6 *(22...Ne2+? 23.Qxe2 Qxf4 24.Rf1-+)* 23.Bg3 Qg4 24.Qxg4 fxg4-+]

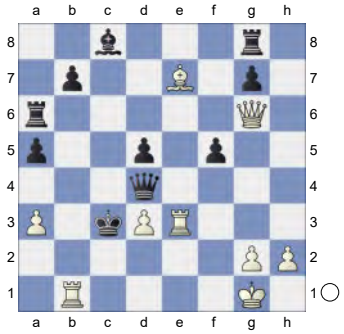
22...Ke5 23.cxd4+! 1.94/20
[⩲23.Qf7 3.32/21 (Edouard,Romain, MH) White threatens Qc7+ and mate. Ne2+ *(23...Nxc2 24.Qc7+ Ke6 25.Qe7#)* 24.Kh1]

23...Qxd4+ 24.Re3+ An important check. Now White even got his piece back. **24...Kd6 25.Qg6+ Kc5?!** 15.91/21
[25...Kc7 2.33/23 Edouard,Romain, MH: '⩲' 26.c3!+- Qc4 Edouard,Romain, MH]

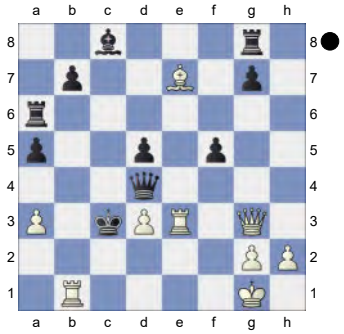


26.Rb1 Ra6 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' Prevents Qb6+.' **27.Be7+ Kc4 28.cxd3+ Kc3** Edouard,Romain, MH: '

(Diagram)



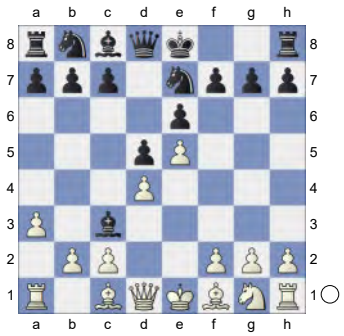
' **29.Qg3**
[And not 29.Qg5 Edouard,Romain, MH Rg6 Deflection 30.Qxg6 Qxe3+ 31.Kh1 Qxe7=]



Edouard,Romain, MH: '!' Edouard, Romain, MH: ' White took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/Black=0.53' No need ot say the black king won't survive very long.
1-0

126 **C19**
□ **Tabatabaei,M.** **2669**
■ **Galchenko,Matvey** **2438**
Aeroflot Open A 2025 (8.10) 05.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

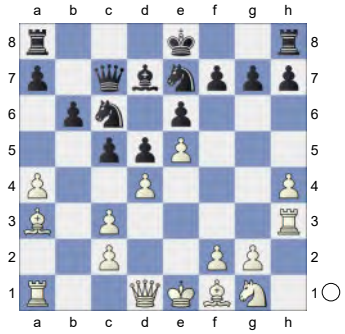
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**
(Diagram)



6.bxc3 c5N

[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.h4 Qc7 8.Rh3 Bd7 9.a4 Nbc6 10.Ba3 b6



The position is equal. **11.Qh5 Ng6 12.Bd3 Nf4 13.Qg5 Nxh3 14.Nxh3** -0.04/19

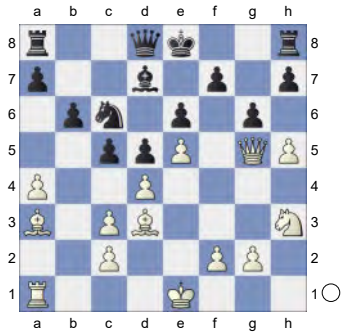
[14.Qxg7± 0.45/20 might be stronger. 0-0-0 15.Nxh3]

14...g6 0.50/18

[14...cxd4? 15.Bd6 Qb7 16.cxd4+-]

[14...Kf8= -0.04/19]

15.h5 And now Qf6 would win. **15...Qd8**



16.Qf4 Qe7 17.g4 h6 0.52/20

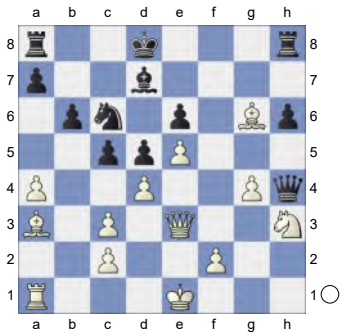
[17...gxh5= 0.01/19 18.gxh5 h6 19.dxc5 bxc5]

18.hxg6± fxg6 19.Bxg6+ Kd8 20.Qe3 -0.40/20

[20.0-0-0± 0.43/18]

20...Qh4

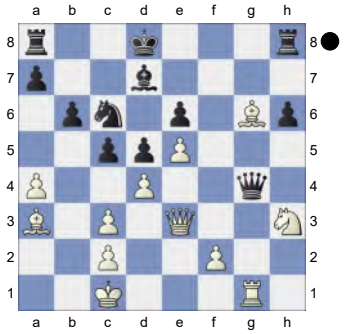
(Diagram)



...cxd4 is the strong threat. **21.0-0-0** -1.60/20

[21.dxc5= -0.23/19 keeps the balance. Qxg4 22.Bd3]

21...Qxg4∓ 22.Rg1



cxd4! 23.Qd3 Qh4

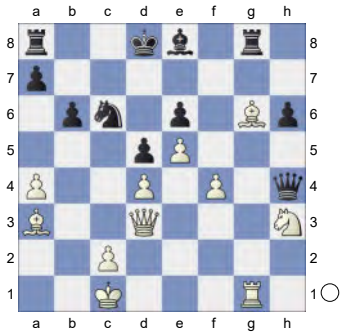
[Worse is 23...Nxe5 24.Rxg4 Nxd3+ 25.Bxd3=]

24.f4 -2.69/20

[24.cxd4 -1.80/18 was necessary. Qxd4 25.Qxd4 Nxd4 26.Bd3]

24...Rg8 25.cxd4 Be8? -0.01/21

[Better is 25...Rc8-+ -1.94/20 White must now prevent ...Be8. 26.Kb2 Na5]



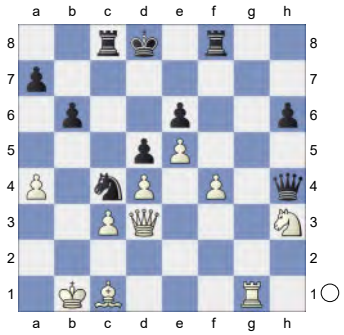
26.Kb2!= Rc8 27.Bxe8 Rxe8 28.c3 -0.92/20

[28.Rg7!∓ -0.51/21]

28...Na5∓ 29.Kb1 -1.61/18

[29.f5∓ -0.92/19 keeps fighting.]

29...Nc4 30.Bc1 Rf8



Against f5 **31.Rg6 Re8** 0.16/23

[31...Ke7∓ -1.17/18 32.Ng1 Qe1]

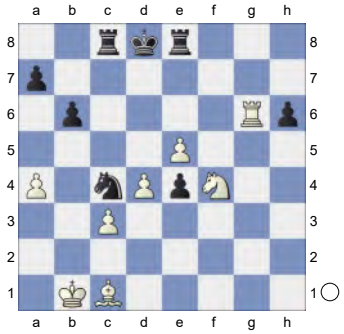
32.f5= exf5 33.Nf4 Qh1 34.Qxf5 0.01/24

[34.Kc2!± 0.35/20]

34...Qe4+ 0.41/21

[34...Qd1!= 0.01/24 35.Ne6+ *(35.Nxd5 Nd2+ 36.Kb2 Nc4+ 37.Kb1 Nd2+ 38.Kb2 Rc6=; 35.Qf6+? Kc7-+)* 35...Rxe6 36.Rg8+ Kc7 37.Rxc8+ Kxc8 38.Qxe6+ Kc7 39.Qf7+ Kb8 40.Qg8+ Kc7 41.Qf7+ Kb8 42.Qg8+ Kc7 43.Qf7+]

35.Qxe4± Really sharp! **35...dxe4**



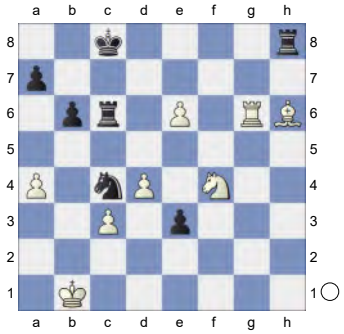
36.Nd5

[36.Kc2!?]

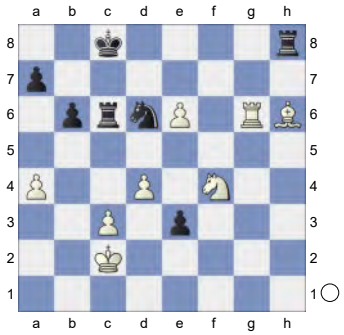
36...Rh8 1.92/19

[36...Nxe5± 0.63/21 37.dxe5 Rxe5 38.Rd6+ Ke8]

37.e6 0.45/21
[White has to play 37.Kc2+- 1.92/19]
37...Rc6! 38.Bxh6 &Bianco is more active. **38...e3!** Hoping for ...e2. **39.Nf4** White has compensation. **39...Kc8** 0.87/21
[39...b5± 0.32/20]

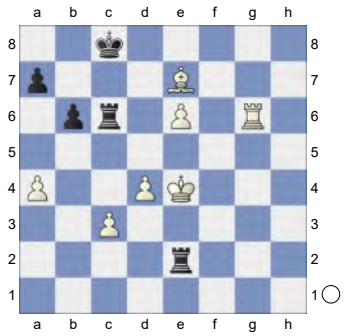


40.Kc2!± Nd6 1.45/19
[Black should play 40...Rd6± 0.44/20]

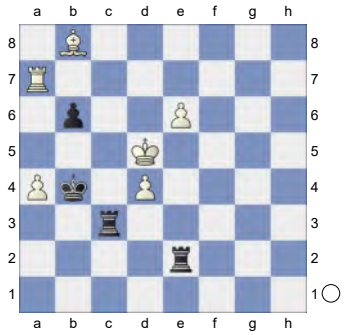


41.Kd3! Nf5 0.92/21
[⌓41...b5 1.37/19]
42.Bg5 Rh2 43.Ke4 e2? 2.90/24
44.Nxe2!+- Ne7? 6.69/23
[44...Rxe2+ 2.92/21 45.Kxf5 Rxc3]
45.Bxe7 Rxe2+

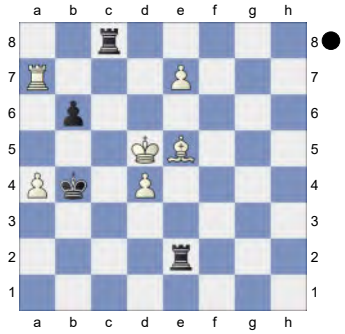
(Diagram)



Endgame KRR-KRB **46.Kd5 Rxc3 47.Bd6 Kb7 48.Rg7+ Ka6 49.Bb8 Ka5 50.Rxa7+ Kb4**



51.e7 Rc8 52.Be5



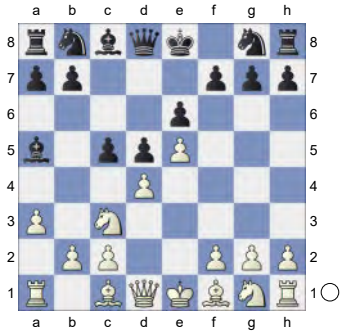
Both players deserved the win here.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.41
1-0

127 **C18**
□ **Almasi,Zoltan** **2668**
■ **Vladimirov,Evgeny** **2598**
FIDE-Wch k.o. (2.3) 02.12.2000
[Kitty Kat]

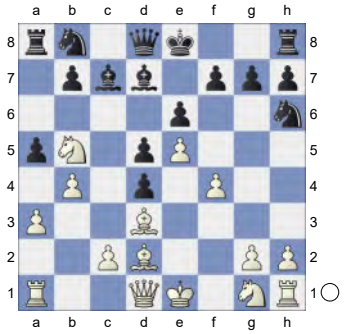
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]
[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

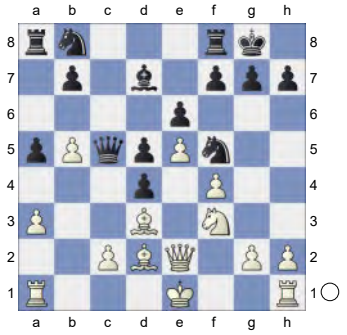
5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.f4 a5 9.Bd2
[9.Nxd4 axb4 10.Ngf3 Bd7∓]
9...Nh6 10.Bd3 Bd7

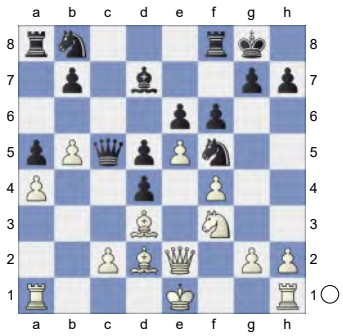


11.Nxc7+ Qxc7 White is slightly better. **12.Nf3 Nf5 13.b5** White has compensation. **13...Qc5** 0.64/22
[13...Ne3= 0.15/20 14.Qc1 Nxg2+ 15.Kf2 Ne3]
14.Qe2±
[14.Bxf5 exf5 15.a4 0-0=]
14...0-0



15.a4! f6 1.50/22
[⊼15...Re8 0.72/18]

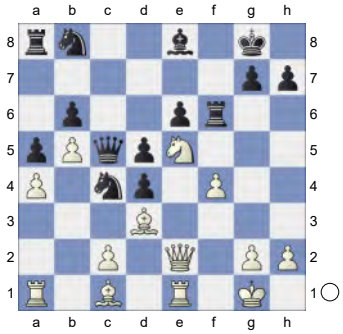
(Diagram)



16.0-0± **Ne3** **17.Rfe1** **Nc4** **18.Bc1** **b6** 2.40/20

[⌓18...f5 1.81/17 19.Bxc4 *(19.Qf2 Re8±)* 19...Qxc4 20.Qxc4 dxc4 21.Nxd4 Rc8]

19.exf6 **Rxf6** **20.Ne5** **Be8**



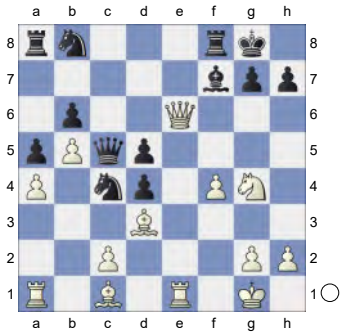
21.Ng4 Deflection

[Don't play 21.Bxc4?! dxc4 22.Ba3 *(22.Qxc4 Nd7±)* 22...Qd5 23.Qxc4 *(23.Nxc4 Nd7±)* 23...Nd7+-]

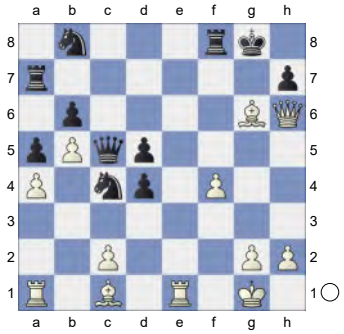
21...Rf8 5.09/21

[21...Nd7 2.49/21 22.Nxf6+ Nxf6 23.Qxe6+ Bf7]

22.Qxe6++- **Bf7**



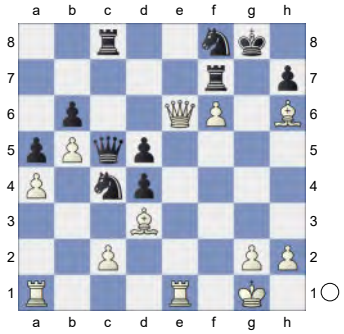
23.Nh6+! **gxh6** **24.Qxh6→** Black is in trouble. **24...Bg6** Black cannot hold the game after this. **25.Bxg6** **Ra7**



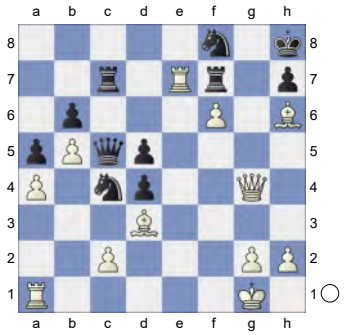
26.Bd3 **Rg7** **27.f5** Threatens to win with f6. **27...Nd7** Prevents f6. **28.Qe6+** **Rgf7** **29.Bh6** **Rc8?** 10.07/18

[29...Ne3 3.07/21 30.f6 Nxf6]

30.f6 **Nf8**

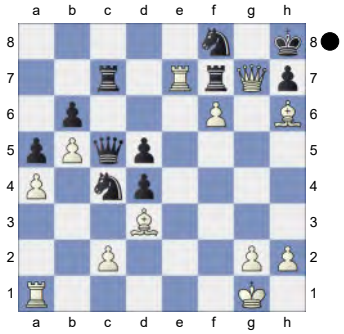


31.Qg4+ **Kh8** **32.Re7** **Rc7**



33.Qg7+!

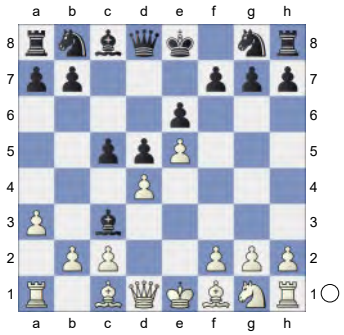
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.67. Loss on time!?
0-1

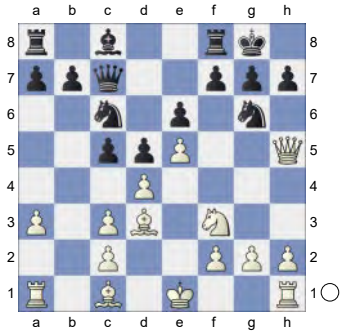
128 **C18**
□ **Sadler,Matthew D** **2667**
■ **Beliavsky,Alexander G** **2650**
Enghien les Bains 3rd (9) 12.03.1999
[Ribli,Zoltan]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5
Das ist eine seltene, aber keineswegs harmlose Fortsetzung. Weiß verstärkt seine Kontrolle über das Feld d5. Ribli.
4...c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 Es scheint, Schwarz hätte eine bequeme Stellung, aber im folgenden gewinnt Weiß ein wichtiges Tempo und besonders seine Dame wird aktiv. **8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7**

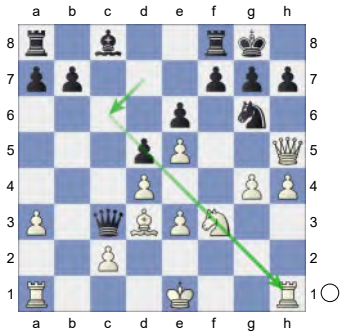
(Diagram)



Das ist die theoretische Fortsetzung, aber die Alternative ist auch interessant. Mit dem Partiezug opfert Schwarz einen Bauern, aber er kann ruhig seine Entwicklung beenden. **11.Be3 Nce7**
[11...c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Bd7 14.h4 Rf5]
12.h4 12.dxc7?? wäre ein schwerer Fehler wegen 12...♕xd4.
[12.0-0 c4 13.Bxg6 fxg6 14.Qh3 Bd7 15.g4 b5 16.Qg3 Qa5 17.Bd2 Nc6 18.Rfd1 h6 19.Kg2 Rf7 20.Ng1 Raf8 21.f4 Qb6 22.Ne2 a5]
12...Nf5
[12...Bd7
A) 13.Qg5 f6 14.exf6 Rxf6 15.h5 h6 16.Qg3 Nf4 17.Bxf4 Qxf4 18.Qxf4 Rxf4 19.Ne5 Be8 20.g3 Rf8 21.dxc5 Nc6 22.Nxc6 Bxc6 23.Rb1 *(23.f4 e5 24.fxe5 Rae8 25.0-0-0 Rxe5 26.g4 Bd7 27.Bg6 Bxg4 28.Rde1 Rxe1+ 29.Rxe1 Bf5 30.Re7)* 23...Rf3 24.Rb3 Raf8 25.Rh2 a5 26.a4 e5 27.Be2;
B) 13.Qg4 f5 14.Qh3 cxd4 15.cxd4 Bb5 16.0-0 Bxd3 17.cxd3 Nh8 18.h5 Nf7 19.h6 g6 20.Qh4;
C) 13.a4 f6 14.exf6 Rxf6 15.0-0 c4 16.Bxg6 Nxg6 17.Rfe1 Raf8 18.a5 Qc8 19.Ne5 Be8]
13.g4 Es ist notwendig für Weiß, die Damen zu tauschen. **13...Nxe3 14.fxe3 cxd4**
[14...c4 15.Ng5 h6 16.Bxg6 fxg6

17.Qxg6 hxg5 18.hxg5 Qe7 *(18...Rf7 19.Qh7+ Kf8 20.g6)* 19.Qh5 g6 20.Qh8+ Kf7 1-0 Rohde, M-Dlugy,M/New York 1990/CBM 16 ext (36) 21.Rh7+]

15.cxd4 Qc3+



16.Ke2 Bd7 17.Rab1± Weiß besitzt einen Mehrbauern und die Aktivität des Läufers c6 ist eingeschränkt. Anderseits hat Weiß Doppelbauern in der c-Linie und die Verwertung des Materialvorteils ist sehr schwierig, wenn überhaupt möglich. In der Stammpartie Kortschnoj, V - Huebner,R Solingen 1973 - siehe 19. schwarzer Zug - hatte Schwarz das Gleichgewicht, verlor aber wegen späterer Fehler.

[17.Ng5 h6 18.Nxf7 Rxf7 *(18...Nf4+ 19.exf4 Rxf7 20.Qg6)* 19.Qxg6 Rf2+ 20.Kxf2 Qd2+ 21.Kg3 Qxe3+ 22.Kg2 Qd2+]

17...Be8 Mit diesem Zug gewinnt Schwarz ein Tempo und kann die Türme in der e-Linie verdoppeln.

[17...b6± 18.Rb3 Qc7 19.Ng5 h6 20.Nxf7]

18.Ng5 h6 19.Rxb7

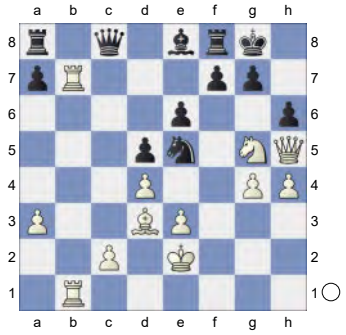
[19.Rb3 Qc6 20.Nxf7 Nf4+ 21.exf4 Bxf7 22.Bg6 Bxg6 23.Qxg6 Das ist mit Zugumstellung die Partiefortsetzung. Rxf4]

19...Qc8N Das ist die schwarze Neuerung! Er gewinnt Raum am Königsflügel. Es ist interessant, daß nach 19.Zügen die gleiche Stellung wie 26 Jahre früher entstanden ist! Die Frage ist, ob sich die Theorie nicht weiterentwickelt hat, oder seinerzeit Kortchnoj und Huebner die stärksten Züge spielten. **20.Rhb1**

[20.Rxf7 hxg5 *(20...Rxf7 21.Nxf7 Nf4+ 22.exf4 Bxf7 23.Bg6→ Qc4+)* 21.Bxg6 Rxf7 22.Qh7+ Kf8 23.Bxf7= Bxf7 24.Kd2!]

20...Nxe5

[20...hxg5 ½-½ Onischuk,A-Baklan,V/ Bundesliga 1998 (17) 21.hxg5 Bd7 22.Rh1 Re8 23.Rbb1 Rb8 24.Qh7+ Kf8 25.Rxb8 Qxb8 26.Rf1]



21.dxe5

[21.Bh7+ Kh8?! 22.dxe5! f6 23.Nf7+ *(23.Bg6 fxg5 24.hxg5 Qc4+)* 23...Kxh7 24.exf6 Qxc2+ 25.Kf3∞ Rc8]

21...f5 22.exf6

[22.Rxg7+ Kxg7± 23.Rb7+ Qxb7 24.Nxe6+ Kg8! 25.Qxh6]

22...Rxf6 Schwarz strebt nicht nach sofortiger Aktivität, sondern stabilisiert mit Wartezügen die Stellung.

[22...Bxh5 23.Bh7+ Kh8 24.fxg7#±]

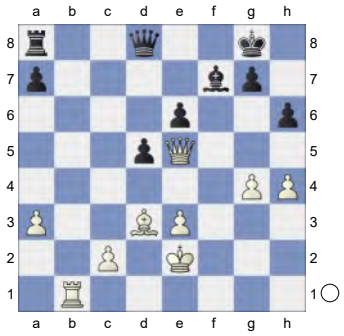
23.Nf7 Rxf7

[23...Bxf7 24.Qe5 Tarasenko,A-Pankratov,A/corr 1995/Inf 67/ [Pankratov,A] (18)]

24.Rxf7 Bxf7! Der Läufer war auf a5 überflüssig, wird daher von Schwarz auf

eine neue Diagonale überführt. **25.Qe5 Qd8**

[25...Qe8]

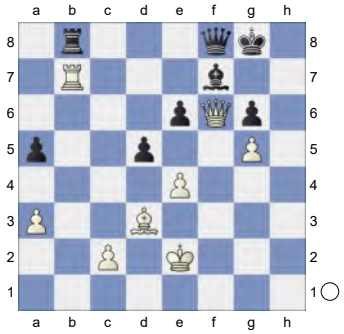


26.Rb7 Qf8 27.g5 hxg5 28.hxg5 g6⩲ Schwarz hat gute Kompensation. Seine Läufer stehen gut in den langen Diagonalen und verwehren dem Weißen die Einbruchsfelder in der e-Linie. **29.e4**

[29.c4]

29...a5 30.Qf6 Rb8

[30...Qg7 31.c4 *(31.e5)*]



31.Ra7 Ra8 32.Rd7 Und hier wurde Remis vereinbart. Der weiße Materialvorteil ist kaum verwertbar.

32...Be8?!

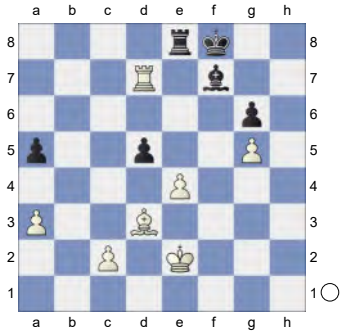
[32...Qg7!]

33.Qxe6+⩱

[33.Re7]

33...Bf7 34.Qe7⩱ Der weiße Läufer verteidigt gleichzeitig die Bauern c5 und h4. **34...Re8 35.Qxf8+ Kxf8**

(Diagram)



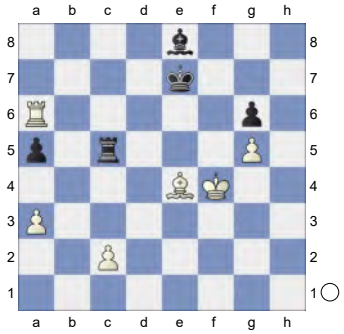
36.Kf3 dxe4+ 37.Bxe4 Re5⩱

[37...Rc8]

38.Kf4!? Rc5⩱ 39.Ra7 Be8⩱ 40.Ra6

[40.Bd3!? Bf7]

40...Ke7



41.Bxg6 Bxg6 42.Rxg6?! Rxc2

[42...Rc3 43.Ra6 Rxa3∞]

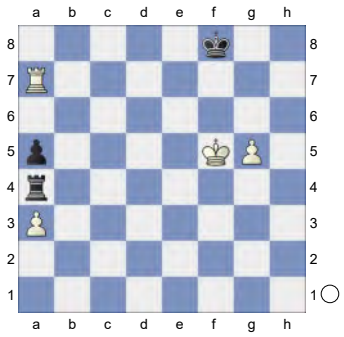
43.Ra6 Rc4+

[43...Rc5 44.Kg4 Kf7∞ 45.Kh5]

44.Kf5 Ra4 45.Ra7+

[45.Re6+ Kf7 46.Re3]

45...Kf8

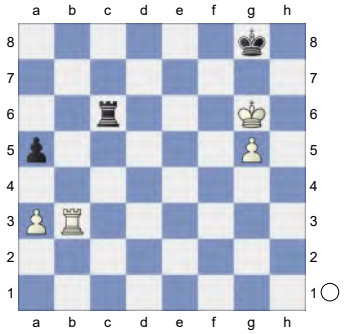


46.Kf6 Rf4+ 47.Kg6 Ra4 48.Rf7+

[48.Ra8+ Ke7 49.Kh7 Rxa3 50.g6 a4 0-1 Conquest,S-Khalifman,A/ Hastings 1995/Inf 65/[Khalifman,A]

(41)]

48...Kg8 49.Rf3 Rc4 50.Rb3 Rc6+



1-0 Kortschnoj,V-Huebner,R/Solingen 1973/MCL (66) **51.Kh5!? Ra6**

[51...Rc4 52.Rb8+ Kg7 53.Rb7+ Kg8 54.Kh6 Rc6+ ½-½ McNab,C-Lobejko,R/Koszalin 1998/CBM 65 ext (22) 55.g6 Rc8 56.Ra7]

52.a4

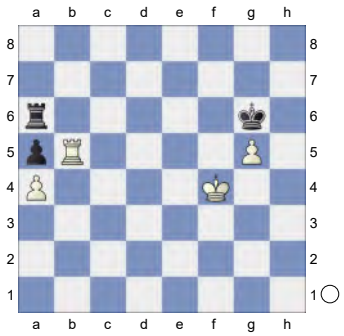
[52.Rb8+ Kg7 53.Rb7+ Kg8 54.a4 Kh8 55.g6 Kg8 56.Kh6 Ra8]

52...Ra7 53.Rb5 Kg7 54.Kg4⩲

[54.g6 Kh8 1-0 Reinderman-S. Ernst/Hoogeveen VAM op, SW 1998 (27) 55.Kh6 Rh7+ 56.Kg5 Ra7]

54...Kg6!? 55.Kf4 Ra6=

[55...Rf7+ 56.Ke4 Re7+ 57.Kd3 Rf7 58.Rxa5 Rf4]



56.Ke4 Ra8

[56...Re6+ 57.Kd5 Ra6 58.Kc4]

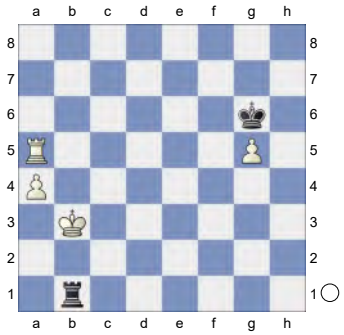
57.Kd4

[57.Re5 Rb8 58.Rxa5 Rb4+ 59.Kd5 Kxg5 60.Ra8]

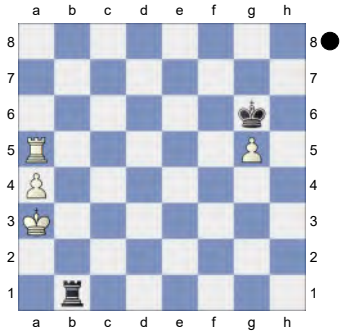
57...Rd8+

[57...Rf8 58.Rxa5 *(58.Ke4 Re8+ 59.Kd3 Rf8* 1-0 Reinderman,D-Van Wely,L/Wijk aan Zee NED 1999 (36) *60.Rxa5 Rf4)* 58...Rf4+ 59.Kc3 Rf3+ 60.Kb4 Rf4+ 61.Kb5 Kxg5]

58.Kc4 Rd1 59.Rxa5 Ra1 60.Kb3 Rb1+



61.Ka3



½-½

129 **C18**

☐ **Polgar,Judit** **2665**

■ **Spassky,Boris Vasilievich** **2545**

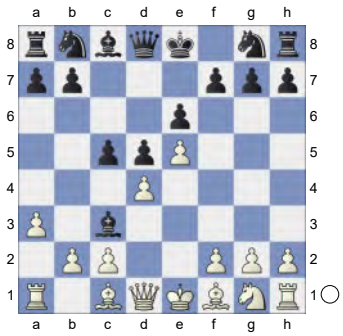
VAM Hoogeveen 2nd (3) 21.10.1998

[Kitty Kat]

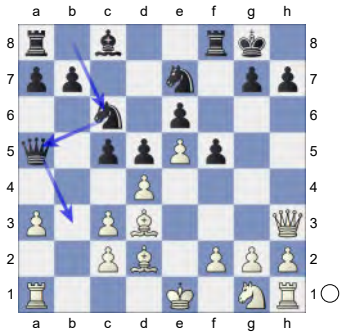
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

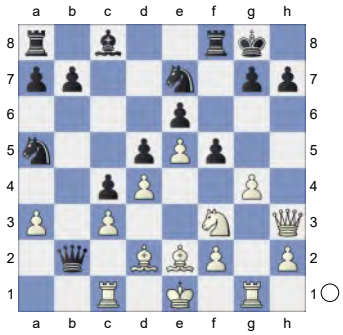
(Diagram)



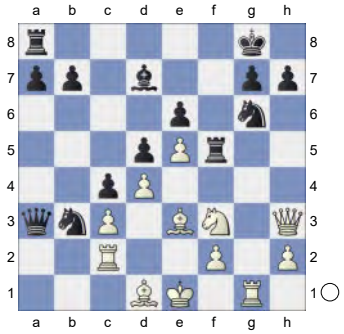
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.Qh3 Qa5 10.Bd2 Nbc6



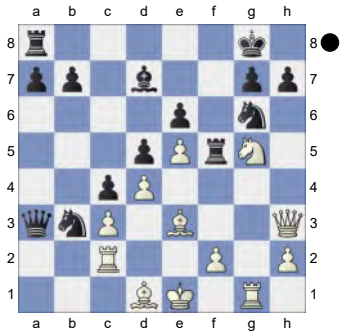
11.Nf3 Qa4 12.Rg1 -0.62/20
[12.Ng5 h6 13.Nf3 cxd4∓]
[White should try 12.dxc5± 0.64/20 Qa5 13.0-0 *(13.Ng5 h6±)*]
12...c4!∓ 13.Be2
[13.Ng5? h6 14.Nf3 cxd3-+]
13...Qxc2
[13...h6 14.g4±]
14.Rc1 Black is slightly better. **14...Qb2**
15.g4 Na5
[15...h6? 16.g5 g6 17.gxh6+-]



16.Bd1
[16.Ng5 h6 17.Nf3 Nb3]
[16.gxf5? Nxf5 17.Bd1 *(17.Ng5? h6-+)* 17...Nb3-+]
16...Nb3 Pair of Knights! **17.Rc2 Qxa3**
18.Bh6 Black must now prevent gxf5.
18...Ng6!
[Don't play 18...gxh6?! 19.Qxh6 Ng6 20.Nh4=]
19.gxf5 Rxf5
[19...gxh6? 20.fxg6 hxg6 21.Qxh6+-]
20.Be3
[But not 20.Bxg7? Kxg7 21.Qg3 Nc1-+]
20...Bd7

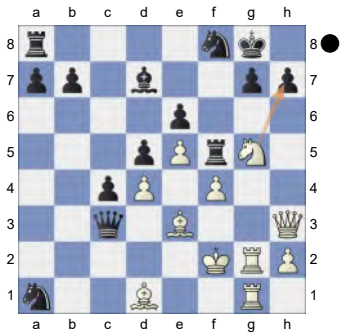


21.Ng5N



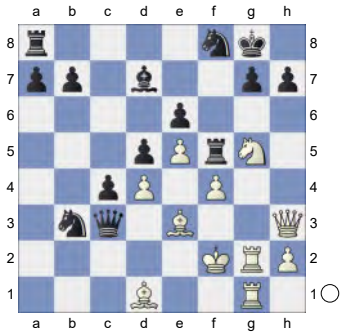
Nf8 -0.39/20
[21...Rxg5!∓ -0.82/20 22.Rxg5 a5]
22.f4 Na1! 23.Rcg2 Hoping for Nxh7!
23...Qxc3+ 24.Kf2

(Diagram)



Strongly threatening Nxh7! **24...g6** 0.01/20

[24...Nb3?

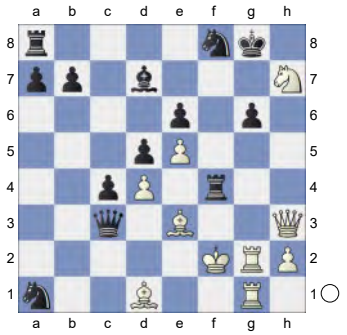


25.Ne4! Qb2+ 26.Ke1+-]

[24...Rxg5!∓ -1.09/20 25.Rxg5 g6]

25.Nxh7= And now Rxg6+ would win.

25...Rxf4+? 2.75/25

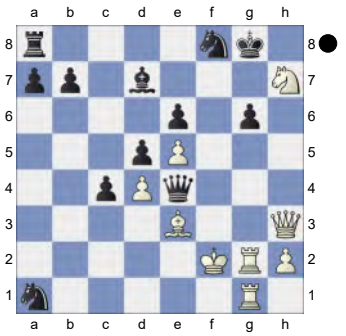


26.Bf3+- The board is on fire. **26...Qc2+** 3.14/25

[26...Nxh7± 0.60/20 27.Rxg6+ Kh8]

27.Kg3 Discovered Attack **27...Rxf3+ 28.Kxf3 Qe4+ 29.Kf2**

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.38

1-0

130 **C18**

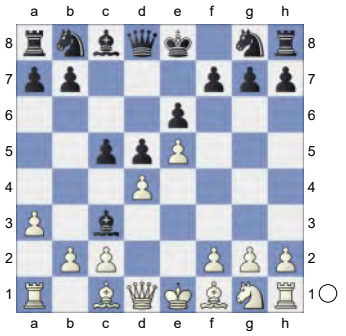
□ **Areshchenko,Alexander** **2664**

■ **Corrales Jimenez,Fidel** **2605**

FIDE World Cup (1.1) 21.11.2009

[Ftacnik,Lubomir]

1.e4 Ftacnik,L Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J Reeh **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qb1 a6

[8...c4 9.Nh3 *(9.Ne2±; 9.h4)* 9...Nc6 10.Nf4]

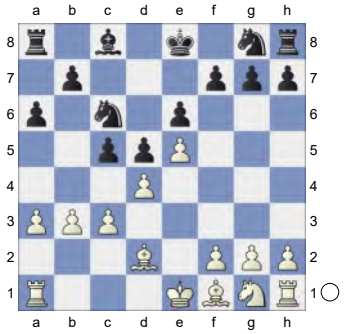
9.Qb3

[9.Nf3+- Nc6 *(9...Ne7 10.Qb3 Qxb3+-* 1-0 McShane,L (2455)-Dunnington,A (2420)/London 1997/(37) *11.cxb3! Nbc6 12.Rb1)* 10.Bd3 *(10.Qb3 Qxb3 11.cxb3 Na5 12.Rb1 c4)* 10...cxd4 11.Qb6 *(11.cxd4*

Nxd4 12.Nxd4 Qxd4= 13.0-0 Ne7 14.Re1 Nc6 15.Re3 h6 16.a4 Bd7 17.c3 Qc5 18.Bc1 0-0-0 19.Ba3 Qa7 20.c4 d4 21.Re2 f6 22.f4 f5 23.Bd6) 11...dxc3 12.Bxc3 Nge7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Rfb1-+ Ng6 15.Qc5-+ Rd8 16.Bxg6 fxg6 17.Nd4→ Nxd4 18.Bxd4 Bd7 19.Rxb7! Rdc8 20.Qb6∓]

9...Qxb3 10.cxb3 Nc6

[10...cxd4± White is slightly better, but the position remains a fighting one. 11.cxd4?? Nc6-+ 12.Bc3]



11.dxc5

[11.Nf3 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J Na5 12.Rb1 c4 13.bxc4 dxc4 14.Ng5 Ne7 15.Ne4 0-0]

11...Nxe5 12.Bf4

[12.f4 Nd7 13.Be3 Ngf6 14.Bd3 e5± 15.fxe5 Nxe5+- 16.Bc2 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J 0-0 17.Bd4 Re8 18.0-0-0 Bg4]

[12.c4 Ne7± 13.cxd5 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J exd5 14.0-0-0 Bf5 15.Bc3 f6]

12...Ng6 13.Bd6 e5

[13...Nh6 14.Nf3± Dominguez Perez, Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: ' Δ h5 → ' *(14.Bd3 f6)* 14...Nf5 15.Bc7 Bd7 16.0-0-0]

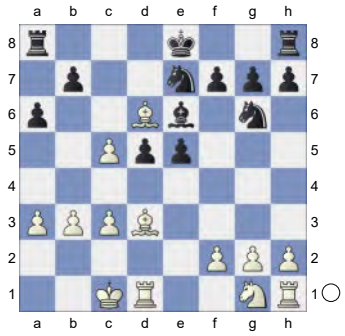
14.0-0-0 Be6

[14...Nf6 15.Bd3 *(15.f3! Be6 16.h4)* 15...Ne4 16.Bxe4± dxe4 17.Ne2 Bg4 18.Rhe1 Bxe2 *(18...f5= 19.Rd2* Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J *Bxe2 20.Rexe2 Kf7 21.g4 Kf6 22.gxf5± Kxf5* Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J *23.Re3?!)* 19.Rxe2 f5 20.g4 Nf4 21.Re3 Nd3+ 22.Rdxd3 exd3 23.Rxe5+ Kd7 24.Re7+ Kc6 25.gxf5]

15.Bd3

[15.h4 h5 16.f4 *(16.Bd3 N8e7)* 16...exf4 17.Bd3 Nf6 *(17...N8e7 18.Ne2± Bg4 19.Rd2 Bxe2 20.Rxe2 Kd7 21.c4)* 18.Bxg6 fxg6 19.Nh3 Bxh3∓ 20.Rxh3 0-0-0 21.Rf3 Rhe8 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: '∞']

15...N8e7



16.Ne2 Nc8

[16...e4 17.Bc2 Nf5 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J 18.Bc7?! Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J Rc8 19.Bb6 0-0 20.c4]

[16...0-0-0 17.h4□ e4 *(17...h5 18.Ng3 f6 19.Be2∓)* 18.Bc2 Nf5→ 19.h5 Ngh4-+ *(19...Nge7 20.Bf4)* 20.Be5 f6-+ *(20...Nxg2 21.h6)* 21.Nd4 Rhe8 22.Nxf5 Nxf5-+ 23.Bf4!?]

17.Bc7 Kd7 18.Ba5 This extremely sharp version of the Dragon variation in

the Sicilian Defence remains an enigma even for the greatest experts. In complicated variations players are only gradually uncovering the objective truth.

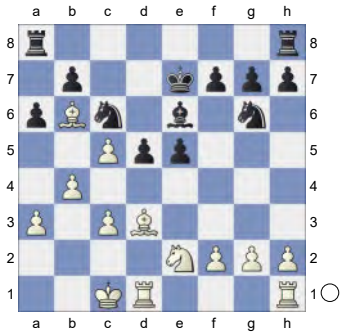
18...Nce7 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: '!'

[18...Kc6= 19.c4 Dominguez Perez, Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J]

19.b4 White is most probably forced to play towards the centre, otherwise his opponent can eliminate the bishop on b3.

[19.c4 Ke8 *(19...d4 20.Be4-+ Nc6 21.Bb6 f5 22.Bxc6+ bxc6 23.f4; 19...Kc8 20.Bb6)* 20.h4 *(20.cxd5 Bxd5□ 21.Rd2 Rc8-+ 22.b4 Bxg2)* 20...dxc4 21.bxc4 Bf5 22.Bxf5∞ Nxf5 23.h5]

19...Nc6 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: 'N' **20.Bb6 Ke7**



Recapturing with the pawn is opening the b-file for the counter attack against white king. There are truly chances opening up. **21.Bc2 a5** Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: '!'

[21...Kf8 22.h4 Nge7 23.f4 Bg4 24.Rhe1! exf4 25.Rd2]

[21...Rhc8 22.h4]

[21...Kf6 22.f4 Nxf4 23.Rhf1 Ke7= 24.Nxf4?! exf4 25.Rxf4]

22.b5? Areshchenko is trusting his own initiative and underestimates the activity of his opponent. **22...Na7**

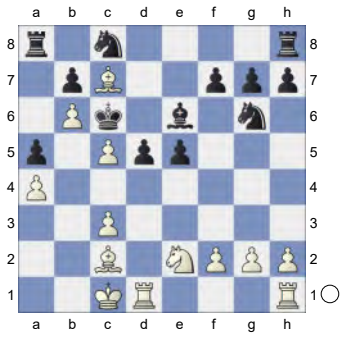
[22...Nb8□ 23.Bc7 Nd7 24.c4 dxc4 25.Bd6+ Kf6-+ 26.Nc3!? Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J]

23.a4 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: '□'

[23.c4? Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: '??' d4 and White wins. und Weiß siegt. *(23...dxc4+- 24.Nc3* Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J *Nf4 25.Rhe1)* 24.Rhe1 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J Bxc4 25.a4 Nc8 26.Bc7]

23...Nc8 Black is finding it hard to make decisions as the position is too complicated. A possible improvement might be exchanging pawns on b3.

24.Bc7 Kd7 25.b6 Kc6



26.c4 d4

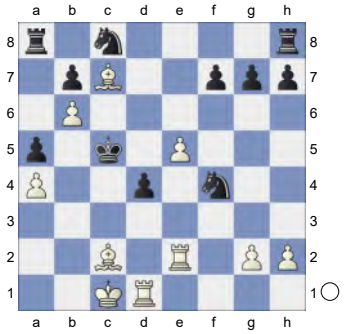
[26...Kxc5 27.cxd5 Bxd5 28.Rd3-+]

Reeh: It may well be that the move repetion is best here, but what White player would seriously consider that in this position? Reeh: Es kann durchaus sein, dass die Zugwiederholung hier das beste ist, aber welcher Weißspieler würde in dieser Stellung ernsthaft daran denken? **27.f4 Bxc4 28.Rhe1 Kxc5**

[28...f6-+ 29.fxe5 Dominguez Perez, Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J fxe5 30.Ng3 Re8 *(30...Bd5 31.Rd2 Re8 32.Bd3-+)* 31.Be4+-+ Bd5 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J 32.Bxg6 hxg6 33.Bxe5]

29.fxe5 Bxe2? Dominguez Perez,

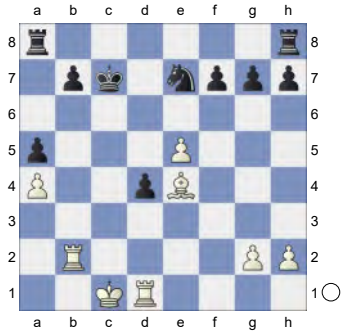
Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: '??' In highly charged positions chess is often a tragedy of a single tempo. The queen on a6 is not controlling the square g1 and this will become Corrales' undoing. Reeh: 'One single slip - and it's all over.' Reeh: 'Ein einziger Fehlgriff - und alles ist vorbei.' **30.Rxe2!** Dominguez Perez, Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: '+-!!' **30...Nf4**



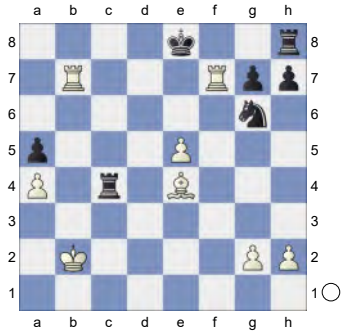
Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron, J: '□' **31.Rf2** Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: '!' **31...Ne6** Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: '□'

[31...Nd5 32.Rxf7 *(32.Bb3)* 32...Ne3 33.Be4! *(33.Rd3* (Reeh) doesn't help on account of hilft nicht wegen *Nxc2!* but not nicht aber *34.Kxc2?? Nxb6* Before thinking about his own attack, Black should have blocked the g-file: Bevor er an seinen eigenen Angriff denkt, hätte Schwarz die g-Linie plombieren müssen: *35.Bxb6+!!* Reeh *Kxb6 36.Rxd4* , and now it is the white king who will be hunted down: , und nun ist es der weiße König, dem es an den Kragen geht: *Rac8+ 37.Kd3!! Rhe8 38.Rd5)* 33...Nxd1 34.Kxd1 Ra6 35.Bxb7 # Rxb6 36.Bxc8 Rxc8 37.Bxb6+ Kxb6 38.Rxg7 Re8 39.Rxh7 # Rxe5 Reeh 40.g4 and there is no defence against 35.gxh5+ followed by mate. und es gibt keine Verteidigung gegen 35. gxh5+ nebst Matt. Re4 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J 41.g5! Instead, victory would have been spoilt by Den Sieg verschenkt hätte dagegen Rg4? (Reeh) 42.h4 and the black king escapes via f8. und der schwarze König entkommt über f8. Not Nicht Kc5 Reeh 43.Ke2 Kc4 44.Kf3 Rg1 45.Ke4 and Black holds. und Schwarz hält sich.]

32.Be4 Nxc7 Dominguez Perez,Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J: ' □ ' **33.bxc7!** Reeh: 'The coup-de-grace.' Reeh: 'Der Gnadenstoß.' **33...Ne7 34.Rc2+ Kb6 35.Rb2+ Kxc7**

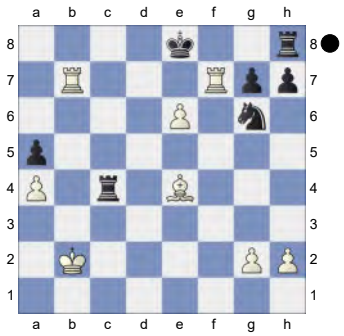


36.Rxb7+ Kd8 37.Rxd4+ Ke8 38.Rdd7 Rc8+ Dominguez Perez, Leinier; Ibarra Padron,J **39.Kb2 Ng6 40.Rxf7 Rc4**



41.e6

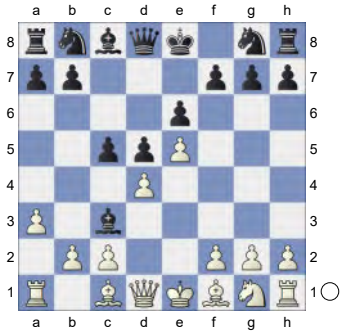
(Diagram)



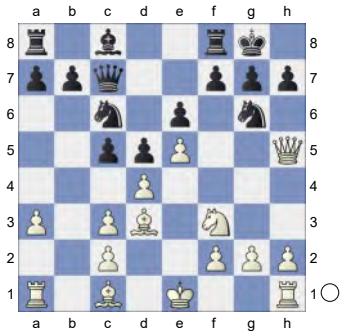
1-0

131 **C18**
□ **Robson,Nigel** **2664**
■ **Bonatti,Walter** **2395**
IECG WC.2005.F.00001 05.06.2006
[Morgado,Juan Sebastian_17373]

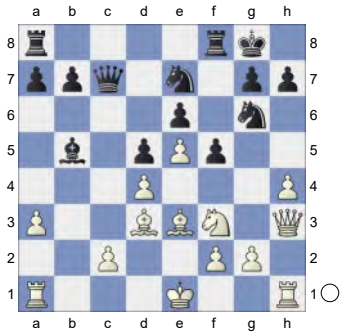
Ktty Kat: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Chapter' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



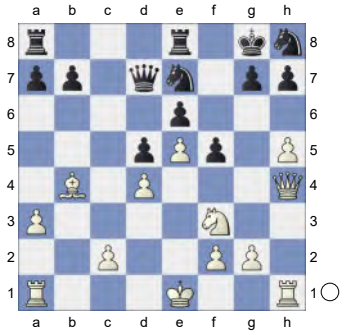
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7



11.Be3 Nce7 12.h4 Bd7 13.Qg4
Ktty Kat: '!'
[13.dxc5 b6±]
13...f5 Ktty Kat: 'White is slightly better.'
14.Qh3 cxd4 15.cxd4 Bb5



Ktty Kat: ' Decoy' **16.Bxb5 Qa5+ 17.Bd2 Qxb5 18.h5 Nh8 19.Bb4 Rfe8 20.Qh4 Qd7**



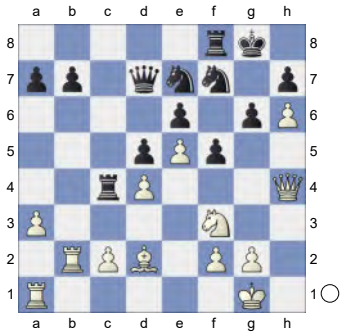
Ktty Kat: ' Black is weak on the dark squares' **21.h6** Ktty Kat: ' White threatens h6xg7 and mate.'
[21.Rh3
A) 21...Rac8 22.Kd1?! *(22.Rc1∓)* 22...Rc4?! *(22...Nf7→)* 23.Nd2 Rcc8∓ Dominguez Perez,L (2607)-Matamoros Franco,C (2484)/Guayaquil 2003/CBM 096 ext;
B) 21...Nf7 22.Rg3 Kh8 23.0-0-0 Ng8∓ Delchev,A (2661)-Berg,E (2540)/Kusadasi 2006/CBM 111 ext 24.Ng1 a5 25.Be1 Qa4 26.Ne2 Rac8 27.Rd2 Re7 28.h6 g5 29.Qh3 g4 30.Qh5 Ngxh6 31.Kb2 Rec7 32.Rb3 Rc4 33.c3 b5 34.Qh4 Ng8 35.Nf4 b4

3.d4 cd4 4. ♘d4 e5 5. ♘b5/ (2640)- Chapter Part (2539) 65/449 Wijk aan Zee 1996]

21...g6 Ktty Kat: 'N' **22.0-0** Ktty Kat: ' White is much more active. The black rooks are passive.' **22...Nf7** 1.13/21

[⌓22...Rac8 0.77/21]

23.Bd2 Ktty Kat: ' ±' **23...Rf8** **24.Rfb1** Ktty Kat: ' →' Ktty Kat: ' White has strong attack.' **24...Rac8** **25.Rb2** **Rc4** Ktty Kat: '



' **26.a4** Ktty Kat: '!'

[26.Bb4 Re8=]

26...Nc6

[26...Nd8 27.Bb4 Ndc6 28.Bxe7 Nxe7 29.Nd2 Rc7=]

27.a5

[27.Rab1 Qd8∓]

27...Nfd8 1.36/22

[⌓27...Qc8 0.80/22 28.Rab1 b6 29.axb6 axb6 30.Rxb6 Qd8 31.Qxd8 Rxd8]

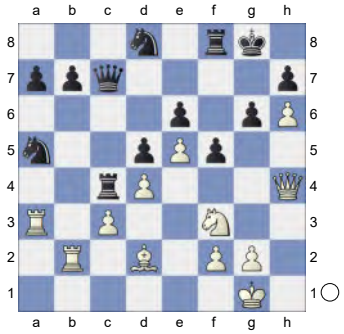
28.c3 **Qc7** 1.55/21

[⌓28...a6 1.14/22]

29.Ra3 Ktty Kat: '!' **29...Nxa5** Ktty Kat: '

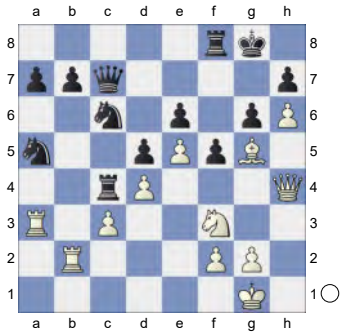
[29...Nf7 30.Rb1 Ncd8 31.Rbb3=]

(Diagram)



' **30.Bg5** Ktty Kat: '!' **30...Ndc6**

[30...Nac6? 31.Nd2±]



31.Nd2 Ktty Kat: ' White has strong compensation.' **31...a6** **32.Bf6**

[32.Rba2 Qb6 33.Bf6 Rf7 34.Qg5 Rf8∞]

32...Rf7 2.39/22

[32...b5± 1.55/21 was worth a try.]

33.Qg5

[33.Nxc4 Nxc4 34.Rba2 Nxa3 35.Rxa3 Qb6∓]

33...b5?!

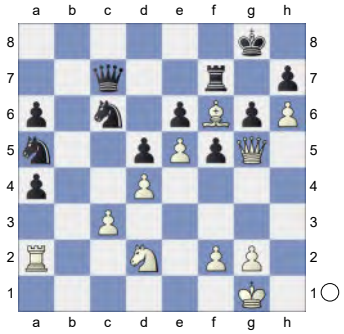
[33...Rf8±]

34.Rba2→

[34.Nxc4 Nxc4 35.Rxa6 Nxb2±]

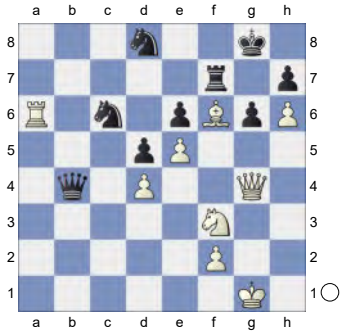
34...Ra4□ **35.Rxa4** **bxa4**

(Diagram)

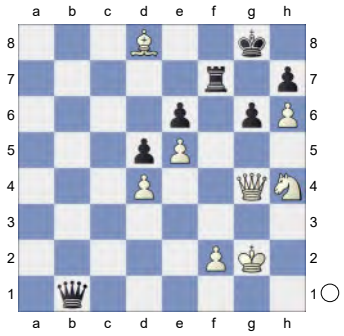


36.g4 1.27/21
[36.Rxa4 1.85/22 Ktty Kat: '+-' Ktty Kat: ' Nd2-f3 would now be deadly.' Qb6 37.g4↑ *(37.Ra1)*]
36...fxg4 2.24/22
[36...Nb3 37.gxf5 Nxd2 38.Qxd2 gxf5 39.Rxa4→]
[36...f4± 1.27/21 37.Rxa4 *(37.Qxf4 Na7+-)* 37...Qb7 38.Qxf4 Qb5]
37.Qxg4 Ktty Kat: '+-'
[37.Rxa4 Rf8 38.Qxg4 Re8]
37...Nd8
[37...Qc8 38.Rxa4→]
38.Rxa4 Ktty Kat: ' Black must now prevent Nd2-f3.' **38...Qxc3?!** 2.98/23
[38...Nac6 2.07/22 Ktty Kat: ' was necessary.' 39.Rxa6→ Qb7]
39.Nf3± Ktty Kat: ' And now Kg1-g2 would win.'
[39.Bxd8 Qxd2 40.Bf6 Nc6=]
39...Nac6
[39...Rf8 40.Nh4+-]
[39...Qc1+ 40.Kg2+-]
40.Rxa6+- Qb4
[40...Qc1+ 41.Kg2 Qxh6 42.Ng5]

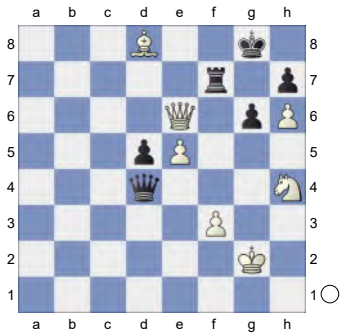
(Diagram)



41.Ra8 Ktty Kat: ' Qg4xe6! is the strong threat.' **41...Qb7** 6.49/23
[⌓41...Rf8 4.22/24 42.Bxd8 Remove Defender Nxd8 43.Rxd8 Remove Defender Rxd8 44.Qxe6+ Kf8 45.Qf6+ Ke8 46.Qc6+ *(46.Ng5 Qe7±)* 46...Kf8]
42.Rxd8+ Nxd8 43.Bxd8 Rf5 44.Nh4 Qb1+ 45.Kg2 Rf7

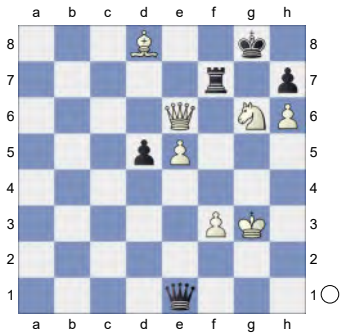


46.Qxe6 Qe4+ 47.f3 Qxd4 Ktty Kat: '



' **48.Nxg6** Ktty Kat: '!' **48...Qd2+ 49.Kg3 Qe1+** Ktty Kat: '

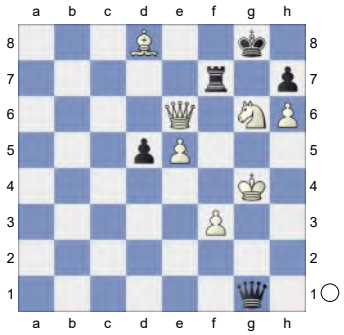
(Diagram)



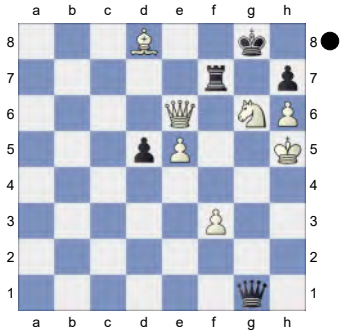
' **50.Kg4** Ktty Kat: '!' Ktty Kat: ' Qe6-e8+ would kill now.'

[Weaker is 50.Kg2 Qe2+ *(50...hxg6? loses. 51.Qe8+* Deflection *Kh7 52.Qxf7++-)* 51.Kh3 Qxf3+ *(51...hxg6 52.h7+* Decoy *Kxh7 53.Qxf7+ Kh6 54.Bg5+* Decoy *Kxg5 55.Qf6+ Kh6 56.Qh8+ Kg5 57.Qh4+ Kf5 58.Qf6#)* 52.Kh4 hxg6 53.Qxg6+ Kf8 54.Qd6+ Ke8=]

50...Qg1+



51.Kh5



Ktty Kat: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.43'

1-0

132 **C17**

□ **Adams,Mi** **2661**

■ **Lalic,S.** **2227**

TCh-EUR Senior +50 2025 (2.5) 06.04.25

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

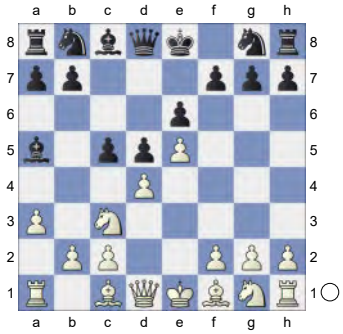
Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356' Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**

[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4* Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62)*; 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½ (45) *)* 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]

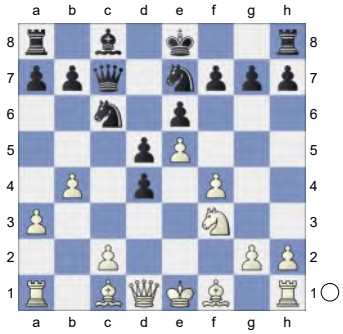
[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray

G] 1-0]

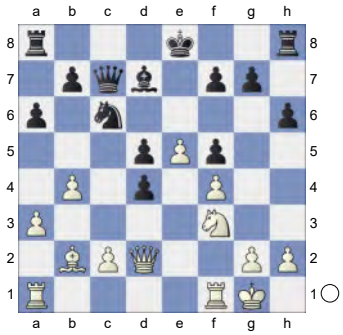
5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.f4 Ne7 9.Nf3 Nbc6 10.Nxc7+ Qxc7

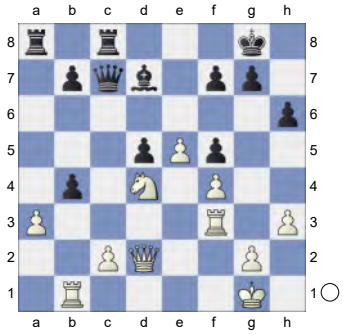


11.Bd3 a6 White has an edge. **12.0-0 Bd7 13.Bb2 h6 14.Qd2 Nf5 15.Bxf5 exf5**



16.Bxd4 Nxd4 17.Nxd4 0-0 18.Rf3 Rfc8 19.h3 a5 20.Rb1 axb4

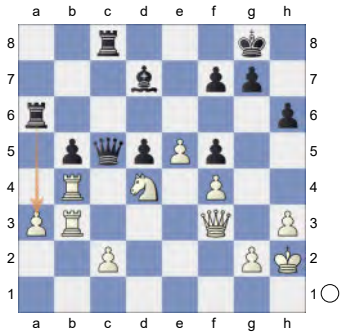
(Diagram)



21.Rxb4 Ra6 22.Rfb3 b5 23.Kh2

[23.Nxb5 Qxc2 24.Qxc2 Rxc2=]

23...Rg6 24.Qd3 Qc5 25.Qf3 Ra6



26.c3 Ra4 27.Qd3 Rxb4 0.63/23

[27...Qc4= 0.27/24 is superior. 28.Qb1 *(28.Rxc4 dxc4 29.Qd2 cxb3=)* 28...Rxb4 29.axb4 Ra8]

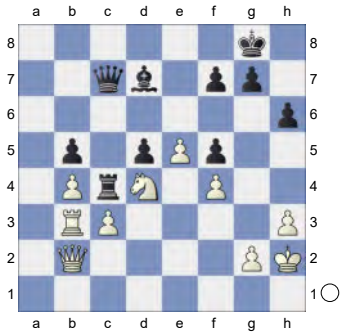
28.axb4± Qa7 29.Qb1 0.42/21 Against Qa1

[29.Qf3± 0.73/22]

29...Rc4 30.Qb2

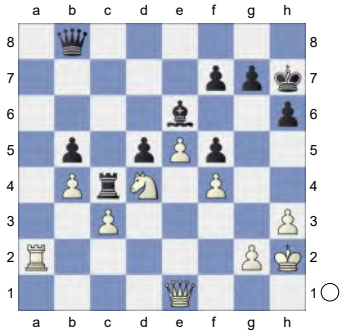
[Much worse is 30.Nxf5 Rxf4 31.Nd4 *(31.Ne7+ Kh8∓)* 31...Re4∓]

30...Qc7

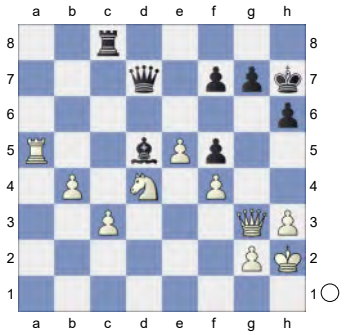


31.Qa1 Kh7 32.Ra3 Qd8 33.Ra7 Be6 34.Qe1 Qb6 35.Ra2 &Bianco is much

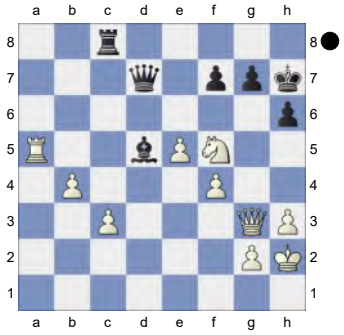
more active. **35...Qb8**



36.Ra3 Qd8 37.Qg3 Qd7 1.82/23
[37...Qb6± 0.98/23 38.Qe3 Qb7]
38.Ra5+- Rc8 2.73/25
[⌓38...Qe7 1.77/22]
39.Nxb5
[Don't take 39.Rxb5 Rc4+-]
39...d4 40.Nxd4 Bd5? 5.45/22
[40...Bc4 2.70/21 was called for. 41.Qf3 g6]



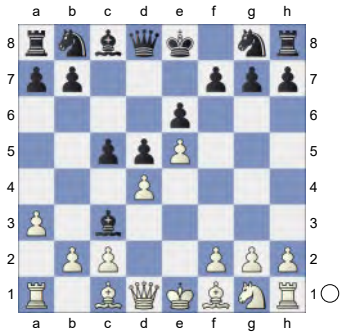
41.Nxf5!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.19 (very precise)
1-0

133 **C19**
☐ **Balogh,C.** **2660**
■ **Fedorchuk,Sergey A.** **2673**
Corsican Circuit Final 2014 (2.3)
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
RR: 'Inf 49/(357)' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

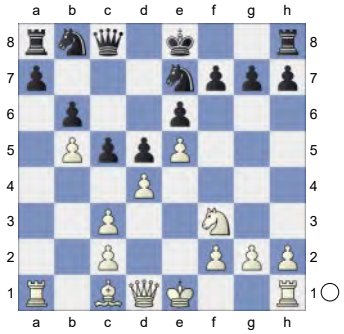


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Nf3 b6 8.a4N
[8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.Bd3 h6 *(9...Qc7 10.0-0 Ba4 11.Re1 h6 12.Ra2 Nd7 13.Nh4 0-0-0 14.g3 Kb8 15.Rb2 Ka8 16.Ng2 Nc6 17.Qg4 Rhg8 18.Be3 c4 19.Bf1 f5 20.exf6 Nxf6 21.Qxe6 Rge8 22.Qf5 Ne4 23.Nf4 Qd6 24.Bh3* Ehlvest,J (2605)-Beliavsky,A (2655) Reykjavik 1991 CI1-130 [Ehlvest,Jaan] 1-0 (44) *Nb8 25.Bg2 Bc6 26.Ra2 Nxc3 27.Raa1 g5 28.Ne2 Bd7 29.Qf7 Re7 30.Qh5 Be8 31.Qh3 Ne4 32.Bxe4 Rxe4 33.Nc3 Re7 34.Bd2 Bd7 35.Qg2 Bc6 36.Rxe7 Qxe7 37.a4 Qh7 38.Rc1 Qf5 39.h3* Flyckt Olsen,J-Peltais,A Budapest 1989 CYB 04 [Ivell, Nicholas W] ½-½ (44) *)* 10.h4 Ba4 11.h5 Nd7 12.0-0 Qc7 13.Re1 0-0-0 14.Nh4 Kb7 15.Ra2 Qc6 16.Qg4 Rdg8 17.Rb2 g5 18.Nf3 c4 19.Bf1 Rf8 20.Nh2 Rh7 21.Qh3 Qc8 22.f4 gxf4 Dolmatov,S-Nikolic,P Moscow

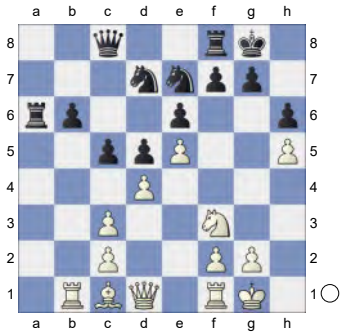
1990 French Nc3 [Myers] ½-½ (64) 23.Bxf4 f5 24.Be2 Rg8 25.Kh1 Nb8 26.Nf1 Nbc6 27.Ne3 Nd8 28.Qh4 Qd7 29.g4 Qe8 30.Rf1 Nf7 31.Bh2 Ng5 32.gxf5 Nxf5 33.Nxf5 exf5 34.Rxf5 Rf7 35.Rf4 Qe7 36.Bf3 Nxf3 37.Qxe7+ Rxe7 Dolmatov,S (2560)-Maiorov,O (2435) Krasnodar 1997 EXT 2000 [Nor,I] 1-0 (64)]

8...Ba6 9.Bb5+ Bxb5 10.axb5 Qc8 0.48/16

[10...Qd7= 0.17/18 deserves consideration.]



11.0-0 a5 12.bxa6 Rxa6 13.Rb1 0-0 14.h4 h6 15.h5 Nd7



16.Re1 cxd4 17.cxd4 Ra2 18.Rb2 Ra1 19.Nh4 -0.79/19

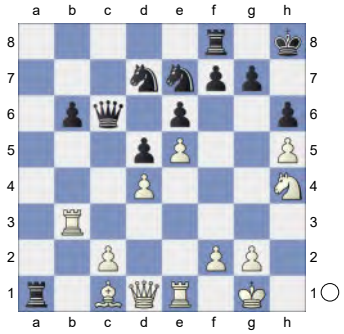
[19.Rb3= -0.20/18 keeps the balance.]

19...Kh8 -0.01/20

[19...Qc4!∓ -0.79/19]

20.Rb3= Qc6 0.53/20

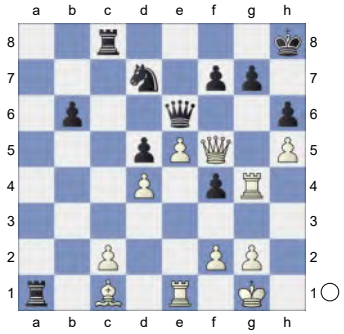
[Black should try 20...Qc4= 0.01/21]



21.Rg3± Nf5 22.Nxf5 exf5 23.Qd3 f4 24.Rg4 &Bianco is more active. **24...Rc8 25.Qf5** 0.01/21

[25.Rxf4± 0.36/23 was preferrable. Kg8 26.Qf5]

25...Qe6=



26.Qxf4 Rxc2 27.Rg3 Rc8 28.Kh2 -0.41/22

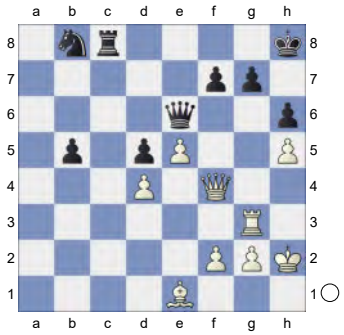
[28.Ra3= -0.01/20 Rxa3 29.Bxa3]

28...b5 29.Bd2 -0.61/23

[29.Ra3= -0.27/21 Rb1 30.Rf3]

29...Rxe1∓ 30.Bxe1 Nb8 0.27/22

[30...Rc4∓ -0.35/20]

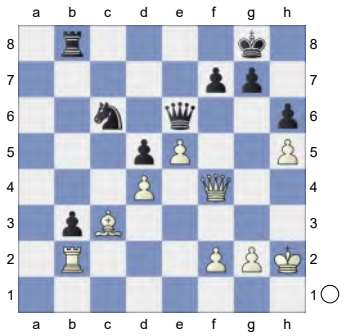


31.Rf3= Nc6 32.Rb3 -0.31/21

[32.Qxf7= 0.09/21 Nxd4 33.Qxe6

Nxe6 34.Rd3]

32...b4 33.Rb2 Rb8 34.Bd2 b3 35.Bc3 Kg8



36.Qf3 Ne7 37.Bd2 -0.75/20

[37.Rb1!= -0.30/20 is more appropriate.]

37...Qf5∓ 38.Kg3 -0.97/23

[38.Qxf5!∓ -0.66/24 Nxf5 39.Bc3]

38...Qxf3+

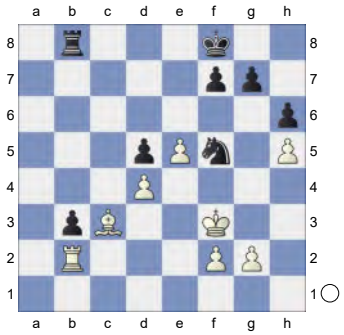
[38...Rb5 is more complex. 39.Qe2 Rb7 40.Kh2 Rb8]

39.Kxf3 Endgame KRB-KRN **39...Nf5** -0.23/22

[39...Nc8∓ -0.66/24]

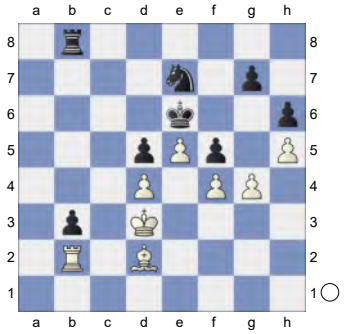
40.Bc3= Kf8

[40...g6!?]



41.Ke2 Ke8 42.Kd3 Kd7 43.Bd2 Ke6 44.g4 Ne7 45.f4 f5

(Diagram)



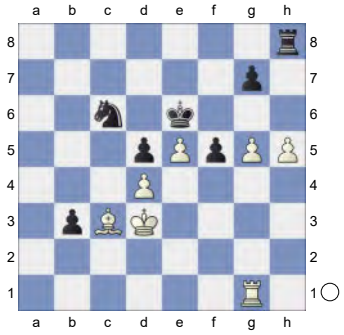
46.g5 -1.03/22

[46.exf6= 0.00/23 Kxf6 47.Rb1]

46...Nc6 -0.01/23

[Better is 46...g6!∓ -1.03/22]

47.Bc3 Rb5 48.Rb1 Rb8 49.Rg1 Hoping for gxh6. **49...hxg5 50.fxg5 Rh8**



51.Rh1 f4 52.h6 gxh6 53.Rxh6+ -0.73/21

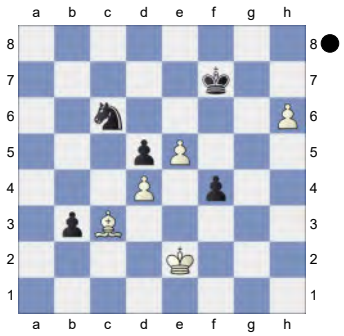
[53.gxh6= -0.12/20 Rh7 54.Rh4]

53...Rxh6∓ 54.gxh6= h7 is the strong threat. KB-KN **54...Kf7!** And now ...Kg6 would win. **55.Ke2** -2.25/27

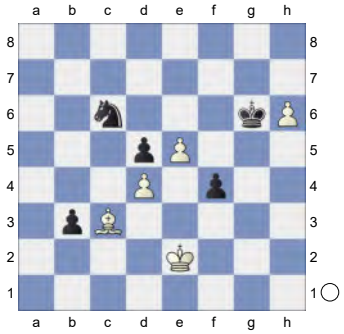
[Don't go for 55.h7? Kg7 56.h8R Kxh8-+]

[55.Bd2∓ -0.79/25]

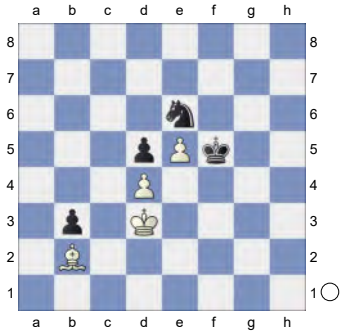
(Diagram)



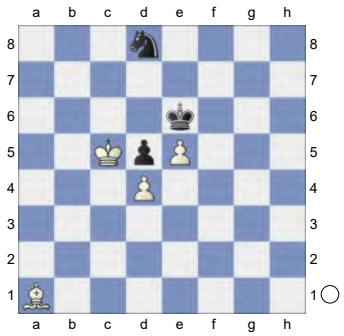
55...Kg6? -0.01/23
[55...Nd8!-+ -2.25/27 White must now prevent ...Ne6. 56.h7 Kg7]



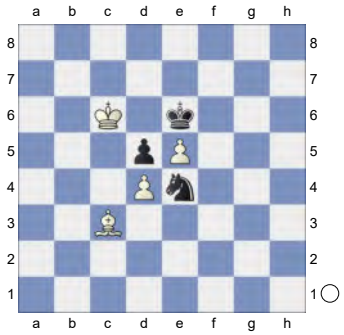
56.Kf3 Kxh6 57.Kxf4 aiming for Kf5.
57...Kg6 58.Ke3 Kf5 0.63/36
[58...Na7= -0.01/32]
59.Kd3 0.00/33
[White should play 59.Kd2± 0.63/36]
59...Nd8 0.58/34
[59...Na7= 0.00/33]
60.Bb2± Ne6



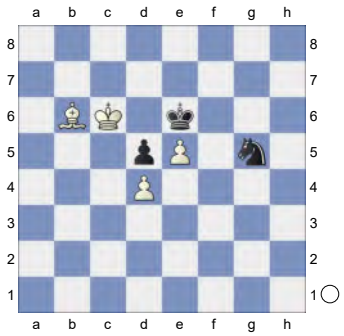
61.Ba1 Kf4 62.Kc3 Ke4 63.Kxb3 Kf5 64.Kb4 Nd8
[64...Ke4? 65.Kb5+-]
65.Kc5 Ke6



66.Kb6 Nf7 67.Bc3 Ng5 68.Bb2 Nf3 69.Kc6 Nd2 70.Bc3 Ne4

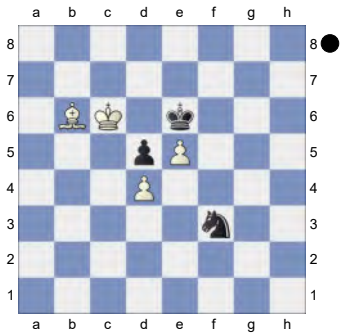


71.Bb4 Ng5 72.Bc5 0.00/39
[72.Kc5± 0.73/34]
72...Nf3= 73.Bb6 Ng5 0.73/34
[73...Nxe5+!= 0.00/39 remains equal. 74.Kb5 Nf3]
74.Bc5 0.01/32
[74.Ba5± 0.73/34]
74...Nf3 75.Bb6 Ng5



76.Bc5 0.01/32
[76.Ba5!± 0.74/31]
76...Nf3 77.Bb6

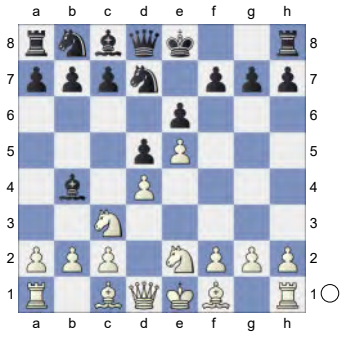
(Diagram)



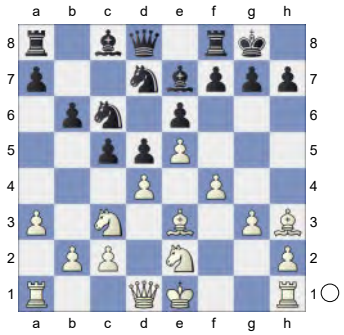
Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.24 (precise)
½-½

134 **C15**
□ **Zamlutti Junior,Rene** **2656**
■ **Pape,Joerg** **2580**
ARG-ch sf 98th 2023
[Kitty Kat]

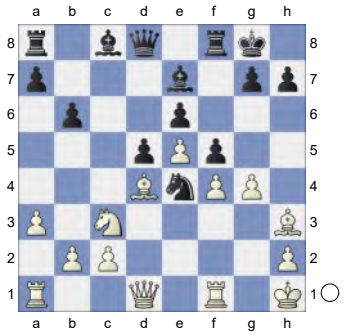
C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7



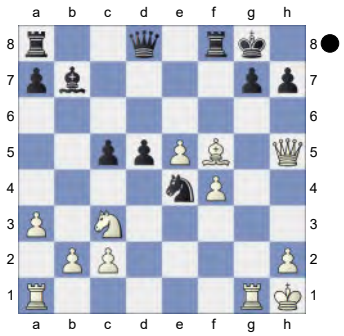
6.a3 Be7 7.f4 c5 8.Be3 b6 9.g3
[9.f5 looks sharper. exf5 10.Nxd5 Bb7 11.Nxe7 Qxe7 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Qd6]
[9.Qd2 Nc6 10.g3 0-0 11.Bg2 Ba6 12.Kf2 f6 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Bxd5+ Kh8 15.Bxc6 fxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Qxd8 Raxd8 Shyaamnikhil,P (2477)-Lagarde,M (2581) Reykjavik 156/(110) 2023 [Perunovic,Milos]]
9...Nc6 10.Bh3N
[10.Bg2 0-0 11.0-0 f6 12.Nxd5 1-0 (12) Pinson,H-Lopes,G Corr (Europe) 1985]
10...0-0



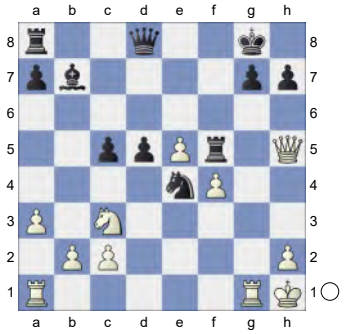
11.0-0 f5 0.26/16
[⊿11...Ba6 -0.07/17]
12.g4 Threatens to win with gxf5.
12...cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Nc5 15.Kh1 Ne4



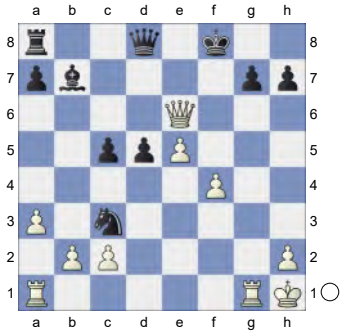
16.Rg1 Bb7 17.gxf5 exf5
[17...Nxc3? 18.Qg4 Bg5 19.bxc3 *(19.fxg5 exf5 20.Qg2 Ne4=; 19.Qxg5 Qxg5 20.Rxg5 Ne4±)* 19...Rxf5 20.fxg5+-]
18.Qh5 Bc5 19.Bxc5 -0.34/21
[19.Ne2= 0.28/18 Qe8 20.Qxe8 *(20.Qh6 Nf2+ 21.Bxf2 d4+ 22.Bg2 gxh6∓)* 20...Raxe8 21.b4]
19...bxc5 0.10/19
[19...Nxc5∓ -0.34/21 20.Rad1 d4+ 21.Bg2 Qd7]
20.Bxf5→
(Diagram)



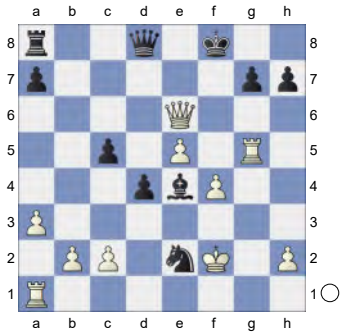
White mounts an attack. **20...Rxf5!**



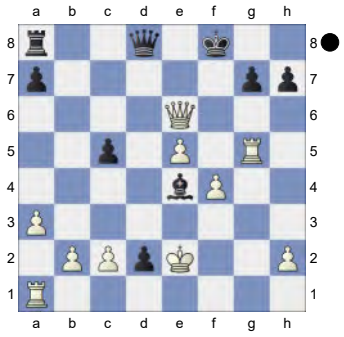
21.Qxf5 Nxc3 1.09/24
[21...Nf2+!= 0.01/21 keeps the balance. 22.Kg2 d4+ 23.Kxf2 Qh4+ 24.Kf1 dxc3 25.bxc3 Ba6+ 26.Kg2 Bb7+ 27.Kf1 Ba6+ 28.Kg2 Bb7+ 29.Kf1]
22.Qe6+±
[22.bxc3?! d4+ 23.Rg2 Bxg2+ 24.Kxg2 Qd5+ 25.Kg3 Rf8=]
22...Kf8



And now ...d4+ would win. **23.Rg5!** Rf5+ would kill now. &Bianco is more active.
[But not 23.Qf5+ Kg8 24.Qe6+ *(24.bxc3 d4+ 25.Rg2 Bxg2+ 26.Kxg2 Qd5+ 27.Kg3 Rf8=)* 24...Kf8+-]
23...d4+ 24.Kg1 White threatens Rf5+ and mate. **24...Ne2+ 25.Kf2** Threatening mate with Rf5+. **25...Be4**

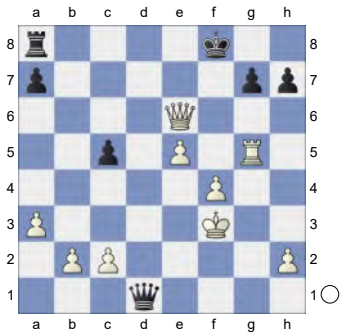


Prevents Rf5+. **26.Kxe2** Strongly threatening Qd6+. Dancing on a razor blade. **26...d3+ 27.Kf1?** 0.41/21
[27.Kd2+- 2.02/21]
27...d2 0.85/21 Prevents Re1.
[27...dxc2± 0.41/21 28.Qd6+ Qxd6 29.exd6 Rd8]
28.Ke2 -0.01/18
[28.Rd1± 0.85/21 Bxc2 29.Rf5+ Bxf5 30.Qxf5+ Kg8 31.e6 *(31.Qc2 Qd5=)*]

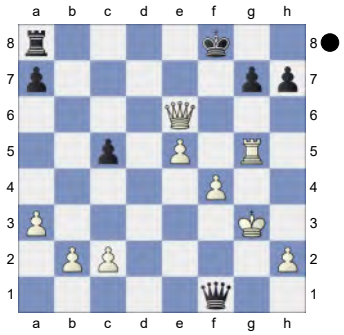


28...Bf3+!= Decoy. The position is equal.
29.Kxf3 Intending Rf5+ and mate.
29...d1Q+ 30.Rxd1 Qxd1+

(Diagram)



31.Kg3 Qg1+ 32.Kh3 Qf1+ 33.Kg3 Qg1+ 34.Kh3 Qf1+ 35.Kg3



Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

135 **C18**
□ **Levano Loayza,Adriano Jaffet** **2656**
■ **Molaei,Mohammadamin** **2667**
corr(BCF Grand open) (3) 17.10.2000
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

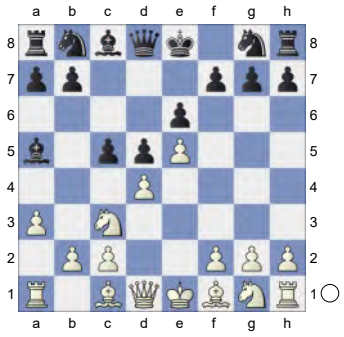
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N

[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]

[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 Cl1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

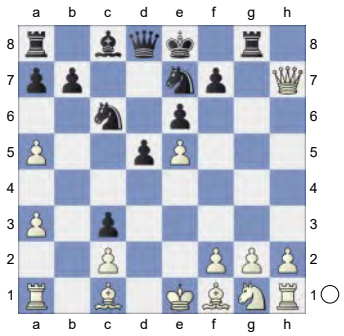
[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4 7.Qg4 Ne7 8.bxa5 dxc3 9.Qxg7 Rg8 10.Qxh7 Nbc6

(Diagram)



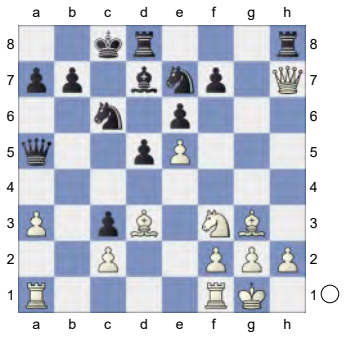
11.Nf3 Qc7 12.Bf4 Bd7 13.Bd3 0-0-0! 14.Bg3 -0.01/20

[Wrong is 14.Qxf7? Rdf8 15.Qh5 Rxf4-+]

[Better is 14.a6!± 0.62/19]

14...Qxa5= 15.0-0 Rh8 0.43/22

[15...Nf5= 0.01/20 feels stronger.]



16.Qg7 0.02/20

[16.Qxf7± 0.43/22 might be stronger. Rdf8 17.Qg7]

16...d4 17.Qg4

[17.Rfb1 feels hotter. Nf5 18.Qf6 Nxg3 19.fxg3 Qc5 20.h4]

17...Nf5 18.Rfb1 Nxg3

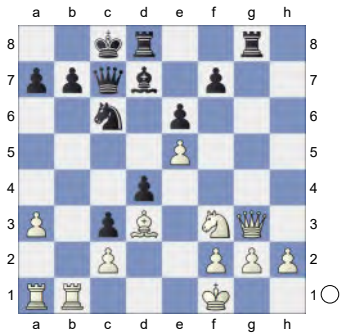
[18...a6 looks sharper. 19.Qf4 Rh5 20.Be4 Qc5]

19.Qxg3

[19.Rb5!? Qc7 20.fxg3=]

19...Qc7 20.Kf1 Rhg8

(Diagram)



Prevents Qg7. **21.Qf4 f5** Prevents Qe4.

[21...f6 keeps more tension. 22.Qxf6 Rdf8 23.Qh4 Nxe5 24.Qxd4 Nxf3 25.gxf3 Bc6]

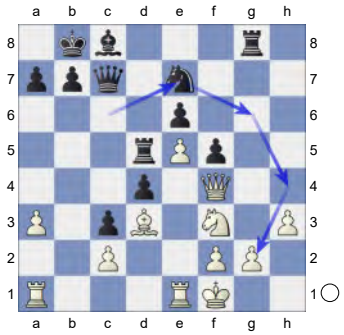
22.h3 Against Rg4 **22...Kb8 23.Re1 Bc8 24.Ng5** -1.26/19

[⊼24.Rab1 -0.86/18]

24...Rd5 -0.75/21

[⊼24...Ne7 -1.26/19 25.h4 b6]

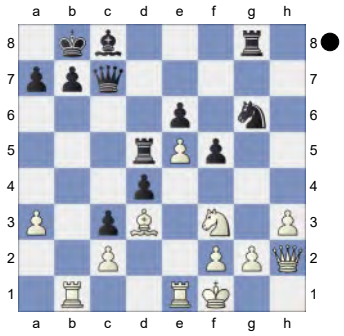
25.Nf3∓ Ne7



&Nero is more active. **26.Rab1** -0.85/20

[26.Rad1!∓ -0.47/21]

26...Ng6 27.Qh2



Qh7! 28.Rb4 -1.12/20

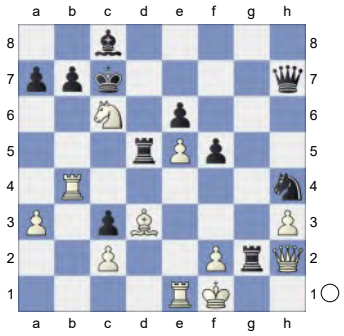
[⊼28.h4 -0.77/18]

28...Nh4 29.Nxd4 -1.77/21

[29.Nxh4∓ -1.04/20 was worth a try. Qxh4 30.g3]

29...Nxg2-+ And now ...Qd7 would win.

[29...Rxg2 30.Nc6+ Kc7

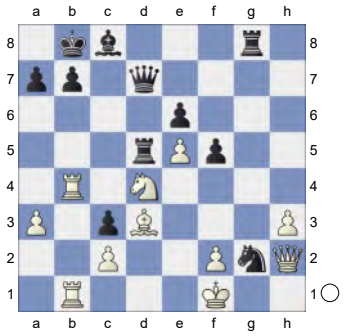


31.Rxh4! Qxh4 32.Qxg2=]

30.Reb1? -3.47/23 White does not recover from this.

[30.Rd1∓ -1.50/20]

30...Qd7



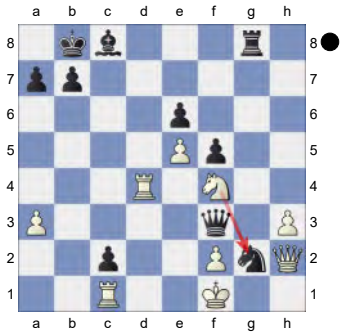
31.Ne2? -6.76/22

[31.Bb5 -3.37/21 Rxb5 32.Nxb5]

31...Rxd3 Black is clearly winning.

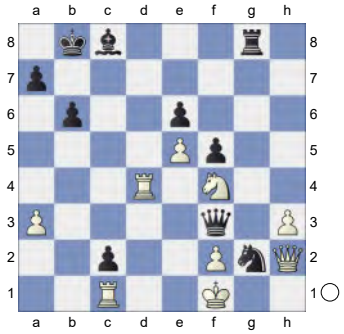
32.cxd3 Qxd3 33.Rc1 c2 (-> ...Qd1+)

34.Rd4 Qf3 aiming for ...b6. **35.Nf4**



b6!

(Diagram)



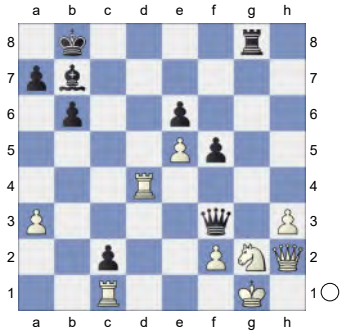
36.Nxg2

[36.Qxg2 Rxg2]

36...Ba6+

[Stronger than 36...Qxa3 37.Qf4 Qxh3 38.Ke2 Qxg2 39.Kd2∓]

37.Kg1 Bb7



Weighted Error Value: White=0.61/ Black=0.07 (flawless)

0-1

136 **C18**

□ **Lutz,Christopher** **2655**

■ **Kortschnoj,Viktor Lvovich** **2626**

Deutschland - Schweiz 85/281 2002

[Kitty Kat]

Lutz,Ch: 'Inf 85/281'

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N

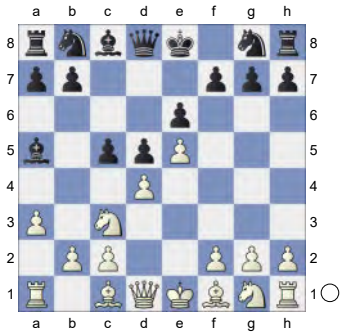
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7

13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]

[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

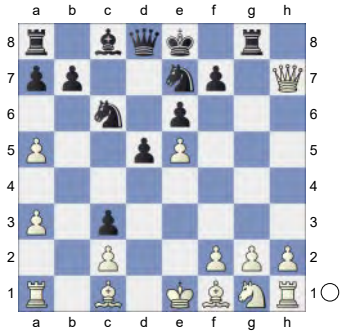
[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4 7.Qg4 Ne7 8.bxa5 dxc3 9.Qxg7 Rg8 10.Qxh7 Nbc6

(Diagram)



11.f4 Qxa5 12.Nf3 Bd7 13.Rb1 0.10/21

[13.Ng5± 0.42/21]

13...0-0-0!= 14.Qd3

[14.Qxf7 Nf5 15.Bd3 Rxg2∓]

14...d4 The position is equal. **15.g3**

[15.Rb5?! Qc7 16.a4 -1.46/19 *(16.h4∓ -0.31/20)* 16...a6 17.Rb1 Qa5 -0.79/20 *(⌓17...a5* -1.27/21 White must now prevent ...Nb4. *18.Ba3 Nd5)* 18.Qc4∓ Inhibits Nb4. Qd5 ...Qxc4 is the strong threat. 19.Qxa6? -2.83/24 *(19.Ng5∓* -1.03/20 was called for. *Rxg5 20.fxg5)* 19...Nb4! 20.Qe2 Nec6∓ -1.58/21 *(20...Qc5-+* -2.69/22 *21.Qc4 Qxc4 22.Bxc4 Nxc2+ 23.Kf2 Bc6)*]

[15.Nxd4 -1.16/21 15.g3 -0.34 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Bc6 17.Qc4 Kb8⩲ -0.14/20 (Black should play *17...Rd5-+* -1.81/22 *18.Be3 Nf5)*]

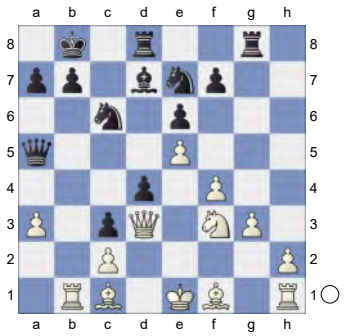
[15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Bc6∓]

15...Kb8!?N

[15...Be8 -0.01/21 15...a6 -0.36 16.Bg2!? ⇗h1-a8 Lutz,Ch: '⇗h1-a8 Lutz,Christopher: '⇗h1-a8"]

[15...a6 Ü 80/(314) Lutz,Ch: '— 80/(314)' Lutz,Ch: '— 80/(314) Lutz, Christopher: 'Ü 80/(314)"]

(Diagram)



16.Be2!? [⇗f1-a6] Lutz,Ch: '[⇗f1-a6] Lutz,Christopher: '[⇗f1-a6]"

[16.Bg2 -0.50/22 16.Be2 -0.19 Bc8! (Δ b6, ♗a6) Lutz,Ch: '(Δ b6, ♗a6) Lutz,Christopher: '(Δ b6, Ba6)" *(16...b6!?)* 17.Ng5!? -1.01/23 *(17.Rb5=* -0.25/22 keeps the balance. *Qa4 18.Rc5)*

A) 17...Rxg5?! -0.01/21 17...b6 -1.42 18.fxg5 Threatens to win with 0-0. Nxe5 0.70/22 *(* Better is *18...b6!∓* -0.55/21 *19.Qb5 Qxb5 20.Rxb5 Ba6)* 19.Qe4±;

B) 17...b6∓ -1.01/23 18.Bxc6 Nxc6 19.Nxf7 Ba6 20.Nxd8 Rxd8;

C) 17...Rg7 0.04/21 18.h4= b6! 19.Qb5 Qxb5 20.Rxb5 Bb7 0.59/21 *(*Black should try *20...Ba6=* 0.04/20 *21.Rb1 d3 22.cxd3 Nd4)* 21.h5± d3 22.cxd3 Nd4 23.Bxb7 Kxb7 24.Rb1 Nef5⇄]

[16.Nxd4? Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Bc6-+]

16...Ka8 17.Kf2 [×e3, g3] Lutz,Ch: '[×e3, g3] Lutz,Christopher: '[✕e3, g3]"

[17.Nxd4? Nxd4 18.Qxd4 Bc6-+]

17...Be8 [Δ f6, ♗g6] Lutz,Ch: '[Δ f6, ♗g6] Lutz,Christopher: '[Δ f6, Bg6]" **18.Rd1** [×d4] Lutz,Ch: '[×d4] Lutz,Christopher: '[✕d4]" **18...Nf5**

[18...f6? 0.73/19 18...a6 0.01 19.exf6 Bg6? 3.52/18 *(19...Nf5±* 0.87/18 *)* 20.fxe7+- Bxd3 21.exd8Q+ Rxd8 22.Bxd3+-]

19.Qc4! [×e6, Δ ♗d3-e4] Lutz,Ch: '[×e6, Δ ♗d3-e4] Lutz,Christopher: '[✕e6, Δ Bd3-e4]"

[19.Qe4? -0.41/17 19.Qc4 0.14 f6 0.39/19 *(19...Qc5∓* -0.41/17 *)*

A) 20.Nxd4!± 0.39/19 was the only good move. Rxd4 *(20...Nfxd4 21.Rxd4)* 21.Rxd4 Nfxd4 22.Qh7;

B) 20.exf6? -1.41/21 20...Nd6∓ 21.Qxe6 Bf7 22.Qh3 Bg6 23.Bd3 Bxd3 24.Rxd3 Qd5↑ -1.03/19 *(⌓24...Qa4* -1.40/19 *25.Ne1 Rde8)*]

[19.Qb5!? Qc7! 20.Qc4]

19...a6!? [×b6] Lutz,Ch: '[×b6] Lutz, Christopher: '[✕b6]"

[19...Ne3!? 1.81/21 19...a6 0.14 20.Bxe3 dxe3+ 21.Kxe3 Rxd1 22.Rxd1 Ne7 2.08/21 *(22...a6±* 1.60/18 *23.Nd4 Ne7)* 23.Kf2!+- Ba4 24.Nd4 Nd5 25.Bf3±]

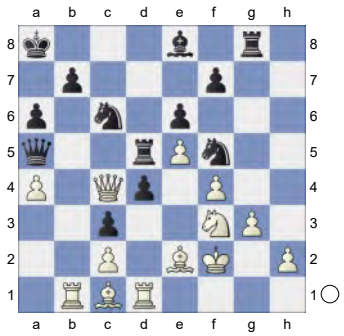
[19...f6 20.Qxe6 Bd7 21.Qb3±]

20.a4 Against b5

[20.Qb3 b5! γc1, ♖b1, ♕b3 Lutz,Ch: 'γc1, ♖b1, ♕b3 Lutz,Christopher: 'γc1, Rb1, Qb3"]

20...Rd5 0.73/19

[20...Bd7= 0.21/20]



21.Bd3!→ [Δ 22.♗e4, 22.♗f5] Lutz,Ch: '[Δ 22.♗e4, 22. ♗f5] Lutz,Christopher: '[Δ 22.Be4, 22.Bf5]". White is up to no good.

[21.Qb3 -0.09/21 21.Bd3 0.36 Nd8]

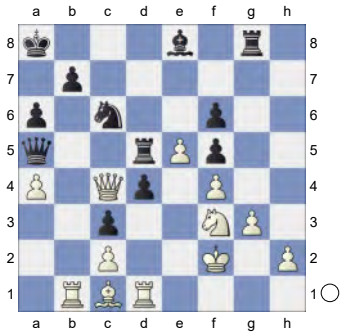
21...f6!? 2.20/22 A mistake that costs the game.

[21...Rc5 1.23/21 21...Nce7 0.71 22.Qb3 Nd8 *(22...Qc7* 1.65/19 22...Nd8 1.31 *23.Ba3!)* 23.Bxf5±]
[21...Nce7! 22.Bxf5 b5! *(22...Nxf5? #2/6* 22...b5 0.69 *23.Qc8+; 22...exf5 23.Rxd4±)* 23.axb5 Bxb5 24.Qb4 Qxb4 25.Rxb4 Nxf5 26.Nxd4 And now Be3 would win. Rgd8? 2.09/21 *(26...Rh8±* 0.58/23 *27.h4 Rg8)* 27.Be3±]
[21...Nce7!± 0.36/21]

22.Bxf5?!+-

[22.Be4!?± 0.31/19 22.Bxf5 2.17]
[22.Qb3!?±]
[22.exf6 Qd8]
[22.Qb3?! Nd8 23.exf6 *(23.Bxf5 exf5 24.Rxd4 Rxd4±)* 23...Bxa4]

22...exf5



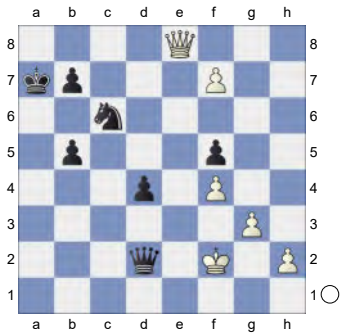
23.Rb5!! axb5 24.Qxd5 Rh8⊕

[24...Qxa4! 25.Qxg8 Qxc2+ Lutz,Ch: '=' '=' Lutz,Ch: 'Lutz, Christopher: '="

A) 26.Ke1? 0.01/19 26.Rd2 3.67 Qe4+ 27.Kf2 Qc2+=;

B) 26.Bd2 Qxd1 27.Qxe8+ Ka7 28.exf6 cxd2 29.f7 1.21/27 *(⌓29.Qe2* 1.53/25 *Qb3 30.Qxd2)* 29...Qc2 *(29...Qxf3+??* 7.59/5 2 9 . . . Q h 1 0 . 9 8 *30.Kxf3* White threatens Ke2 and mate. *d1Q+ 31.Kg2+-)* 30.Nxd2! Qxd2+

(Diagram)



31.Kg1? 0.14/23 *(31.Kf1!+-* 2.44/26 *Ne5 32.Qxe5 Qc1+ 33.Kg2 Qc6+ 34.Kg1 Qc1+ 35.Kg2 Qc6+ 36.Kf2 Qc2+ 37.Qe2)* 31...Ne5!= 32.Qxe5 Qc1+! 33.Kf2 Qc2+ 34.Qe2 d3 35.Qxc2 dxc2 36.f8Q c1Q Inhibits Qc5+. 37.Qxf5 Qd2+ 38.Kf3 b4= 0.63/19 *(38...Qd1+=* 0.24/18 *39.Kg2 Qe2+ 40.Kh3 Kb6)*;

C) 26.Rd2!?

C1) 26...Qxc1 4.80/24 26...cxd2 3.22 27.Ra2+ Kb8 28.Nxd4! Nxd4 12.23/25 *(⌓28...Qh1* 4.54/21 *29.Qxe8+ Kc7)* 29.Qd5!+-;

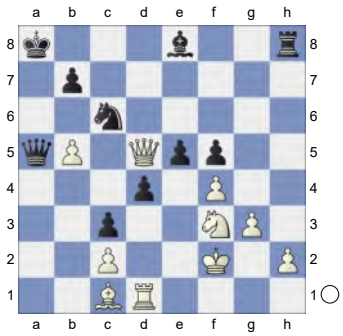
C2) 26...cxd2 27.Qxe8+ Ka7 28.Bxd2 fxe5 29.fxe5 b4 30.e6 aiming for e7. b3 Hoping for ... b2. 31.e7 1.59/21 *(31.Qc8+-* 3.04/22 *)* 31...Nxe7± 32.Qxe7? 0.01/21 *(32.Qa4++-* 1.72/22 *Kb8 33.Qxd4)* 32...b2= 33.Qa3+ Kb8 34.Qd6+=]

25.axb5+-

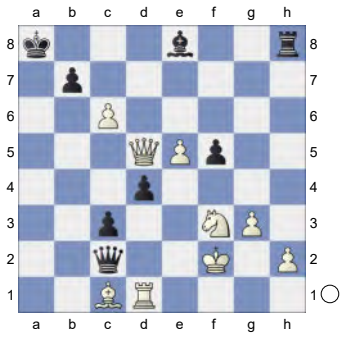
[25.exf6 Qxa4 26.Qxf5 Bf7±]

25...fxe5

(Diagram)

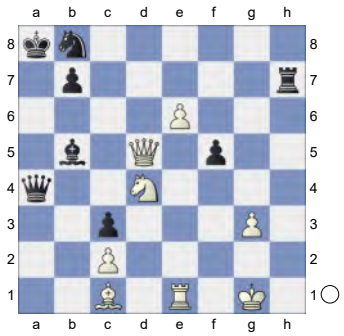


26.fxe5 Qa4? 6.44/22
[⌓26...Bh5!?]
[26...Bh5 3.35/22 27.e6 d3 28.Qxd3 *(28.Rxd3 Nb4±)* 28...Bxf3 29.Qxf3 Qxb5]
27.Re1!
[27.bxc6?! 1.76/20 27.Bf4 5.50 Qxc2+

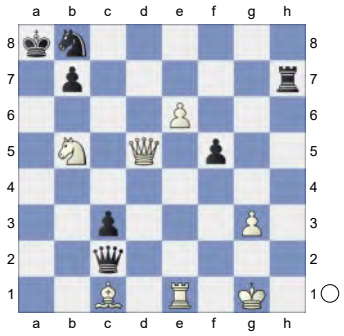


28.Bd2! Qxd1 29.c7? -0.01/22 *(29.Qd8++- 1.72/22 Ka7 30.Qxd4+ b6 31.Qxc3)* 29...Rxh2+!=]
27...Nb8? 6.15/21
[27...Qxc2+? 28.Re2 Qxe2+ 29.Kxe2+-]
[27...Nb4 3.49/18 28.Qd8+ Ka7]
28.Nxd4 Rxh2+ 29.Kg1 Rh7 30.e6 Inhibits Rd7. **30...Bxb5**

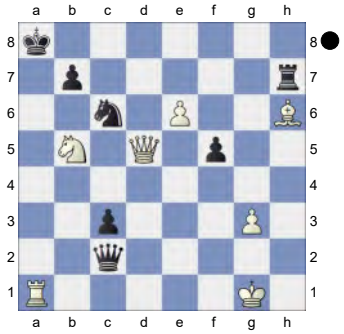
(Diagram)



31.Nxb5 Threatening mate with e7.
31...Qxc2



32.Bh6! Nc6
[32...Qb2 33.e7]
33.Ra1+

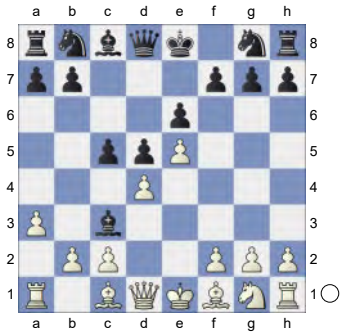


Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.88
1-0

137 **C19**
□ **Svane,Frederik** **2654**
■ **Yuffa,D.** **2654**
25th ch-EUR Indiv 2025 (11.1) 26.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

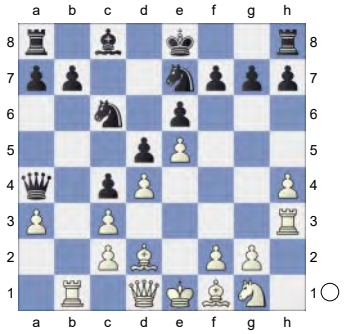
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Nbc6 8.Rh3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Qa4 10.Rb1 The position is equal. **10...c4** 0.73/19

[10...Qxa3? 11.c4 Qa2 12.Bc3 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Qa5+ 14.Bc3+-]
[10...cxd4 11.Bb5 Qa5 12.cxd4±]
[10...a6= 0.01/20]



11.h5± h6

[11...Qxa3 12.h6 gxh6 13.Bxh6=]

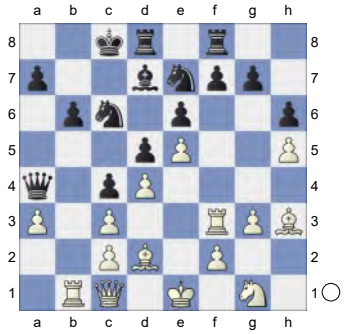
12.Qc1

[12.g4 b6 13.Rf3 Bd7 14.Rf4 Rf8 15.Bh3 0-0-0 16.Rc1 Ng8 17.Nf3 f6 18.Nh4 fxe5 19.Rxf8 Rxf8 20.Ng6 Rf7 21.dxe5 Qxa3 22.Ra1 Qb2 23.Rb1 Qa3 24.f4 Nge7 25.Nh4 d4 26.Bg2 Qc5 Kotronias,V (2468)-Chatzieleftheriou,A (2131) Nikaia 2022 0-1 (37)]

12...b6 13.Rf3 Bd7 14.g3N 0.38/18

[14.Be2± 0.78/19]
[14.g4 Rf8 15.Bh3 0-0-0 16.g5 hxg5 17.Bxg5 Kb7 18.Ne2 Rde8 19.Kd2 Rh8 20.Bg4 Ref8 21.Ra1 Nf5 22.Qh1 Nce7 23.Bxe7 Nxe7 24.Qh4 25. French Defense (1...e6) W-6...Ne7 (7...Qa5 4)]

14...Rf8± 15.Bh3 0-0-0



16.Ne2 Nf5 17.Kf1 0.36/18

[⌓17.Rf4 0.69/19]

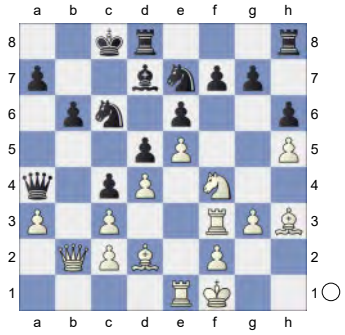
17...Nce7 0.94/18

[17...Rde8± 0.36/18]

18.Qb2 0.55/18

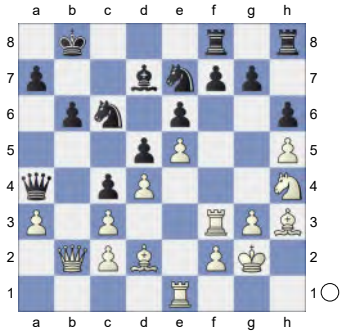
[18.Kg1± 0.94/18]

18...Nc6 19.Nf4 Nfe7 20.Re1 Rh8

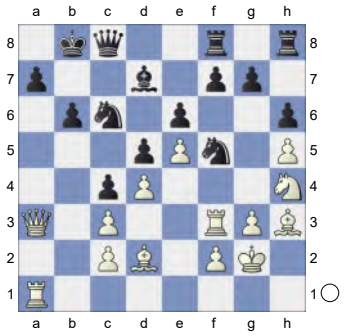


21.Ng2 Rdf8 22.Nh4 Qa5 23.Qc1 Kb8 24.Kg2 Qa6 25.Qb2 Qa4

(Diagram)

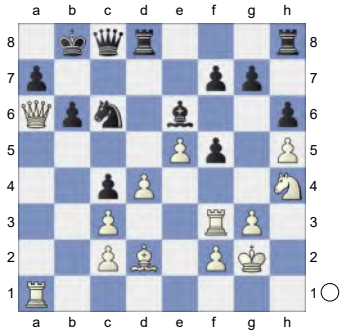


26.Qc1 -0.01/19
[26.Kg1± 0.83/16]
26...Qa6!= 27.a4 0.19/19
[27.Kg1± 0.91/17]
27...Qxa4 28.Qb2 Strongly threatening Ra1. **28...Qa6 29.Ra1 Qc8 30.Qa3 Nf5** 1.03/21
[30...a5= 0.10/17]

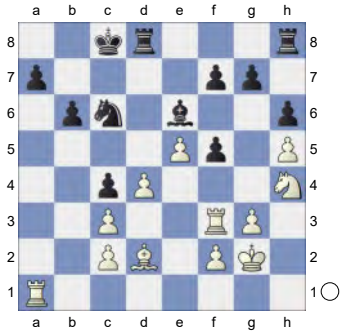


31.Bxf5 exf5 32.Qd6+ Kb7 33.Qxd5 0x0.0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces. **33...Be6 34.Qb5** aiming for d5. **34...Rd8** Inhibits d5. **35.Qa6+!**
[And not 35.Nxf5 Bxf5 36.d5 *(36.Qxc4? Be4-+)* 36...Be4! 37.dxc6+ Kb8∓]
35...Kb8

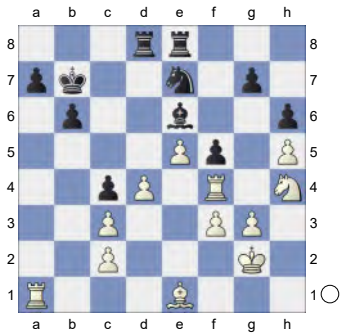
(Diagram)



36.Qxc8+ Kxc8

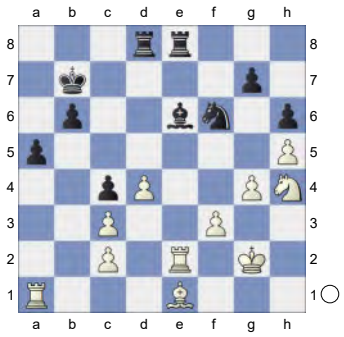


37.Rxf5 0.39/22
[37.Nxf5 Nxe5 38.dxe5 Rxd2±]
[White should play 37.Bc1!± 1.59/20]
37...Kb7 38.Be1 0.34/22
[38.Rf4 0.68/20 is more appropriate.]
38...Ne7± 39.Rf4 Rhe8 40.f3 f5 0.77/22
[40...Rd5= 0.29/21]

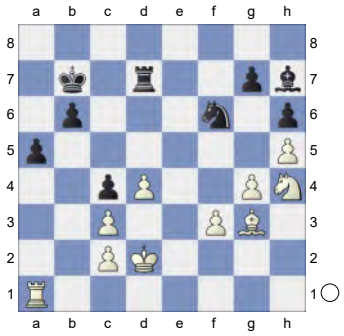


41.exf6± Nd5 42.Re4
[Much weaker is 42.fxg7 Nxf4+ 43.gxf4 Rd7∓]
42...Nxf6 43.Re5 Nd7 44.Re2 0.15/22
[44.Re3± 0.61/21 deserves consideration.]

44...Nf6 0.61/23
[44...Bg8= 0.15/22 45.Kf1 Bh7]
45.g4± a5

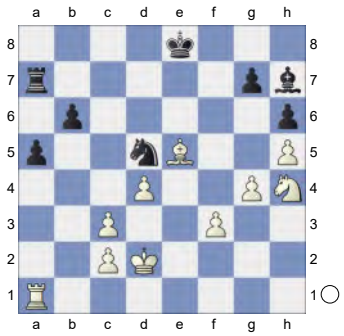


46.Kf2 Bg8 47.Rxe8 Nxe8 48.Ke3 0.15/19
[White should try 48.Ke2± 0.68/19]
48...Bh7 0.75/23
[48...Nd6= 0.15/19 remains equal.]
49.Kd2± Nf6 50.Bg3 Rd7 1.31/22
[⌓50...Kc6 0.74/20]

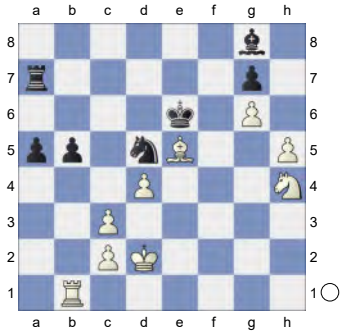


51.Be5 Nd5 1.78/23
[51...Kc6± 1.47/22]
52.Ra4+- Kc8 53.Rxc4+ Kd8? 2.86/22
This move loses the game for Black.
[53...Kb7± 0.77/22 was worth a try. 54.Ra4 Ka6]
54.Ra4 Ke8 55.Ra1 Ra7

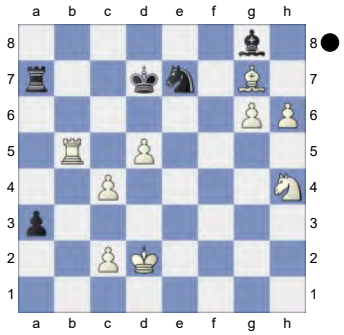
(Diagram)



56.Rb1 Kf7 57.f4 b5 6.68/22
[⌓57...Nf6 4.38/21 58.Bxf6 gxf6 59.Rxb6 a4]
58.g5 hxg5 59.fxg5 Ke6 60.g6 Bg8



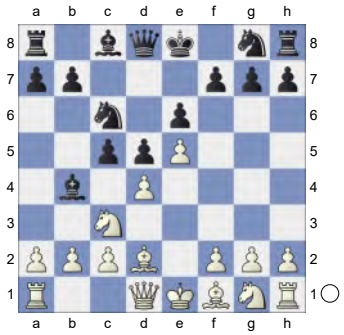
61.Rxb5 a4 62.c4 Ne7 63.Bxg7 a3 64.d5+ Kd7 65.h6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.28 (precise)
1-0

138 **C17**
□ **Tari,Aryan** **2654**
■ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2715**
Chessable Masters Prelim rapid (10.4)
[Papp, Petra]

Papp, Petra, MH: 'C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines ' **1.e4** Papp, Petra, MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.Bd2!? Nc6**



A logical developing move. **6.Nb5!** The knight is heading to d6 with a check, so it's the strongest continuation.

[6.a3?! Now it's not good, because black attacks well the center with the ♘ on c6. cxd4 7.axb4 dxc3 8.Bxc3 d4! 9.Bd2 Nxe5∞]

[6.Qg4 Nge7! 7.dxc5 0-0∞]

6...Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 Nxd4

[7...cxd4?! It's a mistake. White can win back the d4 pawn later with the g1♘ , and the b5 ♘ can be powerful on d6. - 5... ♘c6 8.f4! Nge7 9.Nd6+ Kf8 Black's plan should be ♗d7 followed by ♘c8. 10.h4! A significant novelty. One of the main points is that black has no time to play ♗d7 ♘and c8 as the b7 pawn is hanging, and white can protect the unsafe knight on b7 with ♖b3. White's plan is h4-h5-h6 and ♖h3.

A) 10...Bd7 11.Rh3! Nc8 *(11...b6 12.h5 Nc8 13.Nb5!+-* When we have a space advantage, we usually don't trade material.*)* 12.Nxb7! Qb6 13.Rb3!+-;

B) 10...Qa5 Black can force the queen to trade, but after the endgame, he will be very passive. 11.Qxa5 Nxa5 12.Nf3 Bd7 13.b4 Nac6 14.h5 Nxb4 15.Rb1 Nxc2+ 16.Kd2 Ne3 17.Rxb7 Bc6 18.Rc7!±]

8.Nxd4

[8.Nd6+ A tricky move that is rarely played. White has some compensation for the pawn, but if Black plays precisely, he is equalized. Kf8 9.0-0-0 Nh6! Prepares ♘hf5. *(9...f6?!* It just helps white, who also wants to open up the position. *10.f4! Nh6 11.c3 Nc6 12.Nf3±; 9...Nc6?! 10.Qf4 Nh6 11.Nf3±; 9...Ne7 10.Bd3! Bd7 11.Qf4 Be8 12.h4 Nc8 13.Nxe8 Qxe8 14.h5⩲)* 10.Bd3! *(10.Qf4 Nhf5!∓)* 10...Nc6! *(10...Nhf5? 11.Bxf5 Nxf5 12.Nxf5 exf5 13.Qxd5 Qxd5 14.Rxd5±)* 11.Qf4! *(11.f4?! Qa5!∓)* 11...f6! 12.Nf3 Kg8! 13.exf6 Qxf6 14.Qxf6 gxf6 15.Rhe1 e5 16.Bf1 d4 17.Ne4 Kg7 18.Nxc5=]

8...cxd4 And now white has different moves, which leads to a stable, slightly better position. Typically the moves, like h4, f4, Nf3, 0-0-0, lead to a similar kind of position, which is usually better due to the worse light squared bishop on black's side. **9.f4** A common move. White intends to play ♘f3 and ♘xd4.

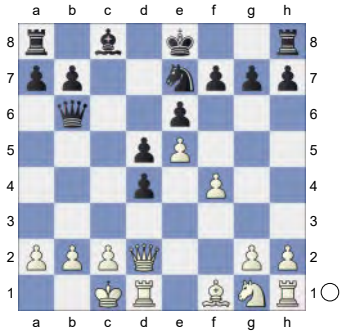
[9.h4!? An interesting novelty. White plans to grab more space on the Kingside. Ne7 *(9...f6 10.f4! fxe5 11.fxe5 Nh6 12.Nf3 Nf5 13.0-0-0 0-0 14.Bd3±)* 10.h5! h6 11.f4 Nc6 *(11...0-0 12.Nf3±)* 12.Nf3 f6 It's doing counterplay in the center

but weakens the g6 square. 13.Nh4!? *(13.0-0-0 fxe5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.fxe5 0-0 16.Qxd4±)* 13...Qb6 14.0-0-0 fxe5 15.Ng6 Rg8 16.fxe5±]

9...Qb6

[9...Ne7 The most natural and the most popular as well; however, it will likely transpose to the game continuation. 10.Nf3 Nc6 11.0-0-0 Bd7 *(11...Qb6* This is just transposed to the game.*)* 12.h4!? h5 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qb6 15.Rh3!?±]

10.0-0-0 Papp, Petra, MH: ' White has compensation.' **10...Ne7**



11.Nf3 Nc6 Papp, Petra, MH: 'This is just transposed to the game.' **12.g4!** Papp, Petra, MH: 'N' Papp, Petra, MH: 'White is slightly better.' I like this move very much! White intends to grab some space advantage on the kingside before regaining the pawn on d4.

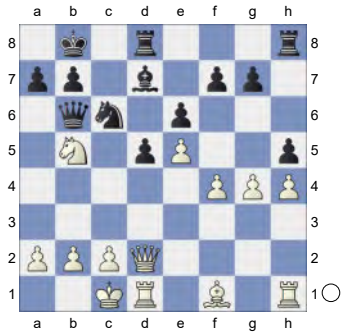
[12.h4 Papp, Petra, MH h5 13.Rh3 g6 14.Kb1 Bd7 15.Ng5 a6 16.Rb3 Qa7 17.a4 Rb8 18.Nf3 Qc5 19.Nxd4 Nxd4 20.Qxd4 Qxd4 21.Rxd4 a5 22.Rb6 Bc6 23.b4 axb4 24.Rdxb4 Kd7 25.Bb5 Kc7 26.a5 Rhc8 1-0 Nowroozian,N (2555)-Ingolfsson,H (2290) (m/6) 40/655 1985 (3) 27.Kc1 Kd7 28.Bxc6+ Rxc6 29.Rxb7+ Rxb7 30.Rxb7+ Ke8 31.Kb2 Ra6 32.Rb5 Kd7 33.Kb3 Kc6 34.Kb4 Ra8 35.Rb6+ Kc7 36.Kb5 Ra7 37.Rc6+ Kd7 38.Kb6 1-0 Movsesian,S (2555)-Hochgraefe, M (2290) Wichern op 4th 1997 (3)]

12...Bd7 13.h4! 0-0-0 14.Nxd4 h5? 0.94/24 Trying to complicate the matter but missing White's powerful move.

[14...Nxd4! 0.29/25 Papp, Petra, MH: '=' Papp, Petra, MH: ' remains equal.' The best is going for a bit worse endgame. 15.Qxd4 Qxd4 16.Rxd4± White has a stable advantage because of the difference between the bishops. Black with a good play can hold the endgame, but it's never such a pleasant play for a two-results position. h6 Papp, Petra, MH]

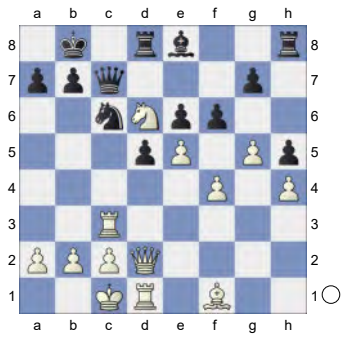
15.Nb5! Papp, Petra, MH: '±!' Like many times we see it on d6, again, there will be a powerful "octopus knight." :)

15...Kb8

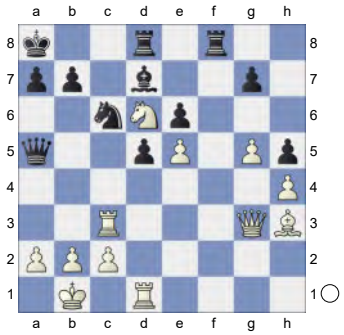


16.Nd6 Be8 17.g5!± White has a beautiful position, thanks to the strong knight on d6. The tremendous Norwegian talent has won a great game!

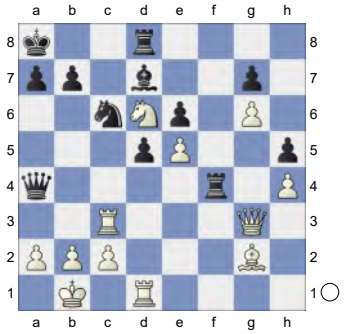
17...Qc7 18.Rh3! f6 19.Rb3 Na5 20.Rc3 Nc6



21.Qe1 0.78/20
[21.gxf6?! Papp, Petra, MH gxf6 22.Rb3 *(22.Nxe8 Rdxe8 23.exf6 Rhf8=)* 22...Na5±]
[21.Bb5+- 1.85/23 Papp, Petra, MH]
21...fxe5 22.fxe5 Rf8 1.24/20
[⌓22...Qa5 0.72/22 Papp, Petra, MH]
23.Qg3 Ka8 24.Bh3 Bd7 1.48/23
[⌓24...Bg6 1.07/21 Papp, Petra, MH]
25.Kb1 Papp, Petra, MH: ' White has more active pieces.' **25...Qa5**

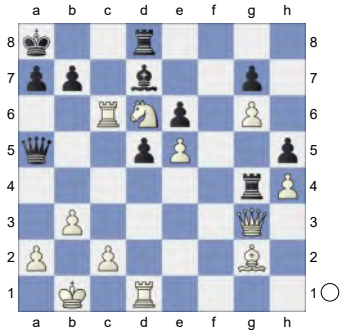


26.Bg2 0.55/24
[26.a3± 1.23/21 Papp, Petra, MH]
26...Qa4 27.g6 Papp, Petra, MH: '!'
27...Rf4 1.83/20 Papp, Petra, MH: '
[27...Qg4± 0.72/20 Papp, Petra, MH 28.Qxg4 hxg4]

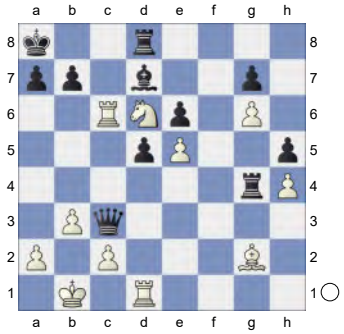


' **28.b3** Papp, Petra, MH: '+-!' **28...Qa5**
29.Rxc6! Rg4 Papp, Petra, MH: '

(Diagram)

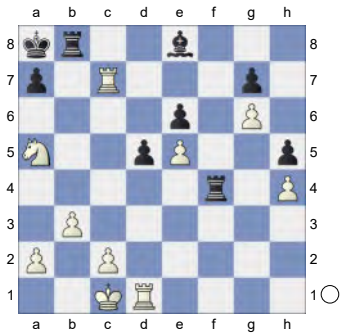


' **30.Qc3**
[30.Nxb7? Papp, Petra, MH Kxb7 *(30...Bxc6? 31.Qxg4 Kxb7 32.Qxe6+-)* 31.Qc3 Qxc3 32.Rxc3 Rxg2-+]
30...Qxc3

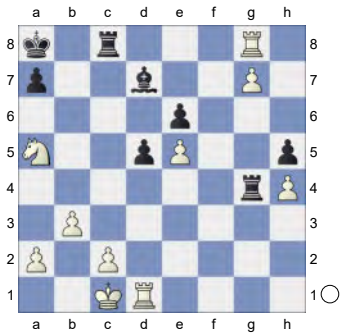


31.Rxc3 Rxg2 32.Rc7 Be8 33.Nxb7 Rb8 4.17/22 Papp, Petra, MH: ' This costs Black the game.'
[33...Rd7± 1.44/24 (Papp, Petra, MH) was worth a try. 34.Rxd7 Bxd7]
34.Na5
[Much less strong is 34.Nc5 Papp, Petra, MH Bxg6 35.Nxe6 *(35.Rxg7? too greedy. Bxc2+* Discovered Attack, Double Attack *36.Kb2 Rxg7-+)* 35...Bf5+-]
34...Rg4 35.Kc1
[Not 35.Rxg7 Papp, Petra, MH Rc8+-]
35...Rf4

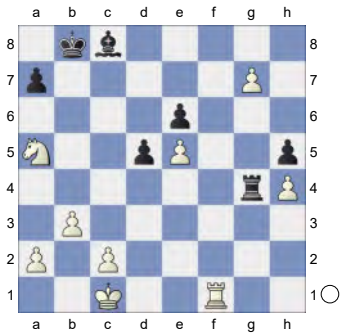
(Diagram)



36.Rxg7 Rc8 5.80/24
[⌓36...Rg4 3.99/21 Papp, Petra, MH 37.Rf1 Rxg6 38.Rxg6 Bxg6]
37.Rg8 Papp, Petra, MH: 'White is clearly winning.' **37...Rg4 38.g7 Bd7** Papp, Petra, MH: '

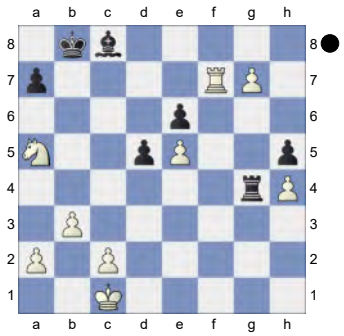


' **39.Rf1** Papp, Petra, MH: '!' **39...Kb8**
[39...Rxg8 Papp, Petra, MH 40.Rf8+]
40.Rxc8+ Bxc8



41.Rf7

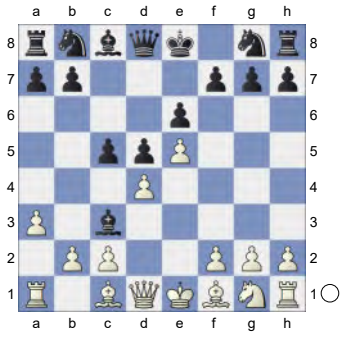
(Diagram)



Papp, Petra, MH: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) / Black=0.36'
1-0

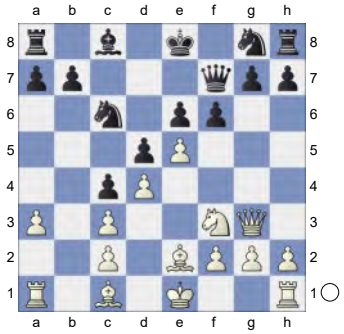
139 **C18**
□ **Robson,Nigel** **2654**
■ **Neven,Knut** **2369**
corr IECG 02.02.2007
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f6 8.Nf3 c4 9.Be2 &Bianco is more active. **9...Nc6 10.Qg3 Qf7**

(Diagram)



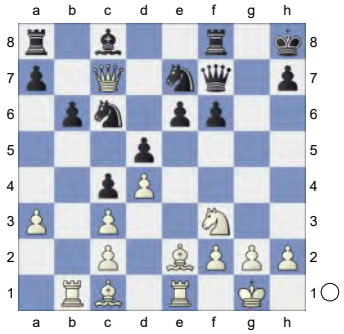
11.0-0 White is slightly better. **11...Nge7 12.Rb1N**

[12.exf6 gxf6 13.Nh4 Rg8 *(13...e5 14.dxe5 Rg8 15.e6 Bxe6 16.Qd6 Rd8 17.Qc5 Bg4 18.f3 Bc8 19.Bf4* Kokarev,D (2630)-Krivenko,S (2338) Izhevsk 119/(89) 2013 CI1-130 [Arsovic,Goran]*)* 14.Qd6 Bd7 15.Qc7 e5 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.f4 Rc8 18.Qd6 e4 19.f5 Nxf5 20.Nxf5 Bxf5 21.Rf2 Ne7 22.Qb4 Nc6 23.Qb5 Chapter-3...Nf6 4.e3 g6 D3) 8...c5 [Avrukh]]

12...b6 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Qc7 0-0 15.Re1

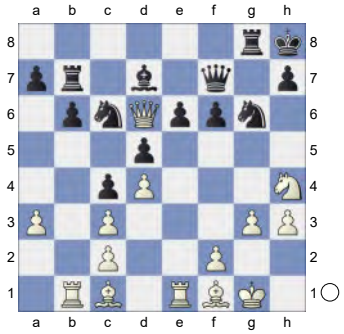
[15.Bh6 Nf5 16.Qxf7+ *(16.Qxc6 Bd7∓)* 16...Rxf7=]

15...Kh8

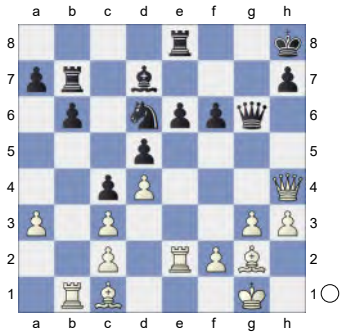


16.h3 Rg8 17.g3 Rb8 18.Bf1 Rb7 19.Qd6 Bd7 20.Nh4 Ng6

(Diagram)

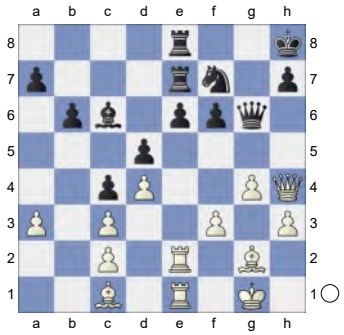


21.Nxg6+ Qxg6 22.Re2 Nd8! 23.Bg2 Nf7 24.Qf4 Re8 25.Qh4 Nd6



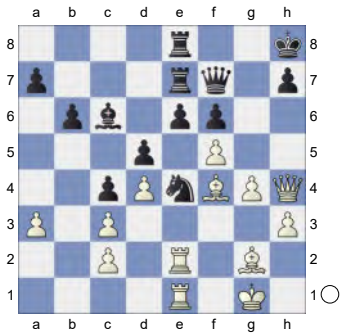
26.g4 Ne4 27.Bb2 Bc6 28.f3 Ng5 29.Rbe1 Rbe7 30.Bc1 Nf7 1.20/23

[30...Bd7!⩲ 0.34/18]

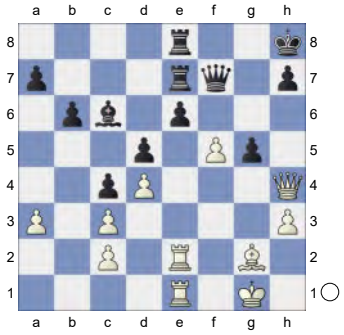


31.f4!± Nd6 Against f5 **32.f5! Qf7 33.Bf4** White is clearly better. **33...Ne4**

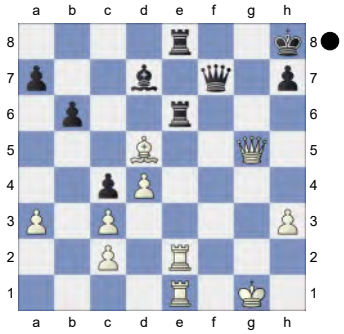
(Diagram)



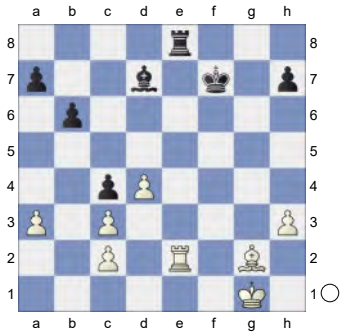
34.g5! Strongly threatening gxf6.
[34.Bxe4?! dxe4 35.fxe6 Qxe6=]
34...Nxg5 2.16/20
[34...fxg5 35.Bxg5 Nxg5 36.Qxg5±]
[34...exf5± 1.43/20 was necessary. 35.gxf6 Re6]
35.Bxg5+- fxg5



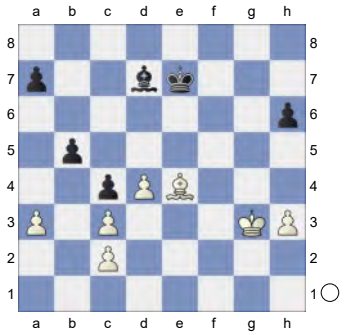
36.Qxg5 Bd7 37.fxe6 1.31/25
[37.Re5+- 2.30/22]
37...Rxe6± 38.Qxd5
[38.Bxd5?



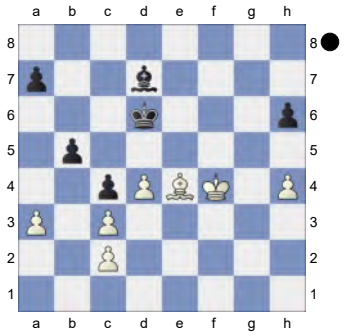
Rg8! 39.Qxg8+ Qxg8+-+]
38...Rxe2 39.Rxe2
[39.Qxf7 Rxe1+ 40.Kh2 R1e7 41.Qf6+ *(41.Qxc4 Re2±)* 41...Rg7±]
39...Kg7 1.89/24
[39...Qg6± 1.45/19 is a better defense. 40.Rxe8+ *(40.Qxc4 Rg8±)* 40...Qxe8]
40.Qxf7++- Kxf7



Endgame KRB-KRB **41.Bd5+ Kf8 42.Rxe8+**
[Don't take 42.Bxc4?! Rc8±]
42...Kxe8 43.Kg2
[But not 43.Bxc4?! Bxh3 44.Bd3 h6±]
43...b5 44.Kg3 Ke7 45.Be4 Prevents Bf5. **45...h6**



46.h4 Kd6 47.Kf4

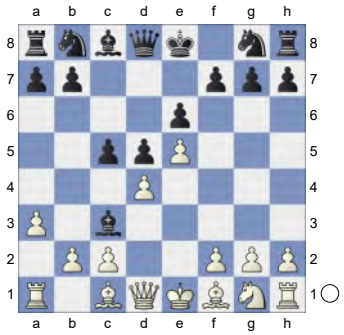


Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
1-0

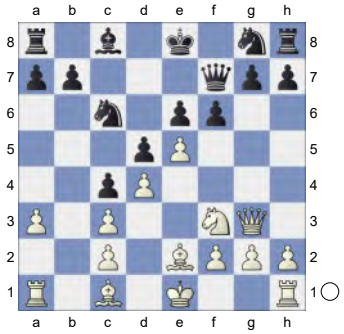
140 **C18**
□ **Robson,Nigel** **2654**
■ **Neven,Knut** **2369**
IECG WC.2008.T.00001 email 02.02.2007
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f6 8.Nf3 c4 9.Be2 Nc6 10.Qg3 Qf7



11.0-0 White is slightly better. **11...Nge7 12.Rb1N** 0.35/18

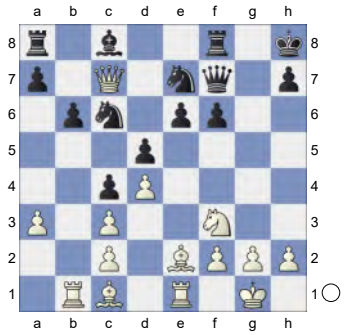
[⚠12.a4 0.68/18]

[12.exf6 gxf6 13.Nh4 Rg8 *(13...e5 14.dxe5 Rg8 15.e6 Bxe6 16.Qd6 Rd8 17.Qc5 Bg4 18.f3 Bc8 19.Bf4* Kokarev,D (2630)-Krivenko,S (2338) Izhevsk 119/(89) 2013 CI1-130 [Arsovic,Goran]*)* 14.Qd6 Bd7 15.Qc7 e5 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.f4 Rc8 18.Qd6 e4 19.f5 Nxf5 20.Nxf5 Bxf5 21.Rf2 Ne7 22.Qb4 Nc6 23.Qb5 Chapter-3...Nf6 4.e3 g6 D3) 8...c5 [Avrukh]]

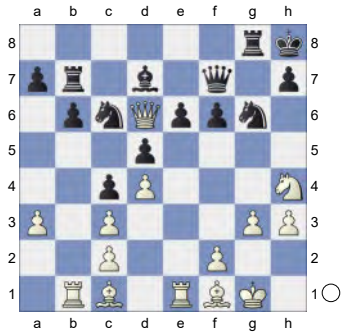
12...b6 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Qc7 0-0 15.Re1

[15.Bh6 Nf5 16.Qxf7+ *(16.Qxc6 Bd7∓)* 16...Rxf7=]

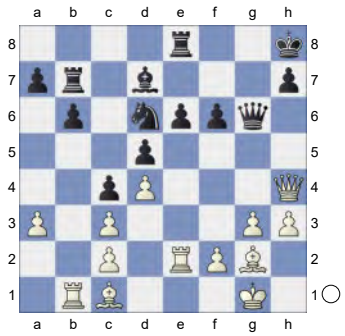
15...Kh8



16.h3 Rg8 17.g3 Rb8 18.Bf1 Rb7 19.Qd6 Bd7 20.Nh4 Ng6



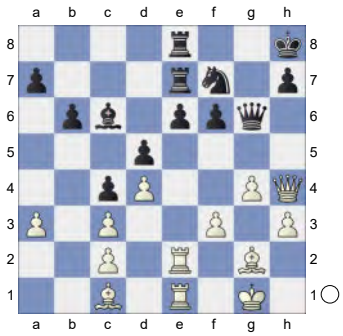
21.Nxg6+ Qxg6 22.Re2 Nd8! 23.Bg2 Nf7 24.Qf4 Re8 25.Qh4 Nd6



26.g4 Ne4 27.Bb2 Bc6 28.f3 Ng5 29.Rbe1 Rbe7 30.Bc1 Nf7 0.95/20

[30...Bd7± 0.37/19]

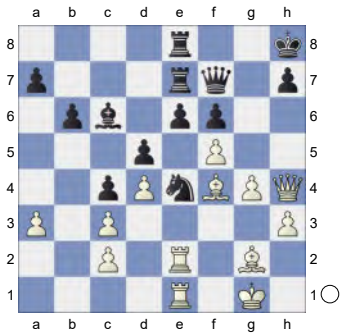
(Diagram)



31.f4± f5! is the strong threat. White now steadily converts the win. **31...Nd6** 1.49/24 Against f5

[⌓31...f5 0.91/23]

32.f5↑ White has strong initiative. White is clearly better. **32...Qf7 33.Bf4 Ne4**



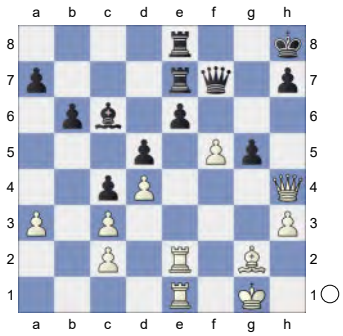
34.g5!

[34.Bxe4?! dxe4 35.fxe6 Qxe6=]

34...Nxg5

[34...fxg5 35.Bxg5 Nxg5 36.Qxg5±]

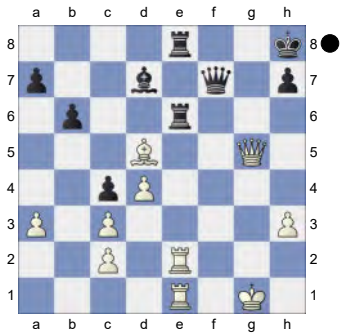
35.Bxg5 fxg5



36.Qxg5 Bd7 37.fxe6 &Bianco is more active. **37...Rxe6 38.Qxd5**

[38.Bxd5?

(Diagram)



Rg8! 39.Qxg8+ Qxg8+-+]

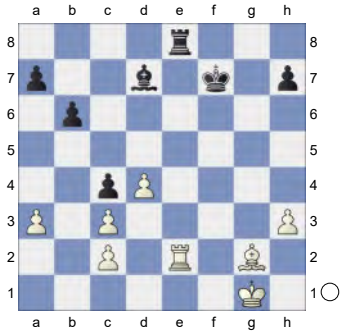
38...Rxe2 39.Rxe2

[39.Qxf7 Rxe1+ 40.Kh2 R1e7 41.Qf6+ *(41.Qxc4 Re2±)* 41...Rg7±]

39...Kg7 1.83/25

[39...Qg6± 1.50/19 40.Rxe8+ *(40.Qxc4 Rg8±)* 40...Qxe8]

40.Qxf7++- Kxf7



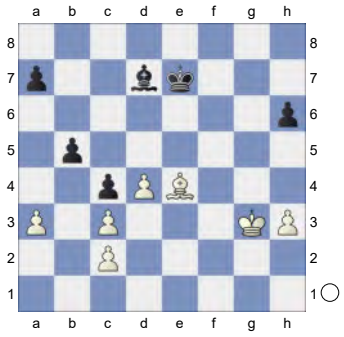
Endgame KRB-KRB **41.Bd5+ Kf8 42.Rxe8+**

[Don't do 42.Bxc4?! Rc8±]

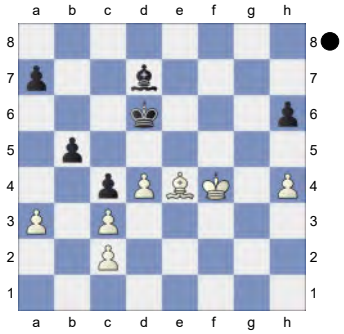
42...Kxe8 43.Kg2

[Resist 43.Bxc4?! Bxh3 44.Kf2 Bd7±]

43...b5 44.Kg3 Ke7 45.Be4 Against Bf5 **45...h6**



46.h4 Kd6 47.Kf4



Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.07 (flawless)
1-0

141 **C18**
□ **Fressinet,Laurent** **2652**
■ **Smirnov,Pavel** **2538**
Aimchess Rapid Div 3 L (4.1) 12.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

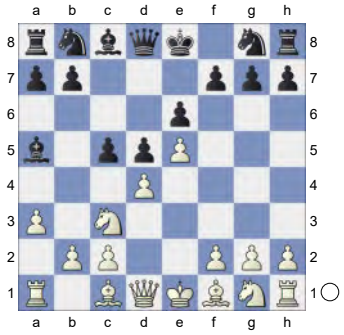
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**

[4...b6

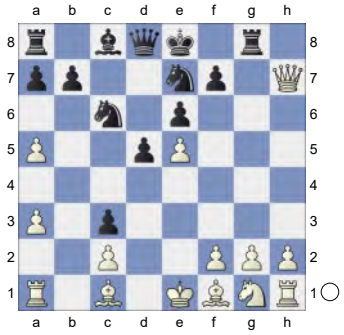
A) 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 *(6.f4 Ne7 7.Be3 h5 8.Bf2 Qd7 9.Nf3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.0-0-0 Nbc6 13.h3 Ng6 14.Ne2 h4 15.Kb1 0-0-0 16.c4 dxc4 17.Qxc4 Nce7 18.Be3 Nf5 19.Bc1 Nge7* Chapter-Solid Variation B7231) 10... ♘bd7 *)* 6...Ba6 *(6...Ne7 7.Bd3 Ba6 8.Nb5 Nc8 9.0-0 Qd7 10.Nc3 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 c5 12.Ne2 c4 13.Qd1 b5 14.Ng3 h6 15.Nh5 Nc6 16.Be3 Nb6 17.Qe2 0-0-0 18.b3 Kb8 19.Rfb1 Ka8 20.Nd2 Na5 21.Qe1* 1-0 Kobelev,A (2677)-Mikhailov,S (2603) Politiken Cup 2004 (10)*)* 7.Bxa6 Nxa6 8.Ne2 Qd7 9.0-0 c6 10.Nf4 Be7 11.Qd3 Nc7 12.Bd2 h5 13.Rac1 0-0-0 14.c4 Kb7 15.Rc3 dxc4 16.Rxc4 Nd5 17.Rfc1 Rc8 18.b4 Nxf4 19.Bxf4 Qd5 0-1 Logan,T (2739)-8.♕e2 ♗b4 9.0-0-0 (2650) 59/629 Kecskemet 1993 (9.1);

B) 5.Qg4 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Be2 Nc6 8.0-0 Bb7 9.a3 0-0-0 10.b4 f6 11.Bd2 Nge7 12.Bd3 h5 13.Qf4 g5 14.Qxf6 Bh6 15.b5 Rdf8 16.bxc6 Nxc6 17.Qg6 Rfg8 18.Qxh5 g4 19.Bxh6 Mcclymont,B-6.b3 ♗b4 7. ♗d2 ♘bd7 Guarulhos (m/1-rapid) 98/76 2006]

5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4 7.Qg4 Ne7 8.bxa5 dxc3
The main line 8...Bd7 scores better than 8...b4. Die Hauptvariante 8...Ld7 punktet besser als 8...b4. **9.Qxg7 Rg8 10.Qxh7 Nbc6**



11.Nf3N Qc7!

[11...Qxa5 12.Ng5 Nxe5 13.f4 Rxg5 14.fxg5]

12.Bf4 Qxa5 1.26/20

[12...Bd7!± 0.56/21

A) 13.Bg3 0-0-0 14.Bd3 Qxa5 *(14...Rxg3 15.hxg3 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 17.Kf1 Be8 18.a6 b6 19.a4 Qc7 20.Qg7 e5 21.Rh8)* 15.0-0

A1) 15...Qa4 16.Rfe1 Ng6 17.Qh6 Rh8 18.Qe3 d4 19.Qe2 Nce7 20.Rab1 Bc6 21.Rb4 Qxa3 22.Rxd4 Bd5 23.Ng5;

A2) 15...Rh8 16.Qxf7 Rdf8 17.Qg7 Rhg8 18.Qh6 Rxf3 19.gxf3 Nd4

A2a) 20.Kh1 Nef5 21.Qf4 *(21.Qh7 Qd8)* 21...Qc5 22.Rg1 Rf8 23.Qg4 Bc6 *(23...Bb5)* 24.Rg2 Bb5;

A2b) 20.Qf4 Nef5 21.Rfb1 a6 22.Rb4 Qc5 23.Rab1 b5 24.Rxd4 Qxd4 25.Qxd4 Nxd4 26.Kg2;

A3) 15...Nf5 16.Bxf5 exf5 17.Qxf7 Rdf8 18.Qh7 f4 19.Bxf4 Bf5 20.Qh4 Rh8 21.Qg3 Rhg8 22.Qh4 Rh8 23.Qg3 Rhg8 24.Qh4;

A4) 15...Qc5

A4a) 16.Qh4 a6 *(16...Rg7 17.Rfb1 a6 18.h3 Rdg8 19.Kh2 d4 20.Be4 Nd5 21.Bxd5 Qxd5 22.Rd1 Nxe5 23.Nxe5 Qxe5 24.Rxd4 Rxg3 25.fxg3 Bc6 26.Rad1 f6 27.Rg4 Re8 28.Rc4 Qe2 29.Rxc6+ bxc6 30.Qd4)* 17.Ng5 Be8 18.Qf4 Nd4 19.Rfe1 Nef5 20.a4 Rg7 21.Nf3 Nxf3+ 22.gxf3 Qd4 23.Qxd4 Nxd4 24.Re3 Nc6 25.Kf1 Bd7 26.Be2 d4 27.Re4 Kc7 28.Bd3 Kb6 29.Rb1+ Kc5 30.Rxb7 Bc8;

A4b) 16.Rfe1 Rh8 17.Qxf7 Rdf8 18.Qg7 Nf5 19.Bxf5 Rhg8 20.Qh6 Rxf5 21.Qe3 b6 22.Red1 Rg4 23.Rd3 Rc4 24.h4 Qb5 25.Nd4 Qb2 26.Re1 Nxd4 27.Rxd4 Rxd4 28.Qxd4 Qxc2 29.Kh2 Qd2 30.Qxd2 cxd2;

A4c) 16.Qxf7 Rdf8 17.Qh7 Rxf3 18.gxf3 Nxe5 19.Be2 *(19.Kh1 Nxf3 20.Qh5; 19.f4 Nxd3 20.cxd3 d4)* 19...d4 *(19...N5g6 20.Bd3 Ne5 21.Kh1)* 20.Rfe1 *(20.f4 N5g6)* 20...Bc6;

B) 13.h4 0-0-0 14.a6 Nf5 15.axb7+ Qxb7 16.Bd3 Rh8 17.Bxf5 Rxh7 18.Bxh7 Qa6 19.Bg5 Rh8 20.Bd3 Qa4 21.Bf6 Rh5 22.0-0 Nd4 23.Nxd4 Qxd4;

C) 13.a6 0-0-0 *(13...b6 14.Bg3 0-0-0 15.Bd3 Ng6 16.Bxg6 fxg6 17.Rd1 Rde8 18.0-0 g5 19.Qd3 g4 20.Nh4 Ne7)* 14.axb7+ Kb8 *(14...Qxb7 15.Qd3 Qb2 16.Qd1 Kc7 17.Bd3 Rg4 18.Rb1 Qa2 19.g3 Ng6 20.Bxg6 Rxg6 21.0-0 Qc4 22.Be3 d4 23.Nxd4 Nxe5 24.Bf4 f6 25.Rb4 Qc5 26.Qh5 Rg5 27.Qf7 Qd5 28.Qxf6 Rh5 29.Re1 Bc6 30.Bxe5+ Kc8 31.Rb8+)* 15.Qd3 Rg4 16.g3 Ng6 17.Qxc3 Nxf4 18.h3 *(18.gxf4 Rxf4)* 18...Nxh3 *(18...d4 19.Qc5)* 19.Rxh3

C1) 19...Ra4 20.Be2 d4 21.Qc5 Ra5 22.Qd6;

C2) 19...Re4+ 20.Kd1 *(20.Kd2 Qb6 21.Rh2 d4)*;

C3) 19...Nxe5 20.Qxc7+ Kxc7 21.Nxe5 Re4+ 22.Kd2 Rxe5 23.Bd3]

13.Rb1±

[13.Bd3 Nb4 14.0-0 Nxd3 15.Qxd3

b6 16.Rfb1

A) 16...Rg4 17.Bg5 *(17.Qe3 Nf5)* 17...Ng6;

B) 16...Ng6 17.Bg5 Ba6 18.Qe3 Rc8 19.Rb4 Rc4 20.Rxc4 Bxc4 21.h4 Kd7 22.h5 Nh8 23.Bf6 Qc5 24.Nd4 Ba6 25.f3 Rc8 26.Qf4 Kc7 27.g4 Kb8 28.Kg2 Qf8 29.Kg3 Rc4 30.Rd1 Bc8 31.Qg5 Qxa3 32.Bxh8 Rxd4 33.Rxd4 b5 34.Bf6 Qb2 35.Be7 Kb7 36.Bd6 Qb1 37.Qe3]

[13.Ng5 Nxe5 *(13...Rf8)*]

13...Bd7 1.45/20

[⌓13...Qa4 0.81/19 14.g3 Rf8 ½-½ Svidler,P (2726)-Akopian,V (2696) Nalchik FIDE GP 2009 (11) *(14...Qxa3)* 15.Bb5 Qxa3 16.Bh6]

[13...Qxa3

A) 14.h4 Qa2 15.Rc1;

B) 14.Ng5

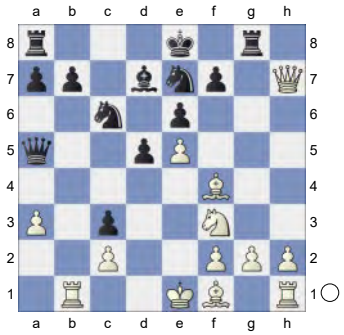
B1) 14...Nxe5

B1a) 15.Bxe5 Rxg5 16.Bf6 Rf5 *(16...Rg8 17.Bxe7 Kxe7 18.Qxg8; 16...Rg6 17.Qh8+ Ng8 18.Bg7)* 17.Qh8+ Kd7 18.Bb5+ Kc7 19.Be5+;

B1b) 15.h4 f6 16.Bxe5 fxe5 *(16...fxg5 17.Bb5+ Bd7 18.Bf6 Qd6 19.Be2)*;

B2) 14...Rf8;

C) 14.Bb5 Bd7 15.Bg5]



14.Ng5! White is clearly better.

14...Nxe5 2.68/21

[14...0-0-0 15.Nxf7]

[14...Rf8 15.Bd3 *(15.Qg7 Nf5 16.Qf6 Qa4; 15.Be2 Qxa3 16.Nxf7 Rxf7 17.Bh5)*]

15.h4+-

[15.Bxe5 Rxg5 16.Bg7 Bc6 *(16...0-0-0 17.Bf6; 16...Rxg7 17.Qxg7 Ng6 18.Bd3)* 17.h4]

[15.Be2 0-0-0 16.Bxe5 Rxg5 17.Bf6 Rxg2 18.Bxe7 Rdg8 19.h4 Rg1+ 20.Rxg1 Rxg1+ 21.Bf1 Predecessor: Bb5 22.Rxb5 Qxb5 23.Qh8+ Kc7 24.Qd8+ Kc6 25.Qd6#]

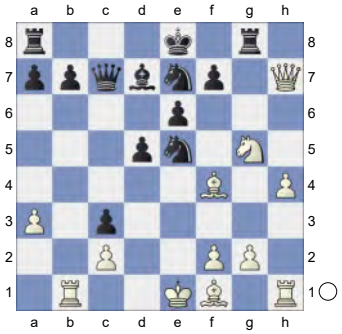
15...Qc7

[15...N5g6 16.Qxf7+]

[15...N7g6 16.Qxg8+]

[15...d4 16.Ne4 Kd8 *(16...0-0-0? 17.Nd6+ Kc7 18.Nxf7+-)* 17.Nf6 *(17.Rxb7 Qd5±)* 17...Rf8 18.Qg7]

[15...Rxg5 16.Bxg5 N7g6 17.h5 Nf8 18.Qg7]



16.Rh3 Against Nf3+. Threatens to win with Nxf7!

[16.Kd1 f6 *(16...Rf8 17.Nf3 N7g6 18.Bg3)* 17.Bxe5 fxe5 *(17...Qxe5 18.Qf7+ Kd8 19.Qxg8+ Nxg8 20.Nf7+ Kc7 21.Nxe5 fxe5 22.Rh3 d4 23.h5)* 18.Qf7+ Kd8 19.Qf6]

[16.Nxf7? Nf3+ 17.gxf3 Qxf4-+]

16...Rf8 4.99/21

[16...Nd3+ 17.Bxd3 Qxf4 18.Rf3 Qd2+ 19.Kf1]

[16...Bc6 2.52/19 17.Nxf7 *(17.Rxc3 d4±)* 17...Nd3+ Discovered Attack 18.Bxd3 *(18.Rxd3 Qxf4 19.Ng5 Rf8±)* 18...Qxf4 19.Rf3 Qh2 20.Rxb7 Bxb7 21.Bb5+ Bc6 22.Bxc6+ Nxc6 23.Qxg8+]
[16...f6 17.Bxe5 Qxe5+ *(17...fxe5 18.Rg3)* 18.Re3 Qd4 19.Rd1 Qc5 20.Qf7+ Kd8 21.Nxe6+ Bxe6 22.Rxe6]

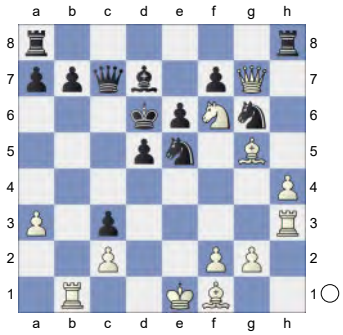
17.Qg7
[17.Nxf7]

17...N7g6 18.Nh7
[18.Bh2 f6 19.Nxe6]

18...Rh8? 7.30/20
[18...0-0-0 3.54/19 19.Bxe5 Qxe5+ 20.Qxe5 Nxe5 21.Nxf8 Rxf8 22.Rxc3+]
[18...Nd3+ 19.Bxd3 Qxf4 20.Bxg6 fxg6 21.Qxf8+ Qxf8 22.Nxf8 Kxf8 23.Rxb7]

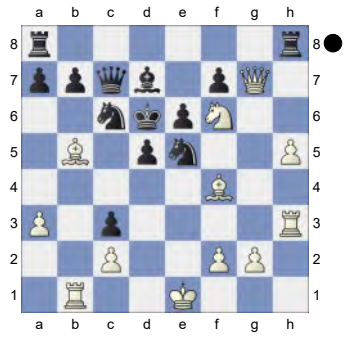
19.Nf6+ Ke7
[19...Kd8 20.h5]

20.Bg5 Kd6



21.h5 6.93/18
[⚠21.Ne4+ 16.41/20 dxe4 *(21...Kc6 22.Rxc3+)* 22.Rd1+ Kc6 23.Rxc3+ Kb6 24.Be3+ *(24.Rb1+* Deflection *Ka5 25.Rxc7; 24.Rxc7 Kxc7 25.Bf6 Rag8+-)*]

21...Ne7 22.Bf4 N7c6 23.Bb5 9.00/21
[23.Ne4+ dxe4 24.Rd1+ *(24.Rxc3 Rag8+-)* 24...Kc5 25.Be3+ *(25.Rxc3+ Kb6 26.Rb3+ Nb4 27.Be3+ Kc6 28.Rc3+* Skewer *Nc4 29.Rxc4+ Kb5 30.Rxc7+* Discovered Attack (Check) *Nd3+ 31.Rxd3 exd3 32.Bxd3+ Ka4 33.Qb2 Rxh5 34.Qb4#)* 25...Nd4 26.Bxd4+ *(26.Rxd4 Qb8+-)* 26...Kc6 27.Rxc3+ *(27.Qxe5 Qxe5 28.Bxe5 Kb6+-)* 27...Nc4 28.Rxc4+ *(28.Bxc4 Qa5 29.Be2+ Qxc3+ 30.Bxc3 Rxh5 31.Bxh5 Rd8 32.Qd4 b5 33.Qxa7 Be8)* 28...Kb5 29.Rb1+ *(29.Rxc7+ Ka4 30.Rc4+ Ka5 31.Bc3+* Discovered Attack *Kb6 32.Qd4+ Kb5 33.Rc8#)* 29...Ka5 30.Bc3+ Discovered Attack Ka6 31.Rc6#]



Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=1.32. Loss on time!?

0-1

142 **C17**
□ **KoroshAlizadegan** **2650**
■ **notkevich** **2787**
Blitz 31.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines

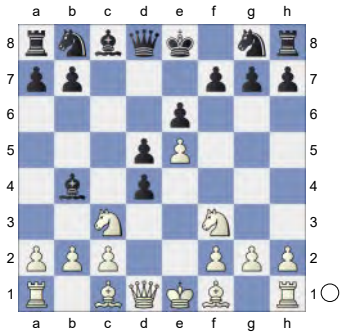
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6

10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]

[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.Nf3 cxd4



6.Nxd4 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Ng6 0.20/17

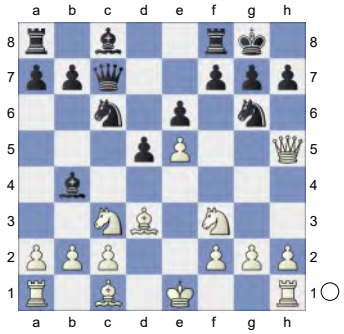
[⌓8...Nd7 -0.11/19]

9.Qh5 -0.35/19

[9.Bxg6= 0.20/17 fxg6 10.0-0]

9...Nc6∓ Black is slightly better. **10.Nf3 Qc7** 0.22/18

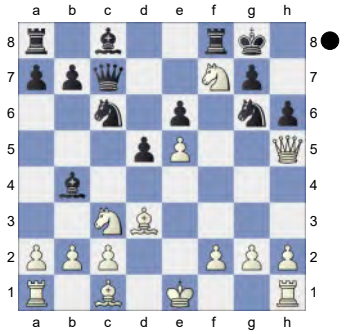
[10...d4!∓ -0.65/17 11.Ng5 *(11.a3 Qa5∓)* 11...h6 12.Nxf7 Rxf7 13.Bxg6 Rf5! 14.Bxf5 dxc3]



11.Ng5? -2.31/20

[11.0-0= 0.22/18 and White stays safe.]

11...h6 12.Nxf7

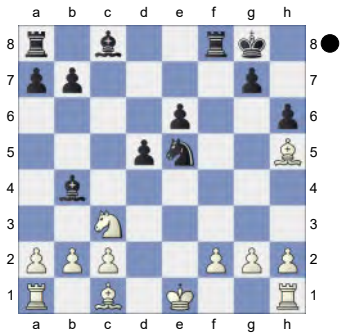


Qxf7 -0.81/22

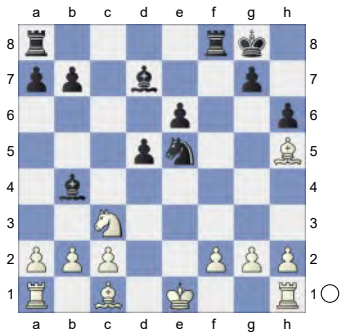
[Black should try 12...Ncxe5! -1.40/20 13.Bxg6 Bxc3+ 14.bxc3 Qxc3+ 15.Kd1 Qd4+ 16.Ke2 Nxf7]

13.Qxg6∓ Qxg6 14.Bxg6 Nxe5 15.Bh5

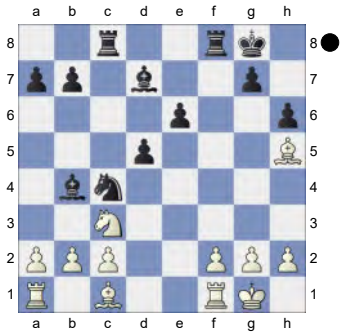
(Diagram)



Bd7!↑

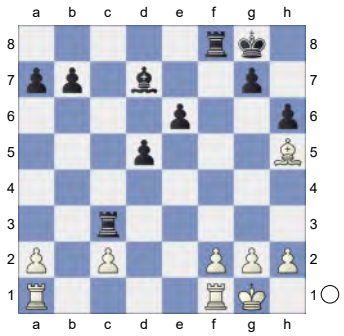


aiming for ...d4. Black is on the roll.
16.0-0 Rac8 17.Be3 Nc4
[And not 17...Bxc3 18.bxc3 Rf5 19.Bd1]
18.Bc1

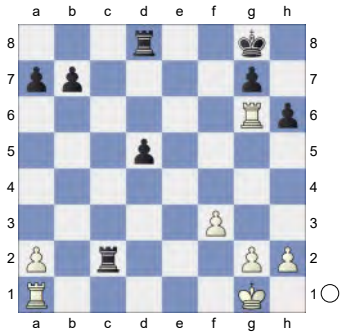


Nxb2! &Nero is much more active. The white rooks are badly placed. **19.Bxb2** -1.75/22
[19.Ne2∓ -1.19/20 Nc4 20.Rb1]
[19.Nxd5 exd5]
19...Bxc3-+ 20.Bxc3 Rxc3

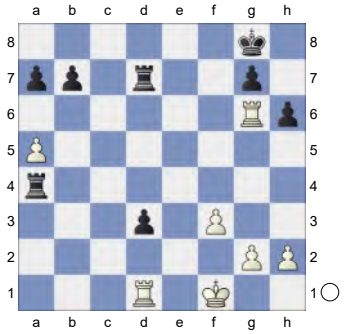
(Diagram)



21.Bg6 Ba4 22.Rfe1 Bxc2 23.Rxe6 Bxg6 24.Rxg6 Endgame KRR-KRR
24...Rc2 25.f3 Rd8

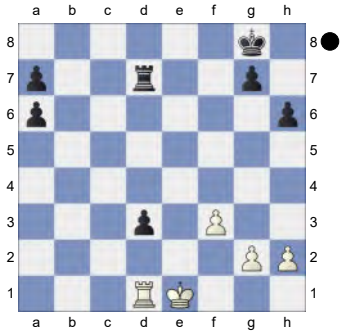


26.Re1 Rd7 Inhibits Re7.
[Not 26...Rxa2 27.Re7=]
27.a4 d4 28.Rd1 -3.15/21
[28.Rge6 -2.22/21 is a better defense.]
28...d3 29.Kf1 Rc4 30.a5 Ra4

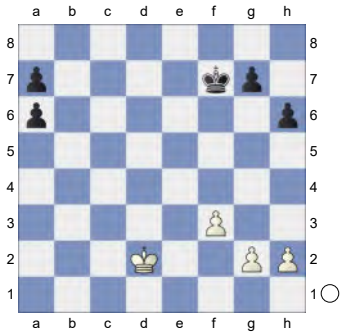


31.a6 Rxa6
[Weaker is 31...bxa6 32.Rd2∓]
32.Rxa6 bxa6 KR-KR **33.Ke1** -3.56/21
[33.Rd2 -2.17/23 only move.]

(Diagram)

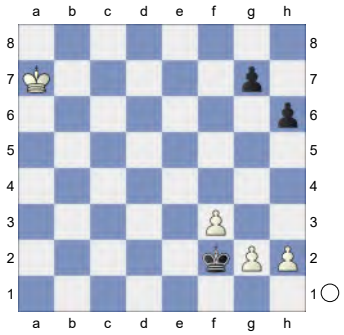


33...d2+! 34.Rxd2 Rxd2 35.Kxd2 KP-KP **35...Kf7**



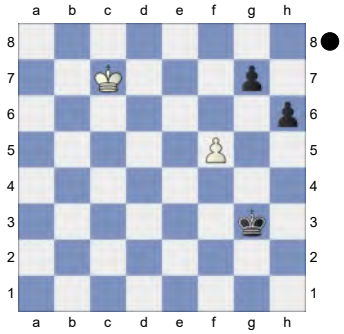
36.Kc3 Ke6 37.Kb4 Ke5 38.Ka5 Kf4 39.Kxa6 Ke3 40.Kxa7 Kf2 -19.24/28

[⊼40...g5 -#20/29 41.Kb6 Kf2 42.Kc7 Kxg2 43.Kd6 Kxh2 44.Ke5 Kg3 45.Ke4 h5 46.Kf5 g4 47.fxg4 hxg4 48.Ke4 Kf2 49.Kf4 g3 50.Kg4 g2 51.Kf5 Kf3 52.Kf6 g1Q 53.Ke5 Qc5+ 54.Kf6 Qd6+ 55.Kg7 Qe7+ 56.Kh6 Kf4 57.Kg6 Kg4 58.Kh6 Kf5 59.Kh5 Qh7#]



41.f4 Kxg2 Black mates. **42.Kb7 Kxh2 43.Kc7 Kg3 44.f5**

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.77/ Black=0.38

0-1

143 **C17**

☐ **Vokhidov,Shamsiddin** **2648**

■ **Suyarov,Mukhammadzokhid** **2469**

ch-UZB 2025 Qiziltepa UZB (2.1) 21.4.25

[Kitty Kat]

C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N

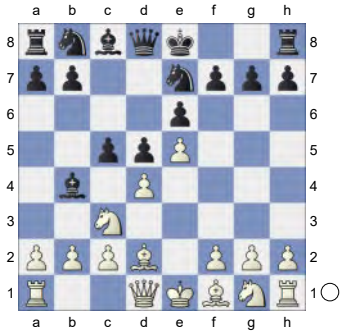
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]

[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 Cl1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4

13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

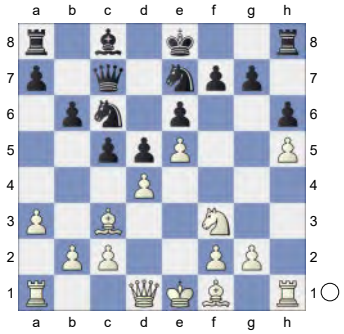
5.Bd2 Ne7



6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 b6 8.h4 Nbc6 9.h5 Qc7

[9...cxd4 10.Bxd4 Nf5 11.Bb5=]

10.Nf3 White is slightly better. **10...h6**



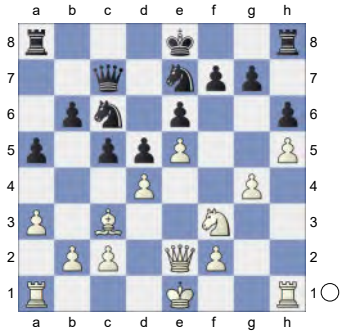
11.Bb5 a6 12.Be2 -0.08/18

[12.Bxc6+± 0.34/20 Nxc6 13.Qe2]

12...a5 0.24/20

[⊿12...Nf5 -0.08/18]

13.g4= Ba6 14.Bxa6 Rxa6 15.Qe2 Ra8



16.Rg1 Rc8 0.62/20

[16...Rb8= 0.29/20]

17.Qe3 -0.15/20

[17.0-0-0!± 0.62/20]

17...Qd7 0.47/21

[17...0-0= -0.15/20]

18.Qf4 0.01/22

[18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Qxc5 Nb4! 20.axb4 Rxc5 21.bxc5 a4∓]

[18.0-0-0± 0.47/21]

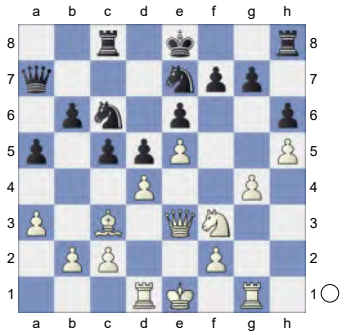
18...Qc7 19.Qe3 Qd7 0.45/19

[Black should try 19...0-0= -0.16/20]

20.Rd1

[20.dxc5 bxc5 21.Qxc5 Nb4! 22.axb4 Rxc5 23.bxc5 a4∓]

20...Qa7

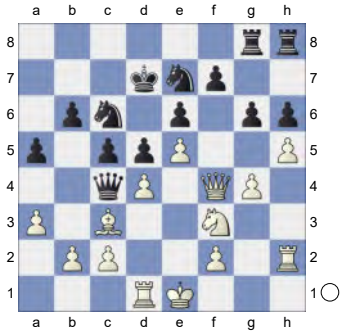


21.Rg2 Kd7 0.49/18

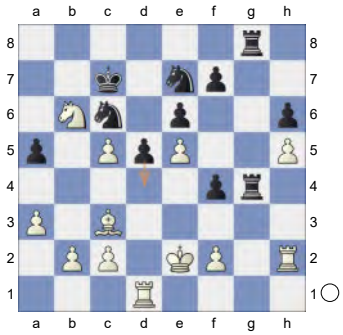
[21...b5= 0.01/18]

22.Kf1 g6 23.Rh2 Rcg8 24.Qf4 Qa6+ 25.Ke1! Qc4

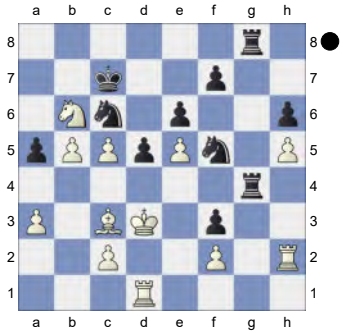
(Diagram)



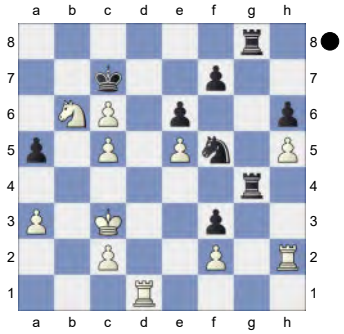
26.Nd2 0.07/21
[26.Qxf7? Rf8 27.Qg7 Rhg8-+]
[26.Rh3± 0.46/18 deserves consideration.]
26...g5 27.Nxc4 -0.22/22
[⌓27.Qf6 0.24/19 Qb5 28.dxc5]
27...gxf4 28.Nxb6+ Kc7 29.dxc5 Hoping for f3. **29...Rxg4 30.Ke2** -0.85/22
[30.f3∓ -0.32/21 Rg3 31.Rh4]
30...Rhg8∓



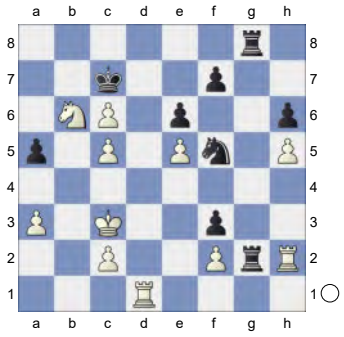
Black has strong compensation. **31.b4** -1.35/23
[31.Rd3!∓ -0.69/21]
31...Nf5? 0.46/22 Pair of Knights!
[31...f3+ 32.Kxf3 axb4 33.axb4 Nxb4 34.Ra1∓]
[31...axb4∓ -1.35/23 32.axb4 f3+ 33.Kxf3 Nxb4 34.Bxb4 Rxb4]
32.b5 -0.12/23
[32.bxa5 d4 33.Rh3 Nxe5∓]
[32.Rh3!± 0.46/22]
32...f3+!= 33.Kd3!
[33.Kxf3? Nfd4+ 34.Bxd4 Nxd4+ 35.Rxd4 Rxd4-+]



33...d4! -0.08/22 **34.bxc6** Dancing on a razor blade. **34...dxc3 35.Kxc3** -0.85/22
[35.Rhh1= -0.21/24]

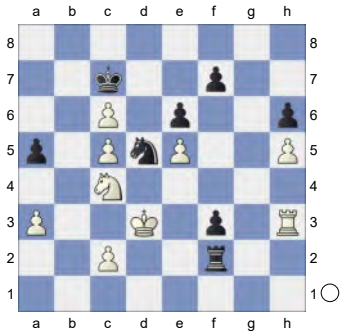


35...Rg2!∓
[35...Kxc6 36.Rh3=]

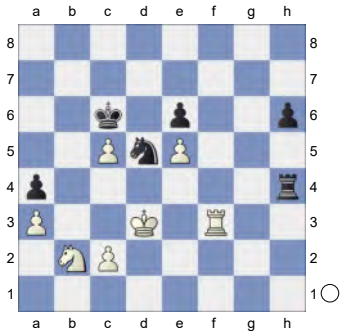


36.Rdh1
[Avoid the trap 36.Rd7+? Kxc6 37.Rh1 Rxf2 38.Rxf7 Re2-+]
36...Rxh2
[Much weaker is 36...Kxc6?! 37.Nc4∓]
37.Rxh2 Endgame KRN-KRN **37...Rg2**
[Of course not 37...Kxc6 38.Rh3=]

38.Rh3 Rxf2 39.Nc4 Inhibits Ne3.
39...Ne7 -0.01/23
[39...a4∓ -0.57/22]
40.Kd3 -0.33/20
[40.Nxa5= -0.01/23 Nd5+ 41.Kb3]
40...Nd5∓

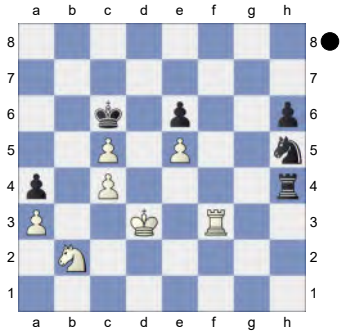


aiming for ...Nf4+. **41.Rg3** -0.01/23
[41.Rh1∓ -0.35/23]
41...a4 42.Rg7 Threatens to win with Na5. **42...Kxc6 43.Rxf7** And now Nd2 would win. **43...Rh2** 0.41/23
[43...Rf1= -0.01/23]
44.Rxf3 -0.01/21
[44.Na5+!± 0.41/23 is superior. Kxc5 45.c4]
44...Rxh5= The position is equal.
45.Nb2 Rh4



46.c4 Nf4+ 47.Ke3 Nh5 48.Kd3 Nf4+ 49.Ke3 Nh5 50.Kd3

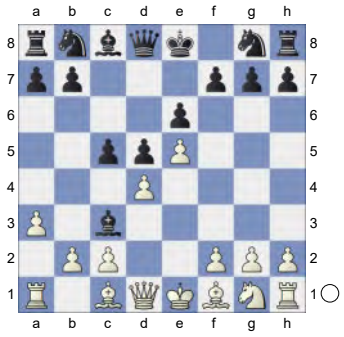
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.21 (precise)
½-½

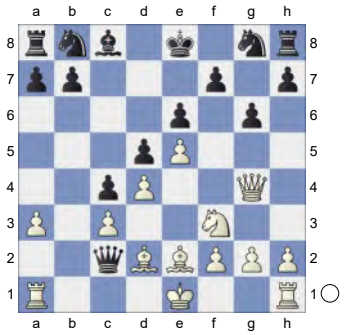
144 **C18**
□ **Grandelius,N.** **2647**
■ **Merry,Alan B** **2335**
PokerStars IoM Masters (7.9) 09.10.2015
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

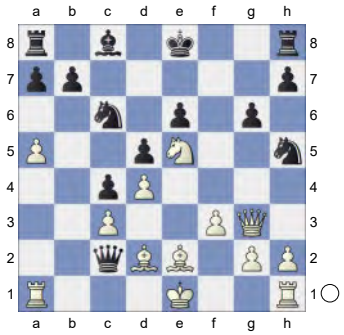


6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 g6 9.Nf3 c4 10.Be2 Qxc2N
[10...Nc6 11.0-0 *(11.Ra2 h6 12.Qh4 Bd7 13.0-0 Nge7 14.Bg5 Qa5 15.Bf6 Rf8 16.Qxh6 Qxc3 17.Qe3 Qa5 18.g4 0-0-0 19.Rb1 Kb8 20.a4 Bc8 21.Qa3 Rd7 22.Rb5 Qd8 23.Rab2 Ka8 24.a5 Rg8 25.c3 Qf8* Nakar,E (2509)-Tovmasian,V

(2396) ICCF XI Olympiad Final 2016 Juniors [Dragan Solak] 1-0 (47)) 11...Bd7 12.Ra2 0-0-0 13.Bg5 Rf8 14.Qh4 h6 15.Rb1 b6 16.h3 Kb7 17.Bf1 Ka8 18.Re1 Qa5 19.a4 Rh7 20.Ra3 Re8 21.Bf6 Nxf6 22.exf6 Rhh8 23.Qf4 Rb8 24.Rb1 Rb7 25.Rb5 Wing Gambit (2637)-Kalashikov 5.Nb3 - 6.Bg5 #1 (2491) corr ICCF 2015 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (51)]

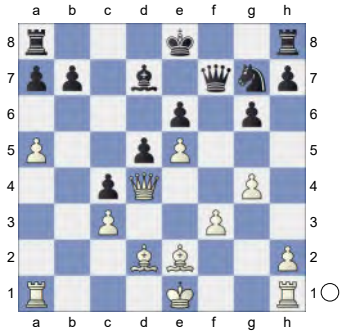


11.a4 0.41/19
[11.0-0± 0.73/19]
11...Nc6± **12.a5** **f6** **13.Qg3** **fxe5** **14.Nxe5** **Nf6!** **15.f3** Inhibits Ne4. **15...Nh5**

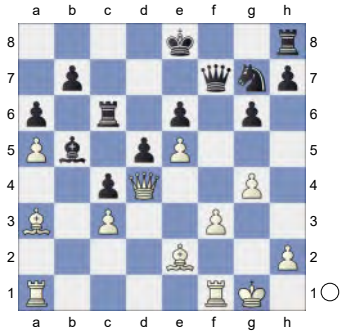


16.Qg5 Hoping for g4. **16...Qf5** **17.Qe3** Strongly threatening g4. **17...Nxe5** **18.dxe5** **Ng7** **19.g4** White has strong compensation. **19...Qf7** **20.Qd4** **Bd7**

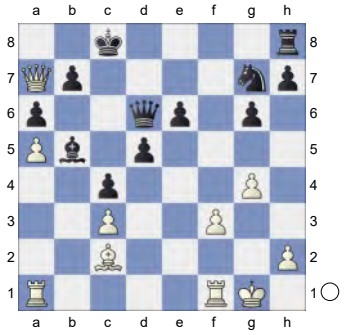
(Diagram)



21.Bc1 **Bc6** **22.Ba3** 0.22/20
[22.h4± 0.59/18]
22...a6= **23.Qb6** **Rc8** 0.64/19
[23...d4? 24.Qxd4 *(24.cxd4 h5±)* 24...Rd8 25.Qxc4+-]
[23...Qf4= 0.25/19]
24.Qd4 **Bb5** **25.0-0** **Rc6**



26.Bd1 **Kd7** **27.Bc2** **Kc8** **28.Qa7** Qa8+ is the strong threat. **28...Qc7** 1.51/21
[Black should try 28...Rd8 0.96/19]
29.Bd6↑ White is in control. 0x0. 00213a1c9e13dp-1022s more active pieces. **29...Rxd6** **30.exd6** **Qxd6**



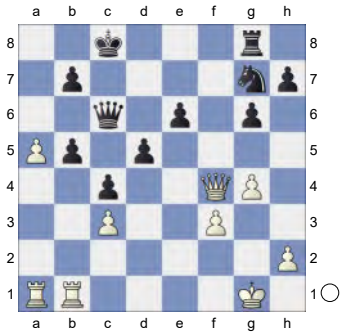
31.Ba4! **Kc7?** 3.39/25 A mistake that costs the game.

[31...Bxa4± 1.44/22 might work better. 32.Rxa4 Re8]

32.Rfb1+-

[Much less strong is 32.Bxb5 axb5 33.Rfb1 Qc6+-]

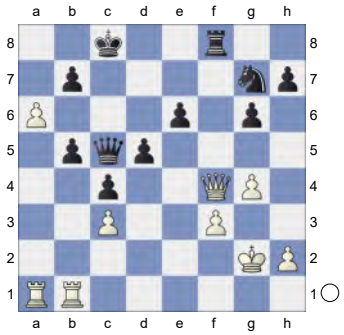
32...Qc6 33.Qd4 Rg8 34.Bxb5 axb5 35.Qf4+ Kc8



36.a6 Qc5+ 8.73/22

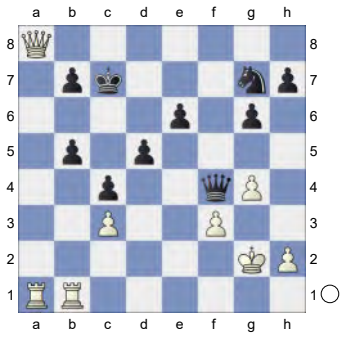
[36...bxa6 2.74/19 37.Qf7 Rd8]

37.Kg2 Rf8



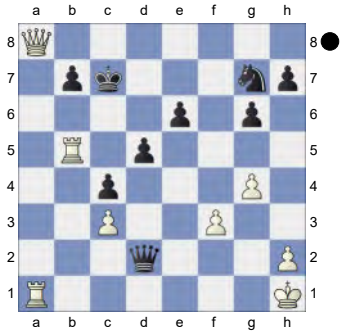
38.Qxf8+ Deflection, Promotion

38...Qxf8 39.a7 Qf4 40.a8Q+ Kc7



41.Rxb5 Qd2+ 42.Kh1

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.37

1-0

145 **C18**

□ **Fedorov,Alexei** **2646**

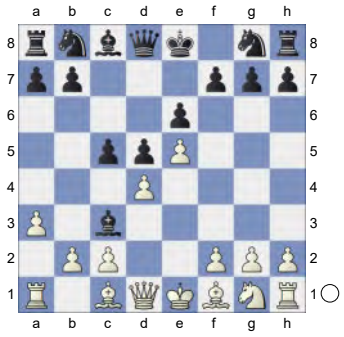
■ **Wu,Shaobin** **2523**

Istanbul ol (Men) (4) 31.10.2000

[Kitty Kat]

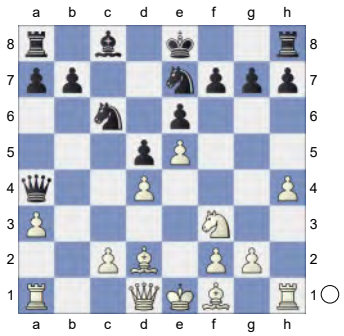
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

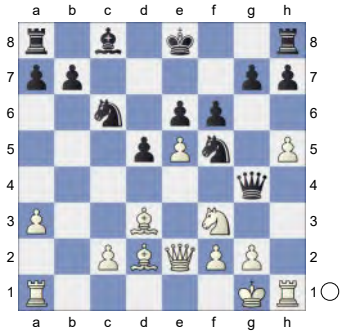


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Nf3 Qa5 8.Bd2 Nbc6 9.h4 cxd4 10.cxd4 Qa4

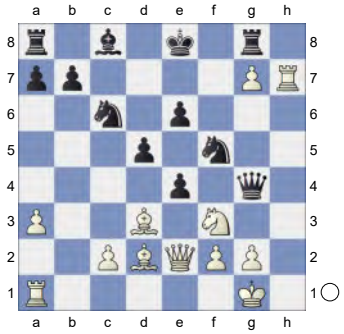
(Diagram)



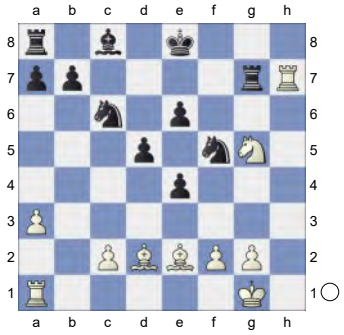
11.h5 Nxd4 12.Bd3 Nec6 0.48/20
[12...h6= 0.15/18]
13.Kf1 0.06/21
[13.Bc3± 0.48/20 deserves consideration. Nf5 14.Bxf5 exf5 15.h6]
13...Nf5 0.46/20
[13...Nxf3= 0.06/21 14.Qxf3 Qd4]
14.Kg1 Qg4 15.Qe2 0.19/18
[15.c3± 0.67/18]
15...f6 0.56/19
[15...h6= 0.19/18]



16.h6± fxe5 0.84/20
[16...Nxe5± 0.51/21 17.hxg7 Rg8]
17.hxg7 0.01/21
[17.Bxf5± 0.84/20 Qxf5 18.hxg7]
17...Rg8 0.54/20
[17...Nxg7? 18.Rh4 Qxh4 19.Nxh4+-]
[Black should try 17...Qxg7= 0.01/21 18.Bc3 Rg8]
18.Rxh7 Strongly threatening Bxf5.
18...e4 0.94/21
[18...Rxg7± 0.56/22 should be considered. 19.Rxg7 Qxg7]

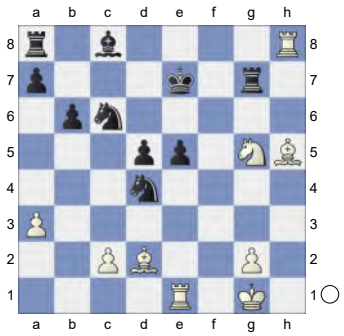


19.Ng5 0.42/21 &Bianco is more active.
[Better is 19.Nh4!± 0.94/21 Qxe2 20.Bxe2 Rxg7 21.Rh8+ Ke7 22.Nxf5+ exf5 23.Bh6]
19...Qxe2 20.Bxe2 Hoping for Rh8.
20...Rxg7



21.Rh8+N -0.08/19
[⌓21.Rxg7 0.29/19 Nxg7 22.c4]
21...Ke7 Threatening ...e3! **22.f4 exf3** 0.46/20
[22...e3= 0.01/18 was preferrable. 23.Bc3 e5]
23.Bxf3 aiming for Re1. **23...Nfd4!**
24.Bh5 White has compensation. **24...b6**
[Not 24...Kd6 25.Nf7+ Kc5 26.Be3±]
25.Re1 0.60/20
[25.Re8+= 0.26/21 feels stronger. Kd6 26.Re1]
25...e5!

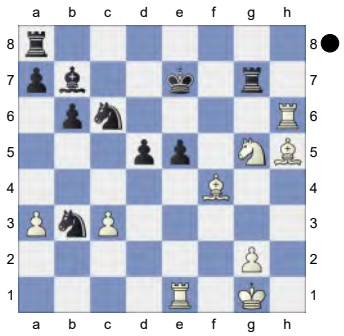
(Diagram)



26.c3 Nb3 27.Bf4⇄ And now Rh6 would win. White has counterplay. Chess con chili. **27...Bb7!**

[27...Kd6? 28.Rh6+ Kc5 29.Be3+ d4 30.Bf3 dxe3 31.Bxc6+-]

28.Rh6

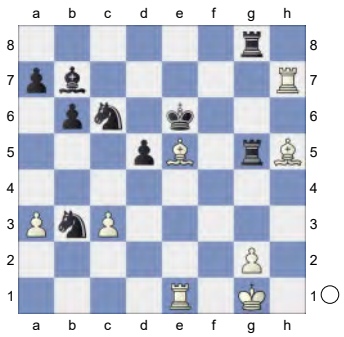


Black must now prevent Ne6. **28...Rag8 29.Bxe5 Rxg5?** 1.72/24 Loses the game.

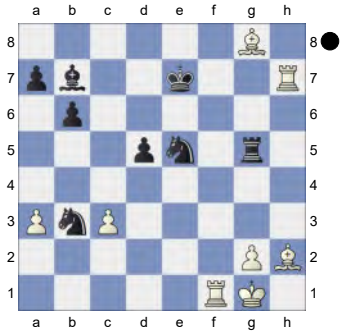
[29...Nxe5= -0.01/25 30.Rxe5+ Kd7 31.Bg4+ Kc7 32.Ne6+ Kd6 33.Nxg7+ Kxe5 34.Re6+ Kf4]

30.Rh7++- Ke6? 8.08/23

[30...Kd8 1.73/21 31.Bf6+ Kc8 32.Bxg5 Rxg5]



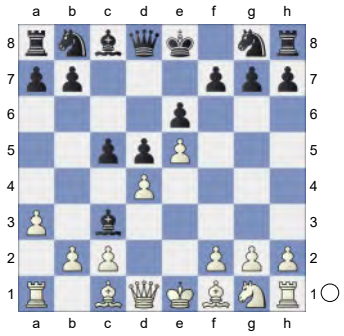
31.Bh2+ A strong pair of Bishops. White is clearly winning. **31...Ne5 32.Bf7+ Kf6 33.Rf1+ Ke7 34.Bxg8+**



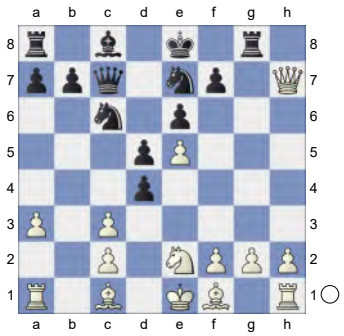
Discovered Attack.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.30. An unexpected result.
½-½

146	**C18**
☐ **JelenaZ**	**2645**
■ **beast2020**	**2637**
Blitz	31.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]	

Blitz 3min
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
A main line of the Poisoned Pawn works out well for White, but Black has improvements. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6



11.f4

[11.cxd4 Nxd4! 12.Ra2 Nxe2 13.Bxe2 Rxg2=]

11...dxc3 12.h4 Bd7 13.h5 0-0-0 White is slightly better. **14.Qd3**

[14.Qxf7? Rdf8 15.Qh7 Nf5-+]

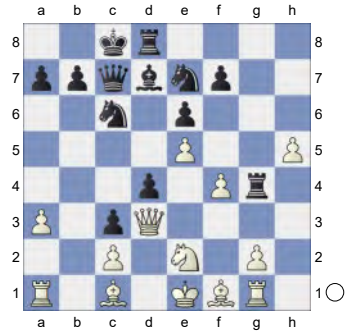
14...d4 15.Rg1N -0.01/17

[15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Bb5 17.Qxa7 Bxf1 18.Rxf1 Qc4∓]

[15.h6⩲ 0.61/17 Kb8 *(15...Rg6 16.Rb1 Nf5 17.h7 Rh8 18.g3 Nce7 19.Rh3 Qc5 20.Rb4 Nc6 21.Rb5 Qf8 22.Bg2 f6 23.Nxc3 fxe5 24.Ne4 exf4 25.Nc5 Rg7 26.Bxf4 Ne3 27.Bxe3 dxe3 28.Qxe3 Be8 29.Qxe6+ Kb8 30.Bxc6* Moradiabadi, E (2555)-Shimanov,A (2597) chess.com INT 2020 [John Watson] 1-0 (38)*; 15...Rh8 16.Nxd4 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Nf5 18.Qxa7 Bc6 19.Be3 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 Qd7 21.Qxc3 Qd5 22.Bd3 Qxg2 23.0-0-0 Qf3 24.Rdf1 Qd5 25.Rh2 Qa2 26.Qb2 Qd5 27.Rd2 Kb8 28.Qb4 Rxh6 29.f5 Qxe5 30.Re2* Dorfman,J (2214)-Ivic, M (2262) Santiago de Chile 2023 ZUS D32 [John Watson] 0-1 (66)*)* 16.h7 Rh8 17.g4 *(17.Rb1 Bc8 18.g4 b6 19.Rh5 Bb7 20.Ng3 Nd5 21.Ne4 f5 22.Ng5 Nxe5 23.fxe5 Qxe5+ 24.Qe2 Ne3 25.Bxe3 dxe3 26.Qh2 f4 27.Nf7 Qd4 28.Nxd8 Bf3 29.Bd3* 1-0 (29) Valles Moreno,I (2418)-Serra Canals,O (2090) Montcada i Reixac ESP 2015 [John Watson]*)* 17...Bc8 18.Bg2 b6 19.Rb1 Bb7 20.Kf2 Qc8 21.a4 Nd5 22.Ba3 Ba6 23.Rb5 Ncb4 24.Qe4 d3 25.Rxb4 dxe2 26.Rd4 Bb7 27.Bd6+ Ka8 28.Qxe2 Rxd6 29.exd6 Qc5 30.Qc4 Milliet,S (2390)-Kirk,E (2344) Hinckley Island ENG 2015 [John Watson] 1-0 (38)]

15...Rg4 0.35/18

[15...Nd5= -0.01/17 should be considered.]



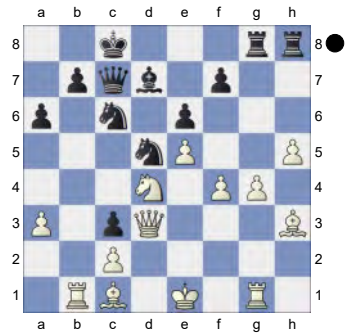
16.g3⩲ Rh8 0.65/20

[16...Kb8= 0.19/15 is superior.]

17.Bh3 -0.09/19

[17.Nxd4⩲ 0.65/20 Nxd4 18.Qxd4]

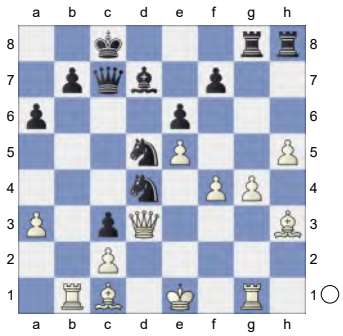
17...Rgg8= 18.g4 Nd5 19.Rb1 a6 20.Nxd4



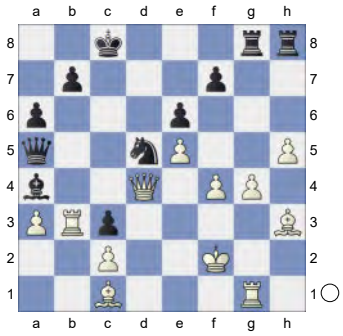
Nxd4 0.82/19

[20...Rxh5!= -0.27/19 21.Ne2 Nxe5! 22.fxe5 Rxe5]

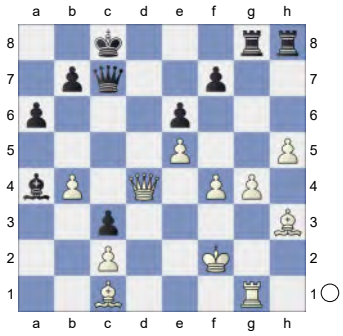
(Diagram)



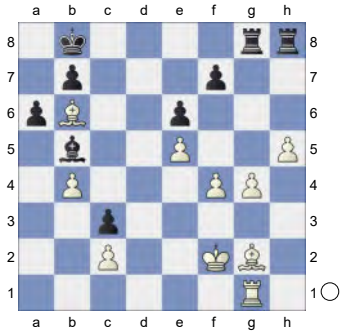
21.Qxd4± Bc6 22.Kf2? -1.01/21
[22.Bf1!± 0.65/18 keeps the upper hand.]
22...Qa5 0.01/20
[Better is 22...Qd8∓ -1.01/21 23.Kf1 Qh4]
23.Rb3 Ba4 0.50/21
[Black should play 23...Qd8= -0.02/22]



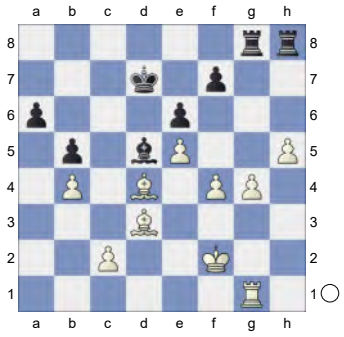
24.Rb4!± Nxb4 25.axb4 Qc7 1.31/19
[25...Qd8!± 0.66/19 26.Qxd8+ *(26.Qxc3+ Kb8=)* 26...Kxd8]



26.Be3 -0.01/20
[26.Rg3± 1.31/19]
26...Bb5 1.43/21
[26...Rd8= -0.01/20 keeps the balance. 27.Qa7 *(27.Qe4 Rd2+ 28.Kg3 Bc6-+)* 27...Bxc2]
27.Qa7 Qc6 2.71/21
[27...Qc4± 1.34/20 28.Bf1 Qe4]
28.Bg2+- Chess con chili. **28...Qc7 29.Bb6** A strong pair of Bishops. **29...Qb8** aiming for ...Qxa7. **30.Qxb8+ Kxb8**

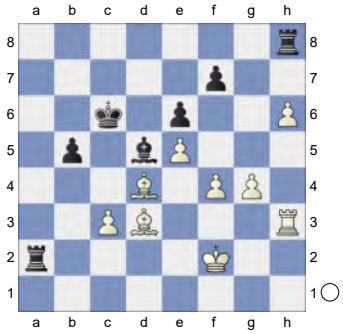


31.Be4 Kc8 2.29/20
[⌓31...Rc8 1.74/20 32.Rd1 Rc4]
32.Bd4 Kd7 2.88/21
[⌓32...Kc7 2.05/20 33.Bxc3 Bc6]
33.Bxc3 Bc6 34.Bd3 Bd5 3.09/20
[34...Bb5 2.17/21 was worth a try. 35.Be4 Bc6]
35.Bd4 b5



36.c3 Kc6 37.Rg3 Ra8 38.Rh3 a5 39.bxa5 Rxa5 40.h6 Ra2+

(Diagram)

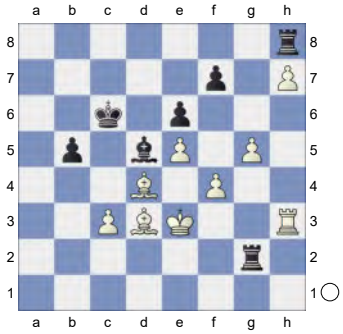


41.Ke3 Rg2 42.g5 Rg1 43.Kf2? 0.81/23

[43.h7?! Rg2 44.Rh4 Rg3+ 45.Ke2 Bg2±]

[43.Be2+- 2.88/21]

43...Rg2+± 44.Ke3 Rg1! 45.h7 Rg2



46.Rh6? 0.75/21

[46.Rh4+- 2.32/21]

46...Kd7? 3.67/19

[46...Rg3+± 0.75/21 47.Ke2 Rxd3 48.Kxd3 Ba2]

47.Rf6 1.95/21

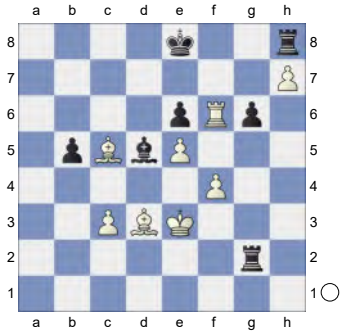
[⌓47.Bxb5+ 3.67/19 Kc7 48.Rh3]

47...Ke7? 8.79/21

[47...Rg3+ 1.95/21 48.Ke2 Rxd3 49.Rxf7+ *(49.Kxd3 Rxh7 50.Rh6 Ba2±)* 49...Ke8]

48.Bc5++- Ke8 49.g6 fxg6

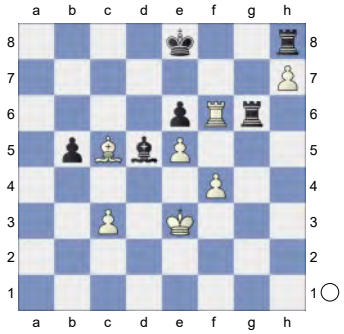
(Diagram)



50.Bxg6+? 0.51/23

[50.Rf8+!+- 7.95/21 Rxf8 51.Bxf8 *(51.Bxb5+ Kf7=)* 51...Rg3+ 52.Kd4]

50...Rxg6±



Remove Defender **51.Rxg6** Intending Rg8+ and mate. **51...Rxh7+-** Endgame KRB-KRB **52.f5 exf5** 3.40/23

[52...Rh3+± 0.84/25 53.Kd2 *(53.Kd4 Rh4+ 54.Ke3 Re4+ 55.Kf2 Rf4+ 56.Ke3 Re4+ 57.Kf2 Rf4+ 58.Ke3 Re4+=)* 53...Rh2+ 54.Kc1 Rh1+ 55.Kb2 Rh2+ 56.Ka3 Ra2+ 57.Kb4 Bc4]

53.Rd6? 0.85/20

[53.e6+- 3.40/23 Rh8 54.Kf4]

53...Bc4 54.Kf4 Rd7 2.03/25

[54...Re7± 0.91/20]

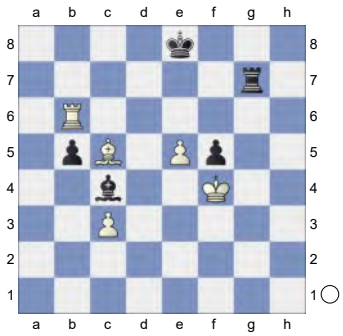
55.Rb6 Threatens to win with e6.

[55.Kxf5 Rxd6 56.exd6 *(56.Bxd6 b4±)* 56...Kd7±]

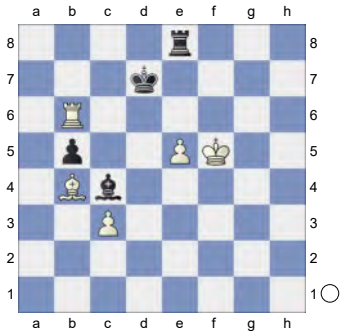
55...Rg7? 4.43/22

[55...Kf7 1.97/23 56.Rf6+ *(56.Kxf5 Rd3±)* 56...Kg7]

(Diagram)

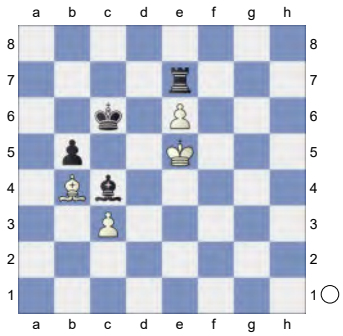


56.Kxf5 1.87/24
[⌓56.e6 4.43/22 Kd8 57.Ra6 Bxe6 58.Rxe6]
56...Rf7+ 57.Ke4 Rc7 2.72/24
[⌓57...Kd7 1.83/24 58.Rd6+ Kc7]
58.Bd6 Rc8 3.06/24
[⌓58...Rf7 1.85/23 59.Bc5 Kd7]
59.Kf5 1.24/25
[59.Bb4+- 3.06/24 has better winning chances.]
59...Kd7± 60.Bb4 Strongly threatening e6+. **60...Re8** 3.12/23
[60...Rc6± 1.20/24 was called for. 61.Rb7+ Rc7]

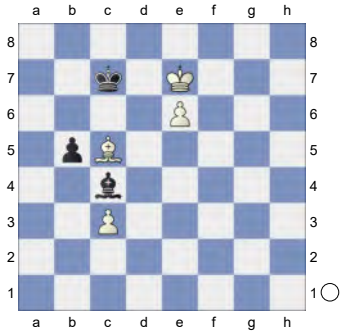


Against e6+ **61.Rd6++-** **Kc7** **62.e6** **Rf8+** **63.Ke5** Black must now prevent Rd7+. **63...Re8** **64.Rd7+** **Kc6** **65.Re7** 1.29/18
[65.Be7+- 2.19/27]
65...Rxe7±

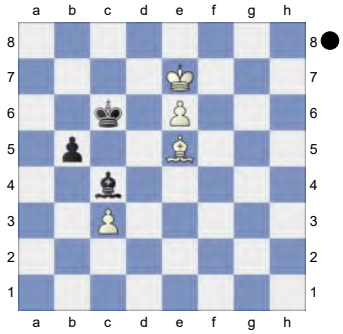
(Diagram)



66.Bxe7 KB-KB **66...Kb6** 2.06/30
[66...Be2± 1.23/28 keeps fighting.]
67.Kf6 Kc6 68.Bb4 Bd5 69.Ke7 Kc7 70.Bc5 Bc4



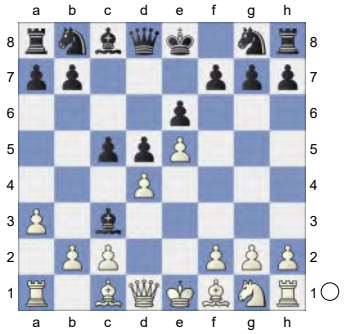
71.Bd4 Kc6 72.Be5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/ Black=0.61
1-0

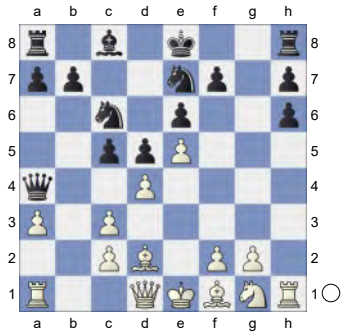
147 **C18**
□ **Volokitin,Andrei** **2645**
■ **Zhang,Pengxiang** **2636**
EU-Cup 22nd Fuegen (3.2) 10.10.2006
[Moskalenko,Viktor]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

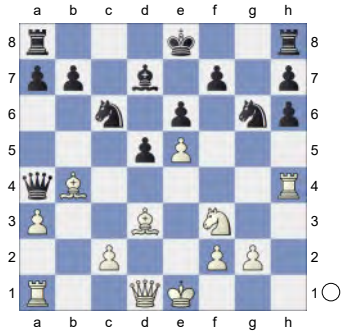


6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.h4
With a creative game: **8...Nc6**
[8...Ne7 9.h5 h6 10.Qg4 Nf5 11.Bd3 0-0 12.Qf4 *(12.Nf3)* 12...c4 *(12...f6!?)* 13.g4 Ne7 *(13...cxd3 14.gxf5 exf5 15.Nh3↑)* 14.Be2? *(14.g5!→)* 14...f6 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.Qc7 Nbc6 17.g5 hxg5 18.Bxg5 Rf7 19.Kd2?? *(⌓19.h6)* 19...e5! 20.h6 Bf5 21.Ra2 Nc8 22.Qxf7+ Kxf7-+ 0-1 Sutovsky,E (2624)-Psakhis, L (2534)/playchess.com INT 2006/ EXT 2007 (35)]
9.h5
[9.Qg4 g6 *(9...Kf8!?)* 10.h5 Nge7 *(10...Qxc2 11.Nf3↑)* 11.Nf3 Bd7 12.Qf4 0-0-0 13.Bd3 c4 14.Be2 Qxc2 15.Ng5 Rdf8 16.Qf6 Kb8 17.Rc1 Qb2 18.h6 Nc8 19.Qg7 Nd8 20.Rh3 Qxa3 21.Rf3 Qe7 22.Ra1 b5 23.Bc1 Rfg8 24.Qf6 Qxf6 25.Rxf6 Be8 26.Ba3 Nc6 27.Bc5 a5 28.Nxf7+- 1-0 Sutovsky,E (2624)-Psakhis,L (2534)/playchess.com INT 2006/EXT 2007 (44)]

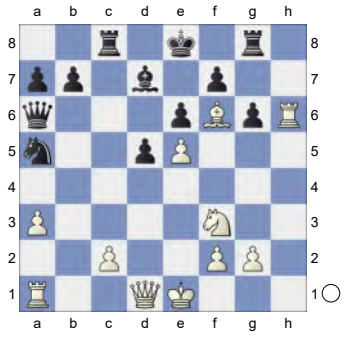
9...Nge7
[9...cxd4!?]
[9...h6]
10.h6 gxh6



11.Nf3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Nxd4 13.Bd3 Bd7 14.Bb4 Ndc6 15.Rh4 Ng6

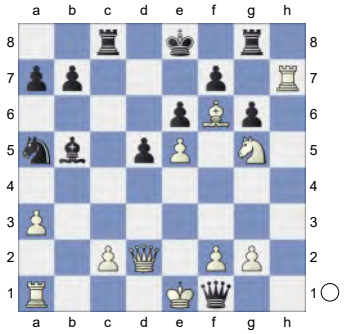


16.Bxg6 hxg6 17.Bd2 Qa6 18.Bg5 Rc8 19.Bf6 Rg8 20.Rxh6 Na5



21.Ng5 Qc4 22.Qd2??
[22.Rh7!? Bb5 23.Qd3 Rf8=]
22...Bb5→ 23.Rh7?? Qf1#

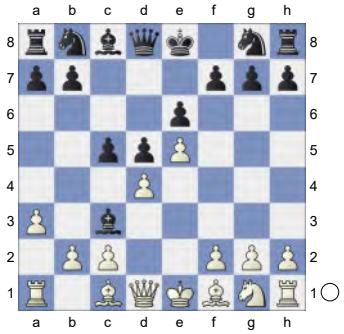
(Diagram)



Here the ''Black Queen'' finishes her long trip!
0-1

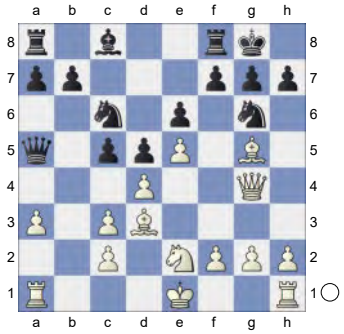
148 **C18**
□ **Dominguez,L.** **2645**
■ **Jussupow,Artur** **2655**
Chapter 3 (9) 2006
[Stockfish 6 64 POPCNT (10s)]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and Qg4' **1.e4** Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s) **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

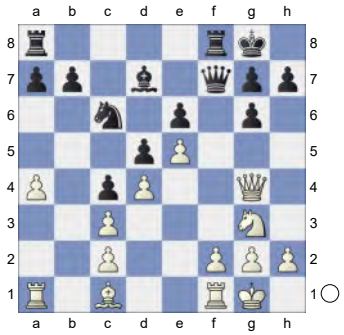


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Bg5 Qa5 10.Ne2 Ng6

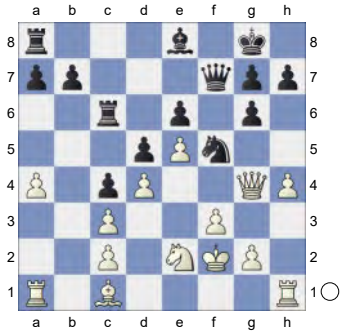
(Diagram)



11.0-0 c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.a4 Qc7 14.Bc1 Qf7 15.Ng3 Bd7



last book move **16.f3 Rfc8 17.h4 Be8 18.Kf2 Ne7 19.Rh1 Nf5 20.Ne2 Rc6**



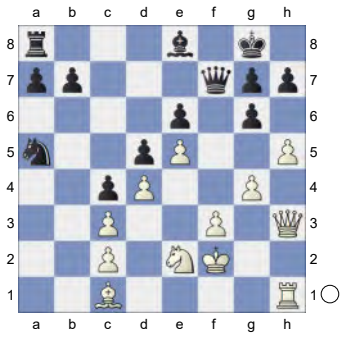
21.Qh3 Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): 'last book move' **21...Ra6** Exerts pressure on the isolated pawn. Black threatens to win material: Ra6xa4 Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): 'Attacking the isolated pawn on a4. Black threatens to win material: Ra6xa4' **22.g4** White threatens to win material: g4xf5 **22...Ne7 23.a5 Nc6 24.h5** White wins space Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): 'White gets more space' **24...Rxa5?**

[⌓24...gxh5 is a viable option 25.Nf4 h6± *(25...b5=; ≤25...Rxa5 26.Rxa5*

Nxa5 27.gxh5±)]

25.Rxa5+- Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): '±' '±'

25...Nxa5



26.h6 Ba4?? terrible, but the game is lost in any case Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): '?' '?'

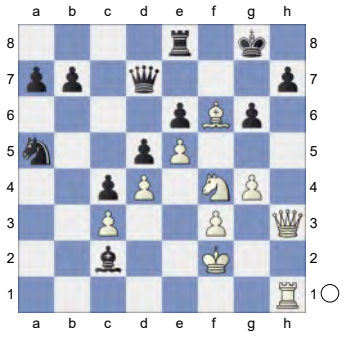
[⊿26...gxh6 Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): 'and Black is still in the game' 27.Qxh6 Nc6+- *(27...Qg7±)*]

27.hxg7+- Qxg7 28.Bg5 Bxc2?

[28...Rc8 29.Nf4 Rc6+-]

29.Nf4 Re8 30.Bf6 Qd7

[30...Qf7 is still a small chance 31.Qh6 Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): '+-' '+-' Nb3+-]



31.Qh6 Nc6 Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): '?' '?'

[31...Qf7 doesn't do any good Houdini 1.5a x64 (2s): '+-' '+-' 32.Nh5! Decoy: h5 g5 33.Ng7+-]

32.Nh5! Decoy: h5 **32...Rf8**

[32...gxh5 33.Qg5+ Decoy Double attack]

[32...g5 what else? 33.Ng7 Re7 34.Bxe7 Qxe7 35.Nxe6 Nd8 36.Qxg5+ Qxg5 37.Nxg5 a5+-]

33.Ng7 g5 34.Nxe6! Mate attack

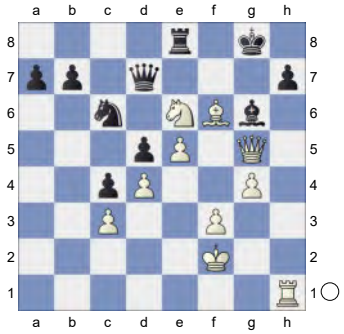
34...Re8

[34...Qxe6 35.Qg7# Mate attack]

[△34...-- 35.Qxf8# Mate threat]

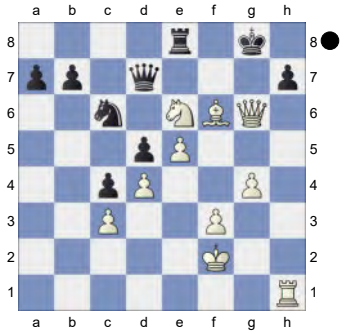
35.Qxg5+ Bg6

[35...Kf7 no good, but what else? 36.Nc5 Rg8 37.Rxh7+ Bxh7+-]



36.Qxg6+!!

[36.Qxg6+ hxg6 37.Rh8+ Kf7 38.Ng5#]



Deflection: h7

1-0

149 **C18**

□ **Dominguez,L.** **2645**

■ **Barsov,A.** **2471**

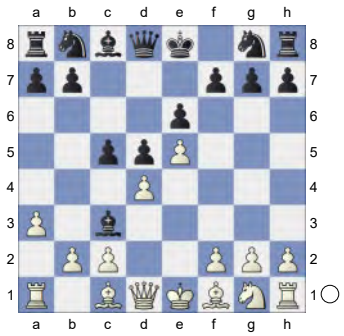
36th Olympiad (6) 20.10.2004

[Kitty Kat]

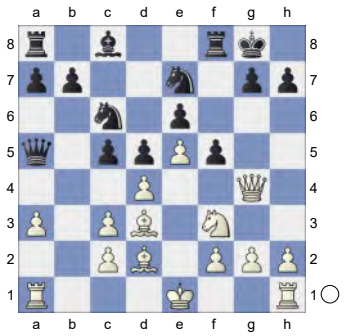
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4

and 7 Qg4

Chapter **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



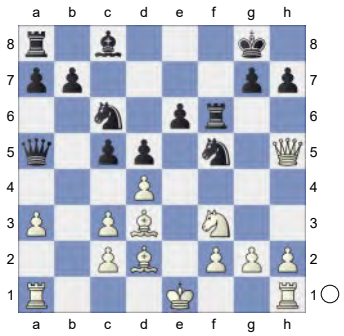
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Nbc6 10.Nf3 f5



11.exf6 Rxf6 12.Qh5 Against e5. And now Qe8+ would win. &Bianco is more active.

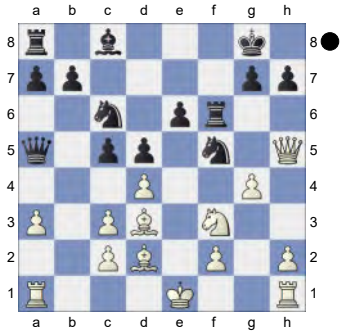
[12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Qh5+ *(13.c4? Qa4-+)* 13...Kg8=]

12...Nf5!



White is slightly better. **13.g4** -0.01/19

[13.dxc5!± 0.85/19 Strongly threatening g4. Qxc5 14.0-0 *(14.Ng5 h6∓)*]

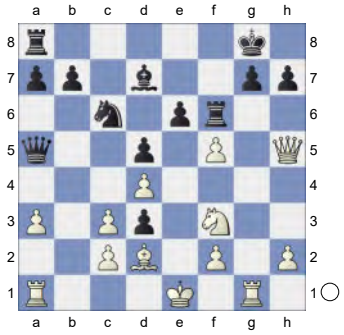


13...c4!= **14.gxf5** aiming for Rg1! **14...cxd3** **15.Rg1!** Intending Qe8+ and mate.

[15.cxd3 Rxf5 16.Qg4 *(16.Ng5? h6∓)* 16...Qb5∓]

[15.Ng5 h6 16.Nf3 *(16.Qe8+? Rf8-+)* 16...Rxf5 17.Qe8+ Rf8∓]

15...Bd7



Against Qe8+ **16.Qg5⇄** White is not holding back

[16.cxd3 exf5 17.Ne5 Nxe5 18.dxe5 Re8]

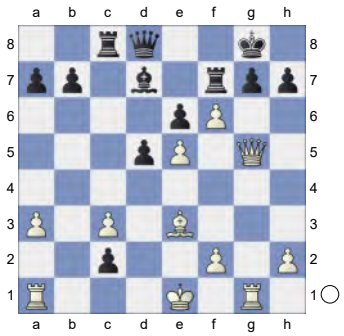
16...Rf7 **17.f6** White wants to mate with Qh6. **17...Qd8!**

[17...dxc2 18.Qh6 Kf8 19.Rxg7 c1Q+ 20.Rxc1 Qxa3 21.Qxh7 Rxg7 22.fxg7+ Ke7 23.g8Q+]

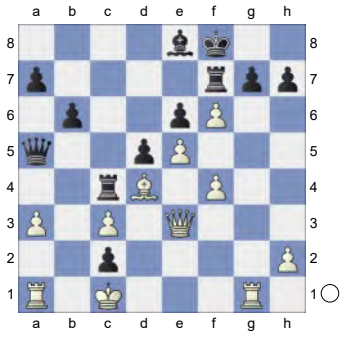
18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 dxc2 20.Be3 Black must now prevent Qh6. **20...Rc8** 0.13/19

[⌓20...Ba4 -0.27/19]

(Diagram)

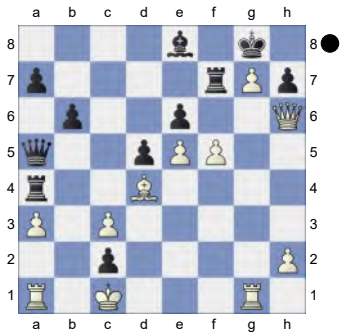


21.Kd2 White has compensation.
21...Qa5 22.Bd4 Rc4! ...Rxd4+ is the strong threat. **23.Qe3 Be8N** 0.51/18
[Better is 23...Ra4= 0.01/18]
[23...c1Q+ 24.Rgxc1 Ra4 25.Rg1 g6 26.Qd3 Kh8 27.Rab1 Be8 28.h4 Rxa3 29.h5 Chapter-N,N]
24.f4± Kf8 1.32/18
[24...Qa4± 0.53/16]
25.Kc1 0.89/17 Dancing on a razor blade.
[⌓25.f5 1.32/18 exf5 26.Kxc2]
25...b6 2.09/19
[25...gxf6± 0.89/17 26.exf6 Rxd4 27.Qxd4 Qb6]



26.f5+- Ra4? 25.21/20
[26...Rxd4 2.04/20 27.cxd4 *(27.Qxd4 exf5 28.Qh4 Qc5+-)* 27...exf5]
27.fxg7+ Kg8 28.Qh6

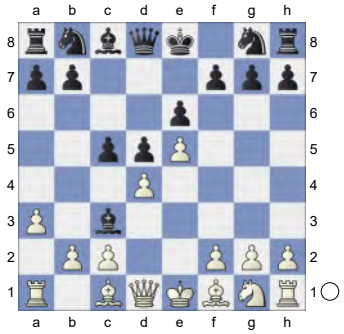
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.41
1-0

150 **C18**
□ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2645**
■ **Barsov,Alexei** **2471**
(ol) 92/275 Calvia 2004
[Dominguez Perez,Leinier]

Dominguez,L: 'Inf 92/275' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Qa5
[8...f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Qh5 h6 11.g4 Nbc6 12.Ne2 *(12.g5)* 12...Qf8 13.g5 g6 14.gxf6 gxh5 15.fxe7 Nxe7 16.Rg1+ Kf7 17.Nf4 e5 18.dxe5 Qh8 19.Ng6 Nxg6 20.Bxg6+ Ke7 21.f4 Bg4 22.Be3 b6 23.Kd2 Rg8 24.Bd3 Ke6 25.a4 Bf5 26.a5 Rxg1 27.Rxg1 Qh7 28.Be2 Bxc2 29.axb6 axb6 30.Ra1 Bb1 31.Ke1 Qe4 32.Kf2 d4 33.cxd4 cxd4 34.Bc4+

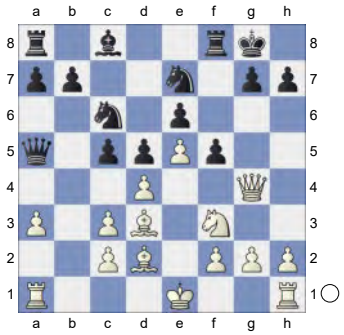
Kf5 35.Bc1 Qc2+ 36.Kf3 Qxc4]

9.Bd2

[9.Ne2 cxd4 10.Bd2 *(10.Bxh7+ Kxh7 11.Qh4+ Kg8 12.Qxe7 Nc6 13.Qg5 dxc3)* 10...Nbc6 11.cxd4 Qa4 12.Qh3 Ng6 13.Qe3 f6 14.exf6 Rxf6 15.0-0 Bd7 16.Rfb1 e5 17.Rxb7 exd4 18.Qg5 Nce5 19.Rb4 Qc6 20.Nxd4 Qc5 21.Bxg6 Nxg6 22.Be3 h6 23.Qh5 Re8 24.Qd1 Ne5 25.Nb5 Qc6 26.Nxa7 Qa8 27.Rb3 Rg6 28.Bd4 Bg4 29.f3 Bh3 30.g3 Rge6 31.Re3 Nc4 32.Rxe6 Rxe6 33.Nb5 Qa4 34.Nc3 Qa5 35.Qd3 Ne5 36.Bxe5 Rxe5 37.Qd4 Qc7 38.Kf2 Re6 39.Re1 Rd6 40.Nb5 Qxc2+ 41.Re2 Qb1 42.Nxd6 Qf1+ 43.Ke3 Qg1+ 44.Rf2 Qe1+ 45.Re2 Qg1+ 46.Kd3 Qb1+ 47.Rc2 Qd1+ 48.Rd2 Qb1+ 49.Kc3 Qa1+ 50.Kb4]

9...Nbc6 10.Nf3 f5

[10...c4 11.Bxh7+ Kxh7 12.Qh5+ Kg8 13.Ng5 Rd8 14.Qxf7+ Kh8 15.h4]



11.exf6

[11.Qh3 Qa4 12.Rg1 c4 13.Be2 Qxc2 14.Rc1 Qb2 15.g4 Na5 16.Bd1 Nb3 17.Rc2 Qxa3 18.Bh6 Ng6⇄ ½-½ Langheinrich,F-Kindermann,S/BL 0102 2002/ ½-½ Langheinrich,F-Kindermann,S/BL 0102 2002/]

11...Rxf6 12.Qh5 Nf5 13.g4

Neil McDonald: 'One of the first and still most challenging ways for White to meet the Rustemov.'

[13.c4!? Qa4 14.cxd5 Ncxd4 15.Ng5 h6 16.Ne4 Rf8 17.0-0 b6 18.Ng3 Ba6 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.Bxa6 Qxa6∞ ½-½ Seres,L-Erdos,V/ Budapest-4 GM 2003/The Week in Chess 441 (28) ½-½ Seres,L-Erdos,V/ Budapest-4 GM 2003/The Week in Chess 441 (28)]

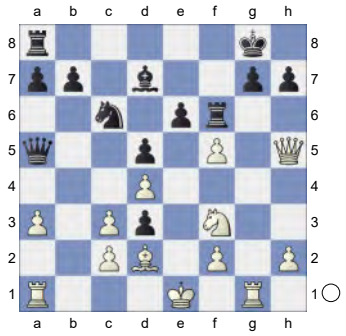
[13.Ne5!?]

13...c4 14.gxf5

[14.Be2 Nd6 15.Ne5 Ne4 16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.f3 Nxd2 18.Kxd2 c5 19.Qe5 cxd4 20.Qxd4 Qc7 21.Ke3 Bb7 22.f4 Re8 23.Qe5 Qb6+ 24.Kd2 Qf2 25.Raf1 Qc5 0-1 Videki, S-Farago,I/HUN t-ch 2000/ChessBase (36)]

14...cxd3 15.Rg1 Bd7

[15...dxc2 16.Qg5 Rf7 17.f6 g6 18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 b6 20.Qh6 Ba6 *(20...Qc5 21.Rxg6+ hxg6 22.Qxg6+ Kf8 23.c4 a5 24.Bh6+ Ke8 25.Qg8+)* 21.Rxg6+ hxg6 22.Qxg6+ Kf8 23.Bh6+ Ke8 24.Qg8+ Kd7 25.Qxf7+ Kc6 26.Qxe6+ Kb7 27.Qd7+ Kb8 28.Kd2]



16.Qg5 Psakhis,L: '!?' Neil McDonald: '!' Neil McDonald: 'You can follow the ChessPub trail that explains the strength

of this move by looking up the games Shirov-Khalifman and Timoshenko-Farago on the ChessPub database.'

[16.c4 Qc7! It is necessary for Black to show big care - It is necessary for Black to show big care - *(16...Qd8? 17.Bh6 Rf7 18.Ng5 Qa5+ 19.Kf1 Raf8 20.Nxf7 Rxf7 21.Bxg7! Rxg7 22.f6* 1-0 Timman,J-Van Haastert,E/ Amsterdam Lost Boys op 2002*)* 17.Bh6 Be8 18.Qh4 Rxh6 19.Qxh6 dxc4 *(19...dxc2 20.Qxe6+ Kh8 21.f6 Bf7 22.fxg7+ Kg8 23.Qf6 Qa5+ 24.Kf1 Qc3 25.Rc1 Qxa3 26.Kg2 dxc4 27.Rxc2 Bd5 28.Rd2 Re8* 0-1 Golod,V-Terreaux,G/corr 2003/Telechess CBM 97 (71)*)* 20.cxd3 cxd3 21.f6!?N Bg6□ 22.Qxg7+ Qxg7 23.fxg7 Rd8 ½-½ Shirov,A-Khalifman,A/Dos Hermanas-A 2003/CBM 95/[Psakhis] (43) ½-½ Shirov,A-Khalifman,A/Dos Hermanas-A 2003/CBM 95/[Psakhis] (43) It is not so easy to estimate correctly this position, but it looks that Black can keep equal chances. It is not so easy to estimate correctly this position, but it looks that Black can keep equal chances.]

16...Rf7 17.f6

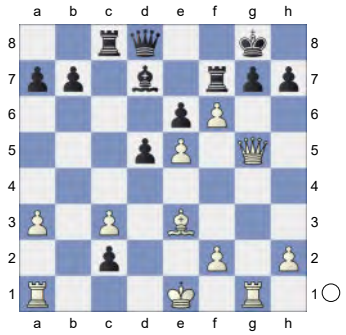
[≤17.cxd3 exf5 18.Ne5 Re8 19.f4 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Qa6 21.Ke2 Bb5 22.Qg3 Qa4 23.Kf2 Qc2 24.Ke2 Qa4 25.Kf2 d4 26.c4 Bc6 27.Ke2 Re6 0-1 Vehi Bach,V-Garcia Martinez, S/Barbera del Valles op 2003/(48)]

17...Qd8 18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 dxc2 Psakhis,L: 'The game scenario is clear now: White is attacking on the right, Black is doing the same on the left. Who has an edge?' **20.Be3 Rc8**

[Worth considering move Worth considering move 20...Kh8!? with possible continuation with possible continuation 21.Kd2 *(21.fxg7+ Kg8 22.Qxd8+ Rxd8 23.Kd2 Ba4∞)* 21...d4! 22.Bxd4 Bc6 23.fxg7+ Kg8 24.Qxd8+ Rxd8 25.Kxc2 a6 26.Kd3 Rxf2 27.Raf1 Rxf1 28.Rxf1 Kxg7 29.Rf6 Re8 30.Kc4 Bd5+ 31.Kc5 Rf8 32.Kd6 Rxf6 33.exf6+ Kf7 ½-½ Zhigalko,A-Llobel Cortell,E/ECC t-ch Izmir 2004/ (33) ½-½ Zhigalko,A-Llobel Cortell,E/ ECC t-ch Izmir 2004/ (33)]

[20...Qf8 21.Bd4 Be8 22.Kd2 Rc7 23.Qg4 Qf7 24.h4 Kh8 25.Qh3 gxf6 26.exf6 Bb5 27.Rg7 Qh5 28.Qxe6 Rc4 29.Rag1 1-0 Bobras,P-Vysochin, S/Bad Wiessee op 2004/]

[20...Ba4 21.Qh6 Qc7 22.Bd4 b6 23.Kd2]



21.Kd2 Qa5N Neil McDonald: '?'

[Neil McDonald: 'Instead' 21...Ba4 Ü 89/269 Ü 89/269 Ü 89/269 Ü 89/ 269 Dominguez,L: '— 89/269' Dominguez,L: '— 89/269 Dominguez Perez,Leinier: 'Ü 89/269'' Neil McDonald: 'turned out badly in Timoshenko-Farago, as given in ChessPub. In that game I recommended the positional pawn sacrifice' 22.Bd4 Rc4 23.Qe3 Kh8 24.Rg4 Qf8 25.h4 b6 26.h5 Bb3 27.f4 Ra4 28.f5 exf5 29.Rxg7 Rxg7 30.fxg7+ Qxg7 31.e6→ Timoshenko,

G-Farago,I/Nagykanizsa 2003/(Psakhis)/1-0 (39) Rxd4+ 32.cxd4 Ba4 33.e7 Qg2+ 34.Kc3 Qe4 35.Qxe4 dxe4 36.Rg1 h6 37.d5 f4 38.Kd4 f3 39.Ke3]

[21...Rc4]

[21...d4!? 22.Bxd4 Ba4!? (Originally, I suggested *22...Be8* intending to redeploy the black pieces with Rcc7, Rfd7 and then Bg6, when the g file is blocked. Unfortunately, looking at this again, I see that White can play *23.Qh6!* when Black has no time to carry out his plan: *Rcc7 24.fxg7 Rfd7? 25.Qxh7+! Kxh7 26.g8Q+ Kh6 27.Qxe6+* and as if it wasn't bad enough for Black to have a wrecked position, Fritz tells me it is also mate in 13 moves.) 23.Qh6 Rcc7 24.fxg7 Bb3 The black bishop is now defending both c2 and e6, and White already has to worry about 25... Rxf2+ or even Rxc3 in some cases.]

22.Bd4 Rc4

[22...Kh8 23.fxg7+ Kg8 24.Kc1 b5 25.Qe3 Qc7∞]

23.Qe3 Psakhis,L: '!' Neil McDonald: 'Now I don't see any useful action for Black on the queenside, so there is no good way to meet White's simple plan of Rg4, Rag1 and then Rxg7+- or Rxg6+ as appropriate. Barsov makes a half hearted attempt to get his bishop to g6, but this just leads to a collapse in the centre.' **23...Be8?!**

[23...Qb5!? 24.f4 Qb2 25.Rac1 Qxa3 △26.f5 exf5 27.e6 Rxd4+! 28.Qxd4 Bxe6]

24.f4! [Δ f5→] [Δ f5→] [Δ f5→] [Δ f5→] Dominguez,L: '[Δ f5→] Dominguez Perez, Leinier: '[Δ f5→]" [Δ f5→] Dominguez,L: '[Δ f5 →]' Dominguez,L: '[Δ f5 →] Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '[Δ f5 →]" Psakhis,L: 'Dominguez plays very aggressively, hoping, that this is the precisest way to punish Black for his opening strategy.' **24...Kf8**

[24...c1Q+ 25.Raxc1 Qxa3 26.f5→]

25.Kc1± Psakhis,L: '!'

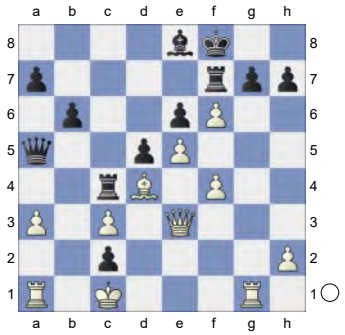
[≤25.f5?! exf5 *(25...Bd7 26.Kc1!+-)* 26.Kc1]

25...b6?

[Possibly Black should have preferred Possibly Black should have preferred ⌓25...Qa6 for example: for example:

A) 26.f5 exf5 27.e6 *(27.Rxg7 Rxg7 28.Qh6 Rcc7□ 29.fxg7+ Rxg7 30.e6 Qf1+ 31.Kb2 Qb5+=)* 27...Rxd4□ 28.exf7 Rd1+ 29.Rxd1 cxd1Q+ 30.Kxd1 Ba4+ 31.Kd2 Qxf6∞;

B) 26.Qh3 Kg8 27.f5 exf5 28.Qxf5 Bd7]



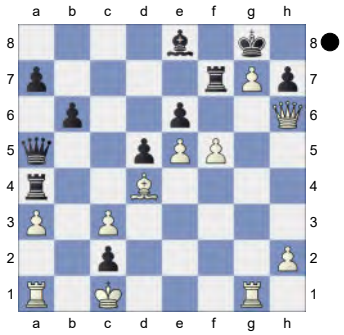
26.f5 White brings more pawns into attack, making Black's survival impossible. White brings more pawns into attack, making Black's survival impossible.

[26.Qh3!?]

26...Ra4

[Neil McDonald: 'Naturally' 26...exf5 27.Rxg7! *(27.e6 is intolerable.)* 27...Rxd4 *(27...Rxg7 28.Qh6 Rcc7 29.fxg7+ Kg8 30.Qd6! Rxg7 31.Qe6++-)* 28.Rxf7+ Kxf7 29.cxd4+-]

27.fxg7+ Kg8
[27...Rxg7 28.Qh6]
28.Qh6
[28.Qh6]

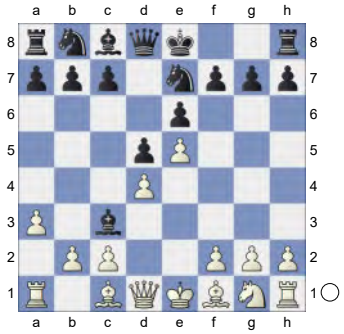


1-0 (28) Dominguez,L (2645)-Barsov,A (2471) Mallorca 2004 CBM 104 [Psakhis] 1-0 (28) Dominguez,L (2645)-Barsov,A (2471) Mallorca 2004 CBM 104 [Psakhis] Dominguez Perez,L (2645)-Barsov,A (2471) Calvia 2004 CI1-130 [Dominguez Perez,Leinier] Neil McDonald: 'There is no answer to 29. Qxh7+ etc. A solid Grandmaster like Barsov is rarely crushed in under 30 moves, so this line clearly needs to be treated with respect by Black.'

151 **C19**
□ **Short,Nigel D** **2645**
■ **Ivanchuk,Vassily** **2740**
CS Masters Horgen SUI (1) 21.10.1995
[Kitty Kat]

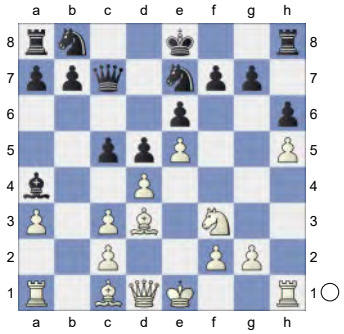
C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Nf3 Qc7 8.h4 Bd7 9.h5 h6 10.Bd3 Ba4



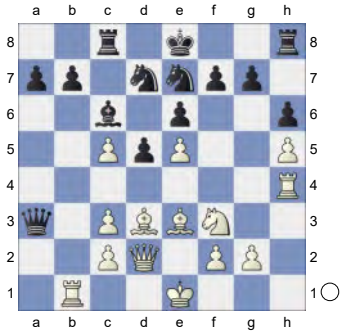
11.dxc5 Nd7 12.Rh4! Qa5 White is slightly better.

[Weaker is 12...Nxc5 13.Rxa4! Nxa4 14.Bb5+ Kd8 15.Bxa4±]

13.Be3 Rc8 0.89/21

[13...Bb5= 0.29/18]

14.Rb1 Bc6 15.Qd2 Qxa3



16.Rg4 Kf8 17.Rbb4 0.38/19 0x0.0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces.

[17.Rgb4 0.69/20 might be stronger.]

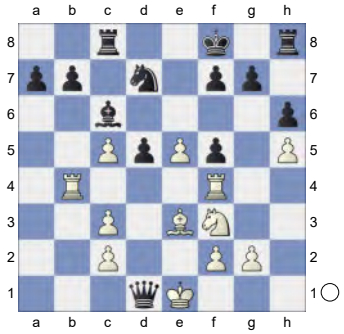
17...Nf5 18.Bxf5 exf5 19.Rgf4 Black must now prevent Qd3. **19...Qa1+ 20.Qd1** 0.11/22

[White should try 20.Ke2± 0.74/19]

20...Qxd1+ 1.01/5

[20...Qxc3+= 0.11/22 21.Bd2 Qxc5]

(Diagram)



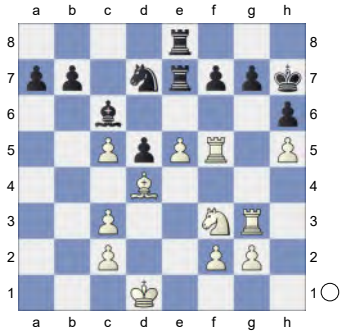
21.Kxd1± Re8 1.54/21

[⌓21...a5 1.09/21 22.Rb2 Ke7]

22.Rxf5 Kg8 23.Rg4 Re7 24.Rg3 1.30/21

[White should play 24.Bd4+- 1.78/22]

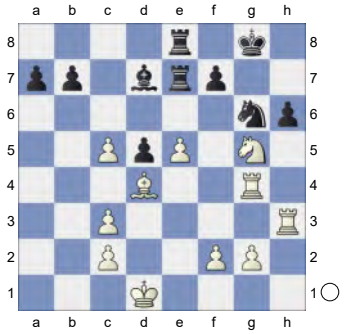
24...Kh7 25.Bd4 Rhe8



26.Rf4 Nf8 2.05/22

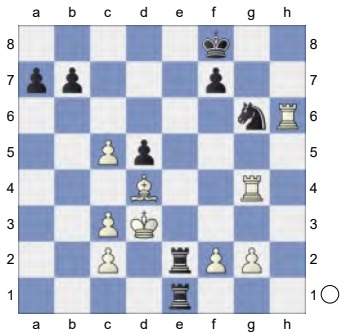
[26...Rg8± 1.38/22 was called for.]

27.Rfg4+- g5 28.hxg6+! Nxg6 29.Rh3 Bd7 30.Ng5+ Kg8

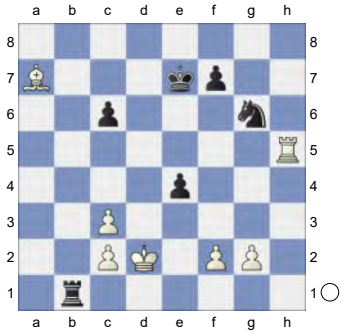


31.e6! Bxe6 32.Nxe6 Rxe6 33.Rxh6 Re1+ 34.Kd2 R8e2+ 35.Kd3 Kf8

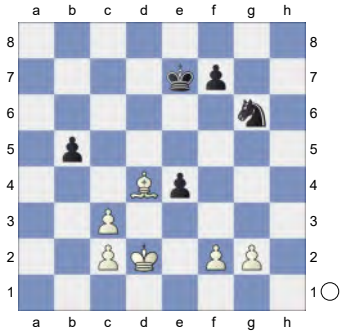
(Diagram)



36.Rh5 Strongly threatening Be3. **36...Re4 37.Rxe4 dxe4+** Endgame KRB-KRN **38.Kd2 Rb1 39.c6 bxc6 40.Bxa7 Ke7**

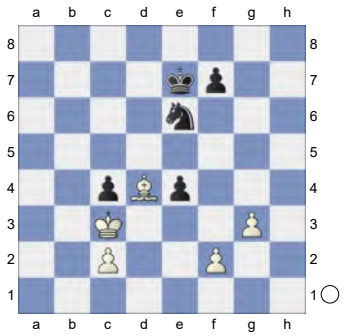


41.Bd4 Rb5 42.Rxb5 cxb5

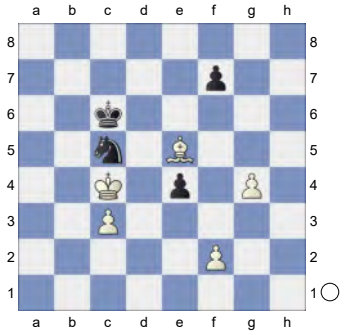


KB-KN **43.c4! bxc4 44.Kc3 Nf4 45.g3**
[Not 45.Kxc4 Nxg2 46.Kd5 Ne1±]
45...Ne6

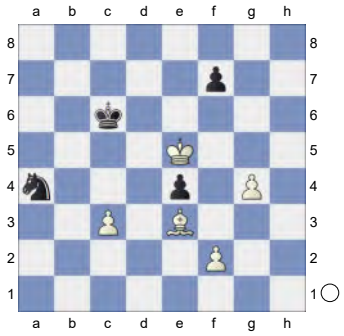
(Diagram)



46.Kxc4 aiming for Kd5. **46...Kd6 47.Bf6 Kc6** 3.44/27
[⌓47...Nf8 2.39/26 48.Kd4 Nd7]
48.g4 Kd6 49.c3 Kc6 50.Be5 Nc5 5.59/26
[⌓50...e3 3.56/28 51.fxe3 Nf8]

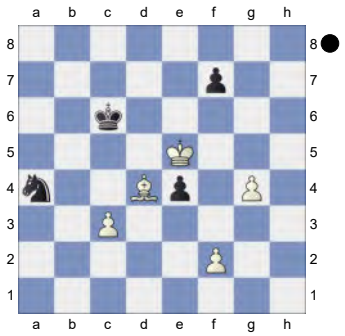


51.Kd4 White is clearly winning. **51...Nd3 52.Bg3 Nc5 53.Bf4 Nd3 54.Be3 Nc5 55.Ke5** Hoping for Bxc5. **55...Na4** 13.12/29
[⌓55...Nd3+ 4.41/25 56.Kxe4 Nb2]



56.Bd4

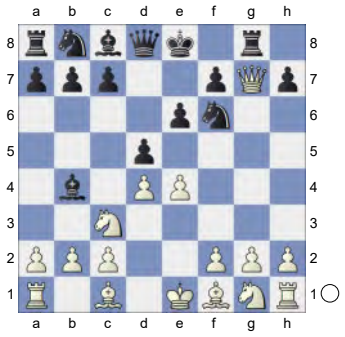
(Diagram)



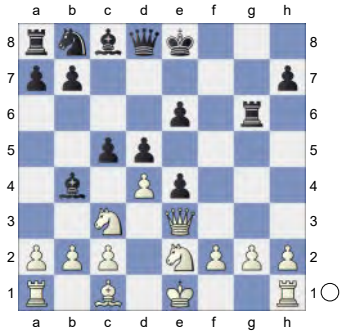
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.26 (precise)
1-0

152 **C15**
□ **Gurevich,Mikhail** **2644**
■ **Smeets,Jan** **2515**
Hoogeveen Essent op (5) 19.10.2004
[Kitty Kat]

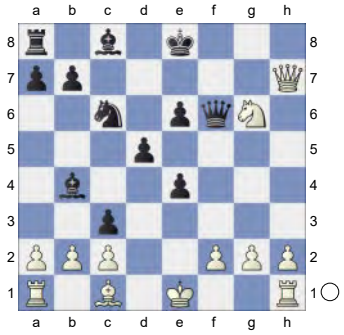
C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qg4 Nf6 5.Qxg7 Rg8



6.Qh6 Rg6 7.Qe3
[Don't blunder 7.Bb5+? c6 8.Qe3 cxb5-+]
7...Nxe4 0.19/20
[⊿7...c5! -0.14/18 8.Bd2 Nc6 9.Bb5 Bd7 10.Bxc6 Bxc6 11.Nge2 dxe4 12.dxc5 Ng4 13.Qd4 Qxd4 14.Nxd4 e3 15.fxe3 Bxc3 16.Bxc3 Nxe3 17.Nxc6 C 15/01]
8.Bd3= f5N
[8...c5 9.Bxe4 dxe4 10.dxc5 Bd7 11.Bd2 Qc7 12.Nxe4 Bxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Na6 14.Nf3 f5 15.Nd6+ Kf8 16.Ne5 Rg7 17.Rad1 Nxc5 18.Kc1 Rd8 19.Rd4 b6 20.Rhd1 Nb7 21.Nxb7 Qxb7 22.Qh6 Kg8 23.Qxg7+ Corral Garcia,D-Juettler Moscow 1928 Inf 46 [Thipsay,Praveen Mahadeo; Thipsay,B] 1-0]
9.Nge2 White has an edge. **9...c5**
10.Bxe4 0.15/20
[10.0-0± 0.47/19]
10...fxe4

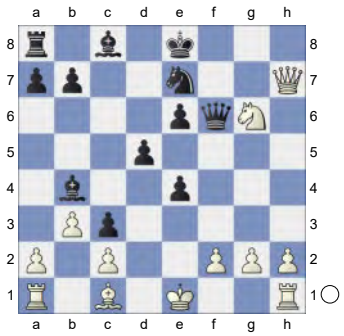


11.Qh3 -0.11/19
[⊿11.0-0 0.26/19]
11...Nc6 0.81/18
[11...cxd4= -0.11/19 12.Qxh7 Qf6 13.Nxd4 Rxg2]
12.Qxh7± Qf6 13.Nf4 cxd4 1.08/20
14.Nxg6 dxc3

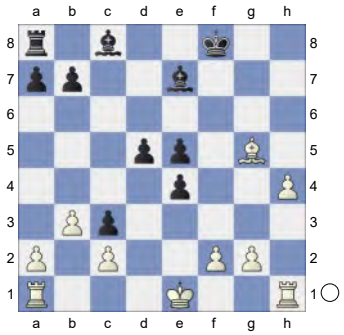


15.b3 Ne7

(Diagram)

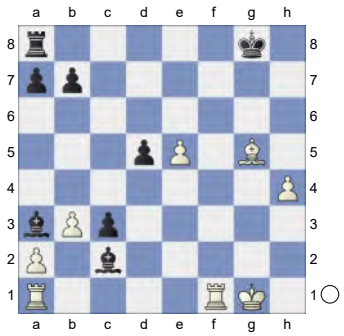


Inhibits Qg8+. **16.Nxe7 Bxe7** 1.83/21
[16...Qxe7± 1.47/21 was necessary. 17.Qh5+ Kd7]
17.h4 Qf7 18.Qh8+ Qf8 19.Qxf8+
[Avoid the trap 19.Qxc3? Bb4 20.Qxb4 Qxb4+-+]
19...Kxf8 20.Bg5 1.14/19
[20.Bf4+- 1.91/20]
20...e5 1.94/20
[20...d4± 1.14/19 might work better. 21.f4 exf3]

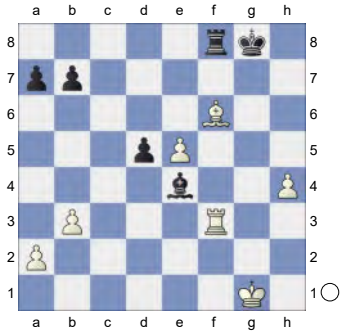


21.f3!+- Black must now prevent 0-0-0.
21...exf3 22.gxf3 aiming for 0-0-0.
22...Ba3 23.f4 1.05/23
[White should play 23.Rd1+- 2.01/21]
23...Bf5± 24.fxe5 Bxc2 A strong pair of Bishops. **25.0-0+ Kg8**

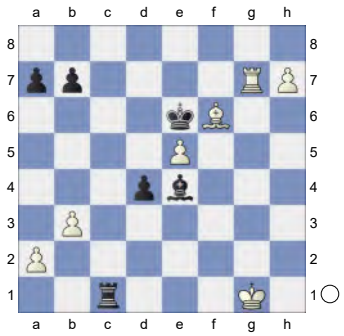
(Diagram)



26.Rac1! Bxc1 27.Rxc1 Endgame KRB-KRB **27...Bf5 28.Rxc3 Rc8** Prevents Rc7. **29.Rf3 Rf8** 2.03/21
[29...Bd7± 1.32/20 30.Rf6 Rc6]
30.Bf6+- Be4

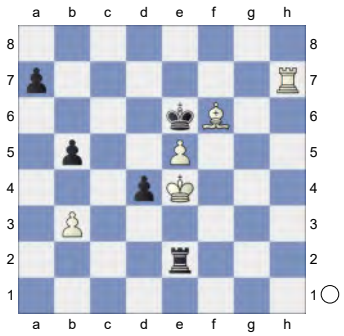


31.Rg3+ Kf7 32.h5 Strongly threatening Rg7+. **32...Rc8?** 5.88/27
[32...Ke6 1.65/21 is tougher. 33.Kf2 Rf7]
33.Rg7+ White is clearly winning.
33...Ke6 34.h6 d4 35.h7 Rc1+

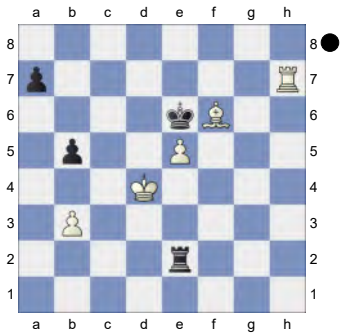


36.Kf2 Rc2+ 37.Kg3 Bxh7 38.Rxh7 Rxa2 39.Kf4 b5 40.Ke4 Re2+

(Diagram)



41.Kxd4

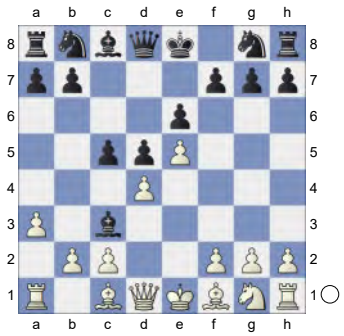


Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.53. An unexpected result.
½-½

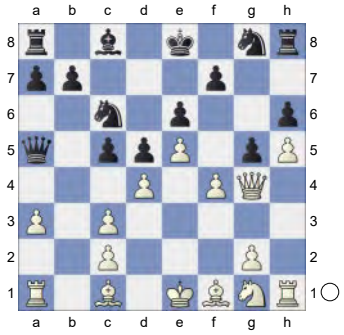
153 **C18**
☐ **Volokitin,And** **2643**
■ **Theodorou,Nikolas** **2611**
Chessable Masters Play-In blitz (6)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)

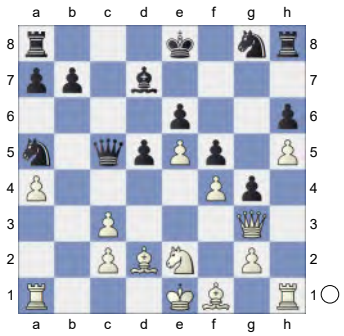


6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.h4
[8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Qg3 Nd7=]
8...h6 9.h5
[9.dxc5 Nxe5 10.Qf4 Nc6=]
9...g5 10.f4
[10.dxc5 Nxe5 11.Qd4 f6=]
10...Qa5

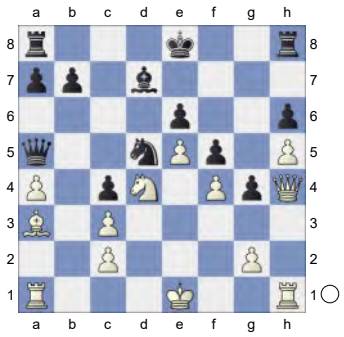


White is slightly better. **11.Bd2 f5 12.Qg3 g4 13.dxc5 Qxc5 14.a4 Na5N**
[14...Bd7 15.Bd3 d4 16.Ne2 Nge7 17.Qf2 g3 18.Qg1 Nd5 19.cxd4 Qe7 20.Rh3 0-0-0 21.Rxg3 Kb8 22.a5 a6 23.Rb1 Ncb4 24.c4 Nxd3+ 25.Rxd3 Nc7 26.d5 exd5 27.Qb6 Bc8 28.Be3 d4 29.Nxd4 Dominguez Perez,L (2748)-Gong,Q (2250) Chess.com INT 2024 [John Watson] 1-0 (32)]
15.Ne2 Bd7

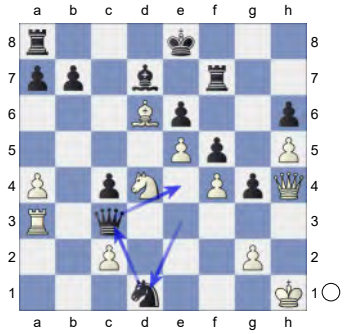
(Diagram)



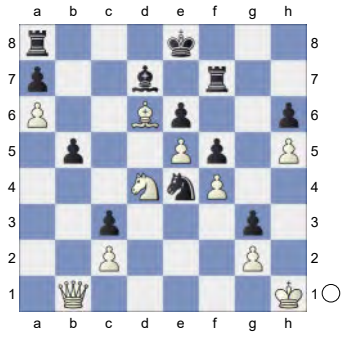
16.Nd4 Nc4 0.82/20
[16...Ne7⩲ 0.49/17 is more appropriate.]
17.Bxc4± dxc4 18.Qh4 0.01/21
[18.Bc1!± 1.05/21]
18...Ne7!= 19.Bc1 Black must now prevent Ba3. **19...Nd5 20.Ba3 Qa5**



21.0-0 -0.65/21
[White should play 21.Bb4= 0.01/20 Nxb4 22.Qf6 Nxc2+ 23.Kd2 Nxd4 24.Qxh8+ Ke7 25.Qf6+ Ke8 26.Qh8+ Kf7 27.Qh7+ *(27.Qxa8? Nb3+ 28.Kc2 Qd5-+)* 27...Ke8 28.Qg8+ Ke7 29.Qg7+ *(29.Qxa8? Qd5-+)* 29...Ke8 30.Qh8+ Kf7 31.Qh7+ *(31.Qxa8? Nb3+ 32.Kc2 Qd5-+)* 31...Ke8 32.Qh8+]
21...Qxc3∓ 22.Rfd1 Threatens to win with Ne2. **22...Rh7**
[22...Qe3+? 23.Kh1 Qxf4 24.Nb5 Bxb5 25.Rxd5!±]
23.Kh1 -1.23/21
[23.Ne2∓ -0.53/20 Qe3+ 24.Qf2]
23...Rf7∓ 24.Bd6 Ne3 -0.19/20
[24...Nxf4∓ -0.78/20 aiming for ...Qe3. 25.a5 Qe3]
25.Ra3= Nxd1

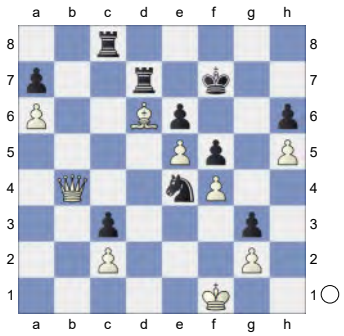


26.Rxc3 Nxc3 27.a5 0.01/23
[27.Qe1⩲ 0.48/23 was preferrable. Nd5 28.g3]
27...Ne4 28.Qe1 b5
[Resist 28...Nxd6 29.exd6 0-0-0 30.a6±]
29.a6 c3
[29...Nxd6? 30.exd6 Kf8 31.Nxe6+ Kg8 32.Nc7+-]
30.Qb1 Hoping for Qa2. **30...g3** 0.93/25
[Don't take 30...Nxd6 31.exd6 Kf8 32.Qb3±]
[30...Rc8= -0.01/26 31.Nxb5 Bxb5 32.Qxb5+ Rd7]

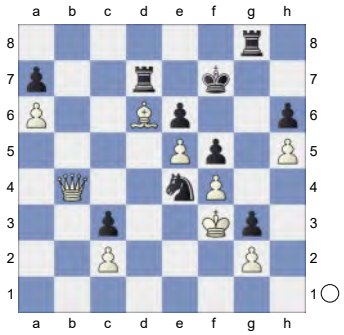


31.Nxb5 0.01/28
[31.Kg1± 0.93/25]
31...Bxb5 32.Qxb5+ Rd7! 33.Kg1 Rad8 34.Kf1 Kf7 35.Qb4 Rc8
[35...Rxd6? 36.exd6 Rd7 37.Qb5+-]

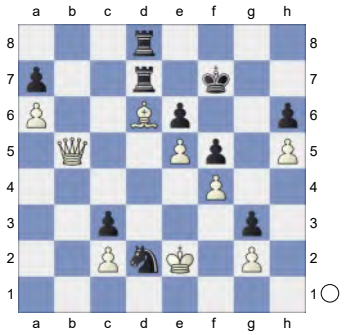
(Diagram)



36.Ke2 Rcd8 37.Kf3 Rg8? 2.27/27
[37...Kg8± 0.35/26]



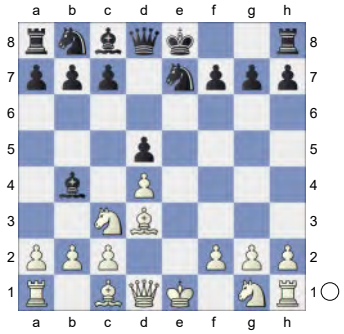
38.Qb5!+- White has strong compensation. **38...Nd2+**
[38...Rgd8 39.Bb4]
39.Ke2 Rgd8



Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.20 (precise) . Loss on time!?
0-1

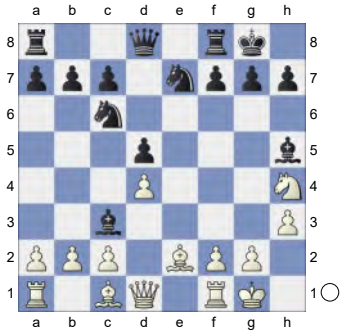
154 **C01**
□ **Zamlutti Junior,Rene** **2642**
■ **Salman,Fatima** **2760**
Europa-Meisterschaft (1.2) 07.09.2021
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Ne7

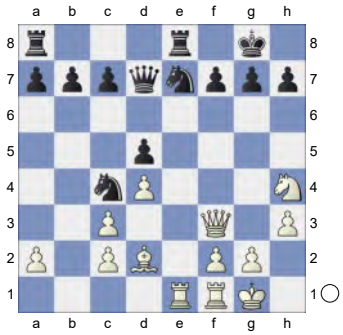


6.Nf3 Bg4 7.h3 Bh5 8.0-0 Nbc6 9.Be2N White is slightly better.
[9.a3 Bxc3 10.bxc3 Qd7 11.a4 0-0-0 12.Re1 Rde8 13.Ba3 a6 14.Bf1 f6 15.a5 h6 16.Bc5 Rhg8 17.g3 Kb8 18.Ne5 fxe5 19.Qxh5 Nf5 20.Rab1 Kc8 21.c4 g6 22.Qf3 Nfxd4 23.Bxd4 Nxd4 Chapter-Games Game 4]
[9.g4 Bg6 10.Ne5 Nxe5 11.dxe5 h5 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Bg5 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Qd7 15.e6 Qd6 16.Qd4 0-0 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Qxd5 hxg4 19.hxg4 Rf4 20.f3 c6 21.Qe5 Rf6 22.Rae1 Re8 23.Qd4 Rxe6 Haufe,W-Perera,G Srbija 137/29 1923 200 Traps In The Opening [IainMackintosh] ½-½]
9...0-0 10.Nh4 Bxc3

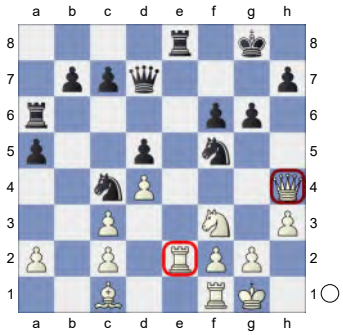
(Diagram)



11.bxc3 Bxe2 12.Qxe2 Re8 Hoping for ...Ng6. **13.Qf3 Qd7 14.Bd2 Na5 15.Rae1 Nc4**



Pair of Knights! **16.Bc1 a5 17.Qh5 Ra6 18.Nf3 g6 19.Qh4 f6** Prevents Ng5. **20.Re2 Nf5**



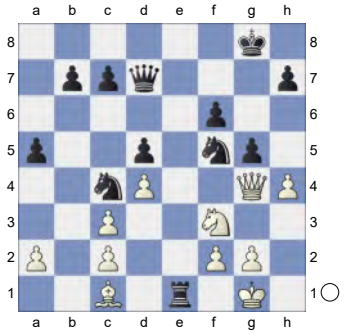
21.Rxe8+ Qxe8 22.Qf4 Qd7 23.Re1 g5 24.Qg4 Re6 25.h4 -0.95/21

[But not 25.Ne5? Nh6 26.Qg3 fxe5-+]

[25.Rxe6∓ -0.36/22 Qxe6 26.Bxg5 fxg5 27.Qxg5+ Ng7 28.Qd8+ Ne8 29.Ng5 Qe1+ 30.Kh2]

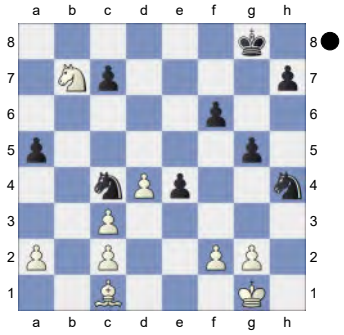
25...Rxe1+∓

(Diagram)

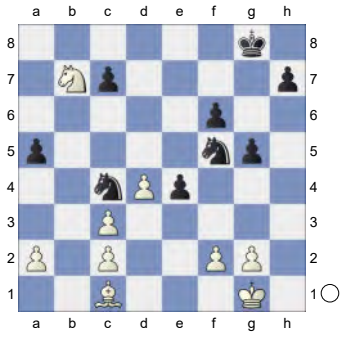


26.Nxe1 Qe6 &Nero is much more active. **27.Nd3 Qe4 28.Qxe4 dxe4** Endgame KBN-KNN **29.Nc5 Nxh4 30.Nxb7** -1.17/22

[White should try 30.Nxe4 -0.74/22 Kf7 31.Nd2 Nxd2 32.Bxd2]

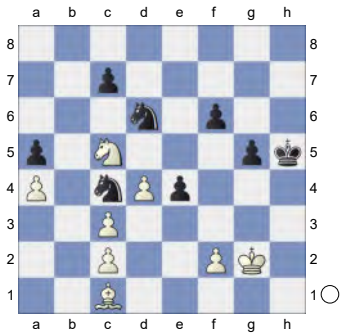


30...Nf5!

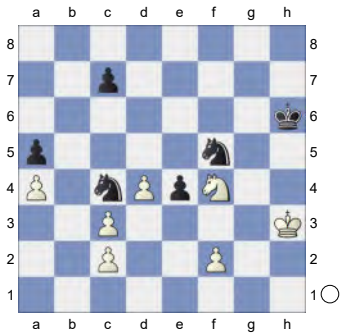


31.Nc5 Nfd6 32.g4 Kf7 33.Kg2 Kg6 34.a4 h5 35.gxh5+ Kxh5

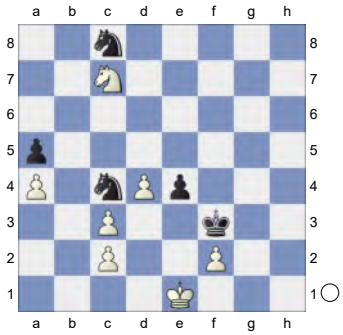
(Diagram)



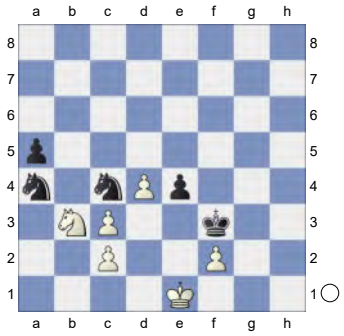
36.Kg3? -3.35/21
[36.Ne6 -1.80/20 was called for.]
36...f5-+ 37.Ne6 f4+ 38.Bxf4 Nf5+ Deflection
[38...gxf4+ 39.Kxf4 Ne8 40.Kxe4∓]
39.Kh3 gxf4 40.Nxf4+ Kh6



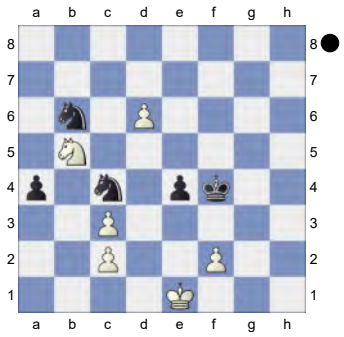
White must now prevent ...Nb2. **41.Ne6 Ne7** -2.10/23
[⮌41...Nb6 -3.74/24 42.Kg4 Nd6]
42.Nxc7 -3.52/25
[42.Kg4 -2.10/23 is the only way for White.]
42...Kg5 43.Kg2? -6.36/26
[43.Kg3 -3.57/23]
43...Kg4 44.Kf1 Kf3 45.Ke1 Nc8



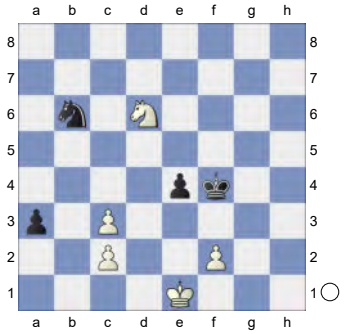
aiming for ...N8b6. **46.Ne6 N8b6**
47.Ng5+ Kf4 48.Ne6+ Kg4 49.Nc5 Kf3 50.Nb3 -11.20/24
[⮌50.Kf1 -4.86/24]
50...Nxa4



51.d5 Nab6
[And not 51...Nxc3 52.Nd2+ Nxd2 53.d6=]
52.d6 a4 53.Nd4+ Kf4 54.Nb5



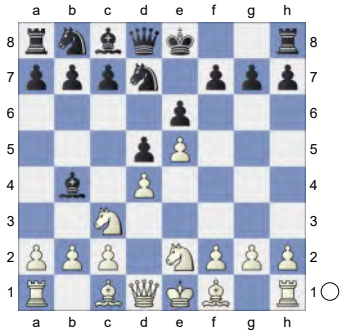
Nxd6! 55.Nxd6
[55.Nd4 Nd5]
55...a3



Weighted Error Value: White=0.54/ Black=0.13 (very precise)
0-1

155 **C15**
□ **Abbasov,Nijat** **2641**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2727**
9th Gashimov Mem Blitz (5.1) 11.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7!**



6.Be3N

[6.a3 Be7 *(6...Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 c5 8.Ng3 Qc7 9.Bd2 Nc6 10.Qg4 g6 11.Bb5 cxd4 12.cxd4 Ndxe5 13.Qf4 Bd7 14.dxe5 Qxe5+ 15.Qxe5 Nxe5 16.Bxd7+ Nxd7 17.0-0 0-0 18.Rab1 b6 19.Rfc1 Rfc8 20.Nf1 Rc6 21.c3* 1-0 Lane,G (2273)-Cornell Avoine 109/303 2010 (9)*)* 7.f4 c5 8.Be3 Nc6 9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.Nd4 0-0 11.Be2 Bd7 12.0-0 Rc8 13.Qd2 a6 14.Rad1 Qc7 15.Bf3 Rfd8 16.Qf2 Be8 17.Nxc6 Qxc6 18.f5 Ne4 19.Bxe4 dxe4 20.f6 Bxa3 0-1 Holloway,N (2550)-Garcia Munoz,J (2505) 78/61 Rishon Le Zion 2000]

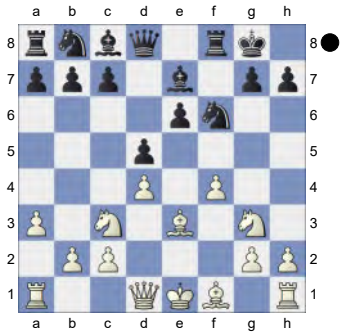
[6.f4 f5 *(6...0-0 7.a3 Ba5 8.g3 Bb6 9.Na4 c5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Nxc5 Nxc5 12.Bg2 Nc6 13.Be3 Nd7 14.0-0 Qc7 15.Nd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Nb8 17.Bf2 Bd7 18.Rc1 Rc8 19.Qd2* Rusakov,Y-Alexander,K Budapest 1984*)* 7.a3 Be7 8.g4 fxg4 9.Ng3 h5 10.h3 Bh4 11.Qd3 Nf8 12.Bd2 gxh3 13.0-0-0 Nc6 14.Rxh3 g6 15.Be1 Be7 16.Be2 Qd7 17.Bf3 Kd8 18.Kb1 b6 19.f5 gxf5 20.Nxf5 exf5 1-0 Nataf,I (2565)-Ostenstad,B (2506) Calvia ol (Men) 2004 (4)]

6...0-0 7.f4 f6 8.a3 White is slightly better. **8...Be7 9.exf6** -0.02/20

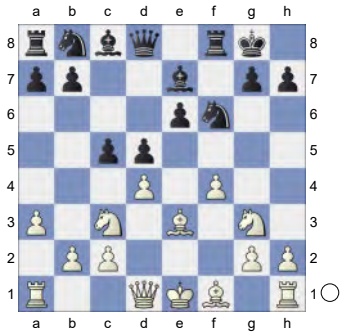
[9.g3± 0.48/20]

9...Nxf6= 10.Ng3 -0.40/20

[10.g3= -0.04/22 might be stronger.]



10...c5 0.10/22



11.dxc5 Nc6 ...d5-d4 is the strong threat. **12.Nb5** -0.94/22

[12.Bb5= 0.10/22 remains equal.]

12...e5!∓ 13.fxe5 -1.15/19

[⌓13.Nd6 -0.76/21]

13...Ng4 14.Qd2 -1.91/19

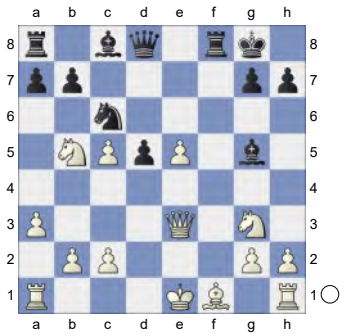
[14.Bg1∓ -1.03/21 was the only defense.]

14...Nxe3-+

[14...Ncxe5 15.Nd6 Be6 16.Be2∓]

15.Qxe3 Bg5

(Diagram)



16.Qb3 Be6 17.Be2 Qe7↑ Black is really pushing.

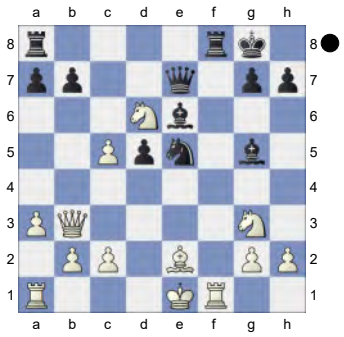
[17...Nxe5 18.Nd4 Bg4 19.Rf1∓]

18.Nd6 Nxe5 -0.99/20

[18...Nd4!-+ -1.93/20 19.Qd3 Be3]

19.Rf1 -1.55/19

[⊼19.Qxb7 -0.99/20 Qxb7 20.Nxb7]



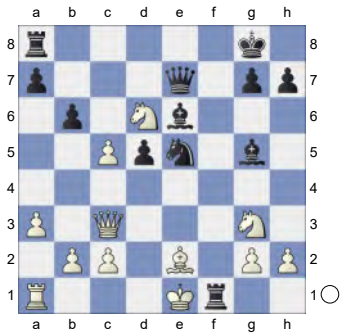
19...b6? 0.13/21 **20.Qc3?** -1.99/21

[20.Ngf5= 0.13/21 and White has nothing to worry. Qd7 21.Qg3]

20...Rxf1+ -1.03/18

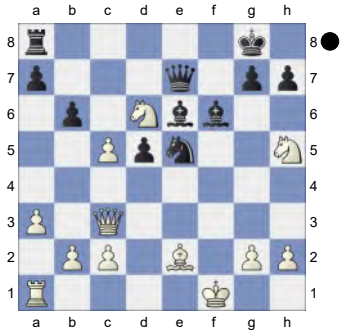
[20...Ng4-+ -1.99/21 And now ...Ng4-e3 would win. 21.Ndf5 Bxf5 *(21...Qxc5 22.Qxg7#)* 22.Nxf5 Rxf5 23.Rxf5 Re8]

(Diagram)



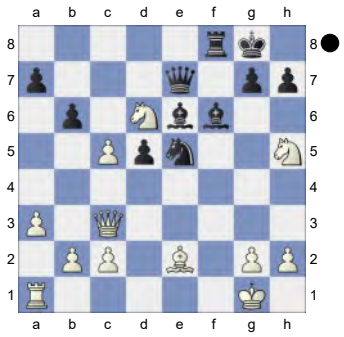
21.Kxf1∓ Bf6 Threatens to win with ... Ra8-f8. **22.Nh5** -2.62/22

[22.Ngf5∓ -1.13/17 Qf8 23.Bf3]



22...Rf8!-+ Hoping for ...b6xc5. **23.Kg1** -3.80/24

[⊼23.Nb5 -2.62/21 bxc5 24.Kg1 Nf3+ Deflection 25.Qxf3 *(25.gxf3? Bxc3 26.Nxc3 Qg5+ 27.Ng3 h5-+)* 25...Bxb2 Discovered Attack 26.Qe3 Bxa1 27.Nf4]

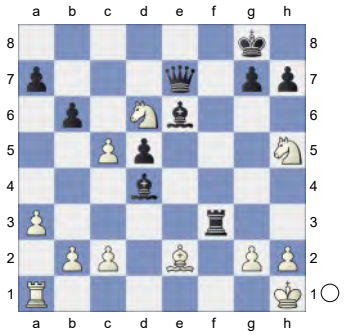


23...Nf3+! Deflection **24.Qxf3 Bd4+** Discovered Attack, Double Attack. This pair of bishops is nice.

[Worse is 24...bxc5 25.Nxf6+ Rxf6

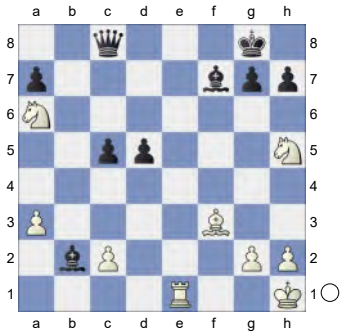
26.Qg3±]
[24...Bxb2 25.Nf4 Bd4+ *(25...Bxa1? 26.Qe3∓; 25...bxc5 26.Nc8∓)* 26.Kh1 Bxa1 27.Qe3 Rxf4 28.Qxf4∓]

25.Kh1 Rxf3



26.Bxf3 bxc5
[But not 26...Bxb2 27.Re1 Bc3 *(27...bxc5? 28.Bxd5 Qxd6 29.Bxe6+ Kf8 30.Ng3-+)* 28.Re2 bxc5 29.Bg4 Qxd6 30.Rxe6]

27.Nb5 Bxb2 28.Re1 Qd7 29.Nc7 Bf7 30.Na6 Qc8

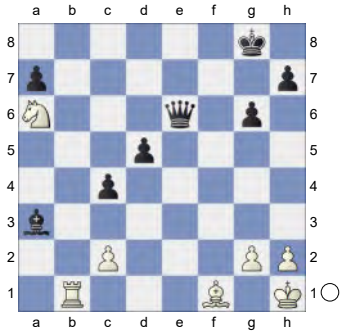


31.Be2 Bxa3 32.Rb1 Bxh5 33.Bxh5 Strongly threatening Rb1-b8. **33...g6**
[And not 33...Qxa6 34.Rb8+]

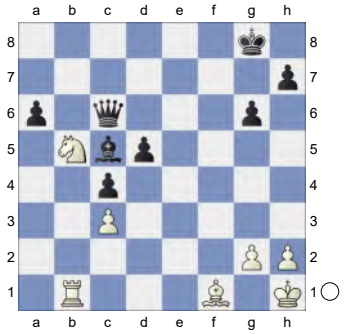
34.Be2? -6.02/21
[34.Rb8 -3.43/19 Qxb8 35.Nxb8 gxh5 36.Nc6]

34...Qe6 Black is clearly winning. **35.Bf1 c4**

(Diagram)



36.Nc7 Qc6 37.Nb5 Bc5 38.c3 a6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.56/ Black=0.33

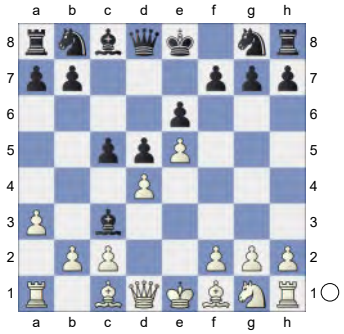
0-1

156 **C18**
☐ **Bologan,Viktor** **2641**
■ **Ye Jiangchuan** **2670**
Tan Chin Nam Cup 6th (6) 14.07.2000
[Kitty Kat]

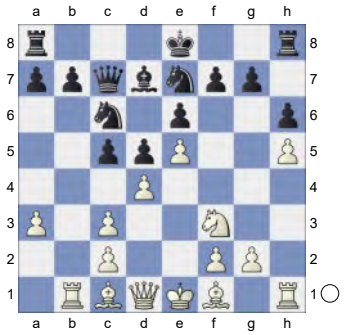
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Dorfman,Josif D: 'Dorfman/Krasenkow: 'GM I. Dorfman's annotations from CBM 38 have been used.

" 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Nf3 Nbc6 8.Rb1 Qc7 9.h4 h6 10.h5 Bd7

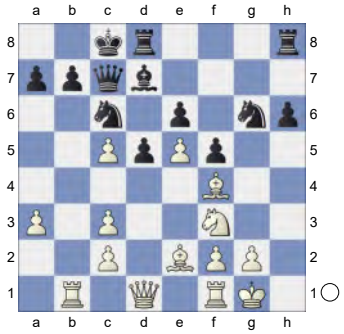


11.Be2 0-0-0 12.0-0 f6 13.Bf4 f5N 0.69/20

[13...c4= 0.29/17 14.Qc1 g5 15.exf6 gxf4 16.fxe7 Rdg8 17.Re1 Rh7 18.Bf1 Rxe7 19.Ne5 Nxe5 20.Rxe5 Rf7 21.Qb2 Kb8 22.a4 Bc8 23.Qa3 Qd8 24.a5 f3 25.g3 Qh4 26.Qd6+ Ka8 27.Re3 Rf5 28.Rxb7 Bxb7 Hauchard,A (2450)-Dorfman,J (2580) Brussels 1993 CBM 038 [Dorfman, Josif D] ½-½ (34) 29.a6 Bxa6 30.Rxe6 Bb5 31.Rg6 Qd8 32.Rxg8 Qxg8 33.Bh3 Qf8 34.Qe6 Rg5 0-1 (34) Kakuk,S (2506)-5.Ng5 e6 6. Bd3 Ngf6 (2617) Gausdal 2011 CBM 50 [Disconzi da Silva,Rodrigo]]

14.dxc5± g5 15.hxg6 Nxg6

(Diagram)



White is slightly better. **16.Bh2 Qa5** 0.96/19

[16...Na5± 0.61/17 feels stronger.]

17.Nd4 Qxc5

[17...Qxc3? 18.Nb5 Qxc5 19.Nd6+ Kb8 20.Nxb7+-]

18.Nb5 -0.14/21

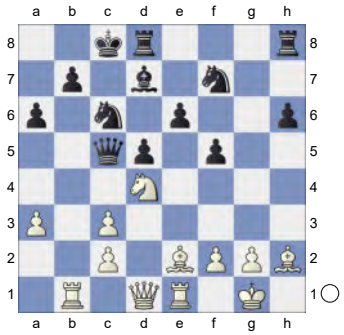
[18.Bb5± 0.44/18]

18...Ngxe5= 19.Re1 a6 1.04/20

[19...Rhg8= -0.18/18 remains equal.]

20.Nd4± Threatens to win with Bxa6! White has strong compensation. **20...Nf7** 1.62/22

[20...Nc4!± 0.47/20]



21.Qd3 1.11/21

[21.Bh5 Ng5=]

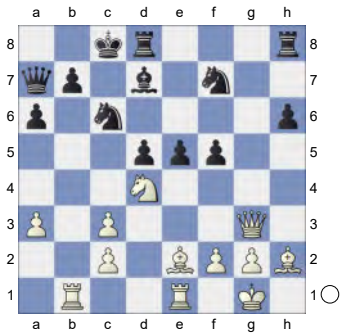
[21.Bxa6!+- 1.62/22 bxa6 22.Qe2]

21...Qa7 1.55/21

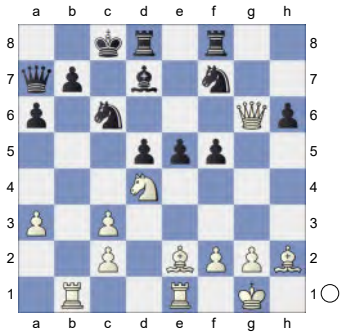
[Black should try 21...e5 1.11/21]

22.Qg3 &Bianco is more active. **22...e5**

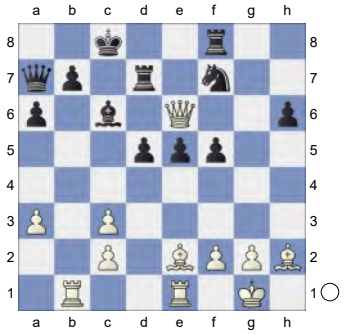
(Diagram)



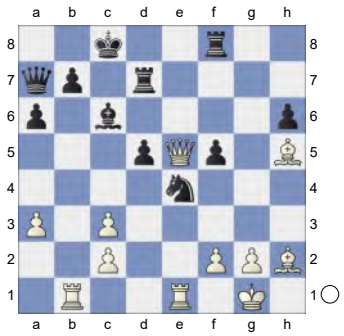
23.Qg6 1.06/21 **Rhf8** 1.76/21
[23...exd4± 1.06/21 24.Qxf7 Qc5]



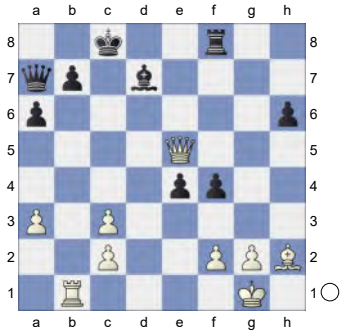
24.Nxc6!→ White has strong attack.
24...Bxc6
[24...bxc6? 25.c4 f4 26.cxd5]
25.Qe6+ Rd7 2.20/21
[25...Bd7± 1.39/23 keeps fighting. 26.Qxd5 Bb5 27.Qe6+ Bd7]



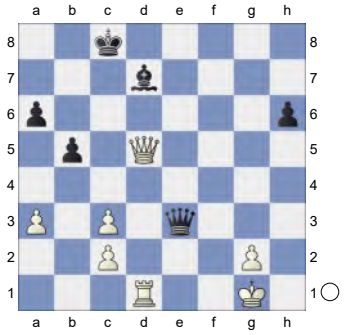
26.Bh5 And now Bxf7 would win.
[Resist 26.Qxf5?! Qc5±]
26...Ng5 27.Qxe5
[Stronger than 27.Qxh6 Rg8 28.Bxe5 Rh7=]
27...Ne4



28.Rxe4! Chess con chili. **28...dxe4**
[28...fxe4 29.Bg3]
29.Be8 A strong pair of Bishops. **29...f4?** 4.68/28
[29...b5 2.15/25]
30.Bxd7+ Bxd7

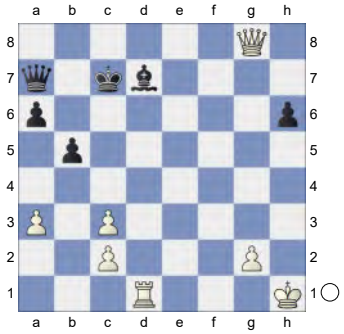


31.Bxf4
[Don't take 31.Qd6 Rf7 32.Bxf4 Rxf4 33.Qxf4 Qc5]
31...b5 32.Rd1 Hoping for Rxd7!
32...Re8 33.Qd5 e3 34.Bxe3 Rxe3 35.fxe3 Qxe3+

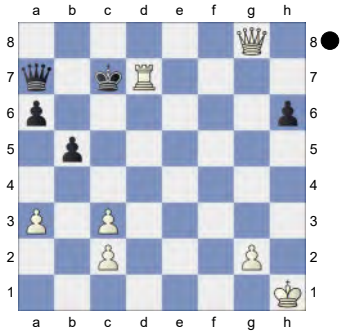


36.Kh1 Qa7 37.Qg8+ Kc7

(Diagram)



38.Rxd7+!

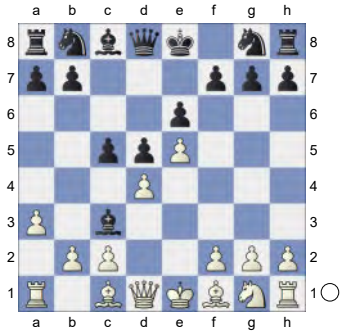


Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.82
1-0

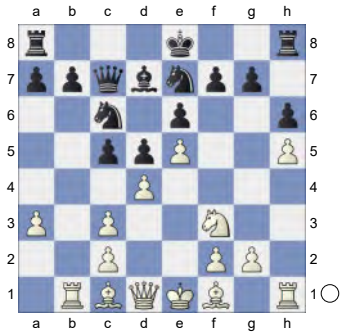
157 **C18**
□ **Bologan,Viktor** **2641**
■ **Ye,Jiangchuan** **2670**
Tan Chin Nam Cup 6th (6) 14.07.2000
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Dorfman,Josif D: 'Dorfman/Krasenkow: 'GM I. Dorfman's annotations from CBM 38 have been used.
" 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)

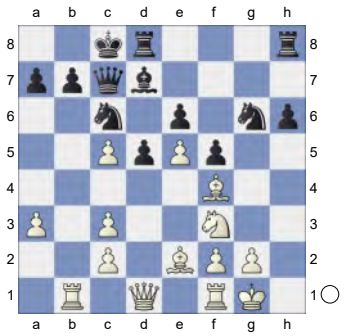


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Nf3 Nbc6 8.Rb1 Qc7 9.h4 h6 10.h5 Bd7



11.Be2 0-0-0 12.0-0 f6 13.Bf4 f5N 0.70/18
[13...c4 0.39/18 feels stronger. 14.Qc1 g5 15.exf6 gxf4 16.fxe7 Rdg8 17.Re1 Rh7 18.Bf1 Rxe7 19.Ne5 Nxe5 20.Rxe5 Rf7 21.Qb2 Kb8 22.a4 Bc8 23.Qa3 Qd8 24.a5 f3 25.g3 Qh4 26.Qd6+ Ka8 27.Re3 Rf5 28.Rxb7 Bxb7 Hauchard,A (2450)-Dorfman,J (2580) Brussels 1993 CBM 038 [Dorfman,Josif D] ½-½ (34) 29.a6 Bxa6 30.Rxe6 Bb5 31.Rg6 Qd8 32.Rxg8 Qxg8 33.Bh3 Qf8 34.Qe6 Rg5 0-1 (34) Kakuk,S (2506)-5.Ng5 e6 6.Bd3 Ngf6 (2617) Gausdal 2011 CBM 50 [Disconzi da Silva,Rodrigo]]
14.dxc5± g5 15.hxg6! Nxg6

(Diagram)



White is slightly better. **16.Bh2** **Qa5** 1.04/19

[Black should play 16...f4⩲ 0.50/18]

17.Nd4 Qxc5

[17...Qxc3? 18.Nb5 Qxc5 19.Nd6+ Kb8 20.Nxb7+-]

18.Nb5 -0.30/21

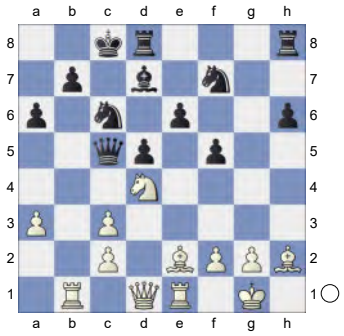
[White should try 18.Bb5⩲ 0.52/17]

18...Ngxe5= 19.Re1 a6 0.58/20

[19...Rhg8∓ -0.33/19]

20.Nd4⩲ Strongly threatening Bxa6! White has compensation. **20...Nf7** 1.60/22

[⩲20...Nc4 0.76/20]



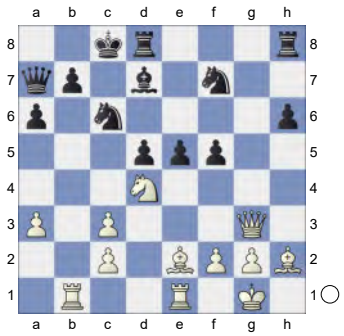
21.Qd3 1.23/21

[Not 21.Bh5 Ng5=]

[⩲21.Bxa6! 1.60/22 bxa6 22.Qe2]

21...Qa7 22.Qg3 e5

(Diagram)



23.Qg6 Hoping for Nxc6. **23...Rhf8**

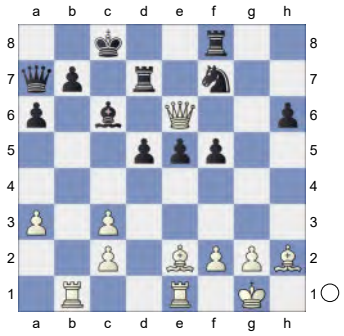
[23...exd4 24.Qxf7]

24.Nxc6→ White goes for the king. &Bianco is much more active. The black rooks are badly placed. **24...Bxc6**

[24...bxc6? 25.c4 f4 26.cxd5+-]

25.Qe6+ Rd7 1.72/21

[25...Bd7⩲ 1.26/22 keeps fighting. 26.Qxd5 f4]



26.Bh5!+- And now Bxf7 would win.

[Resist 26.Qxf5?! Qc5⩲]

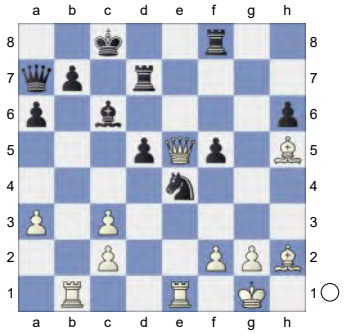
26...Ng5 27.Qxe5

[Weaker is 27.Qxh6 Rg8 28.Bxe5 Rh7=]

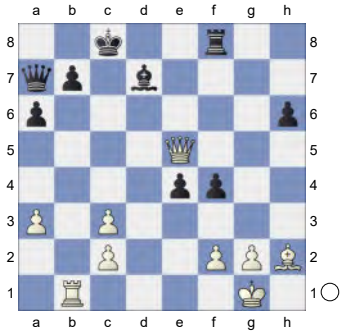
27...Ne4 3.26/21

[⩲27...b5 1.76/22 28.Bg6 Kb7]

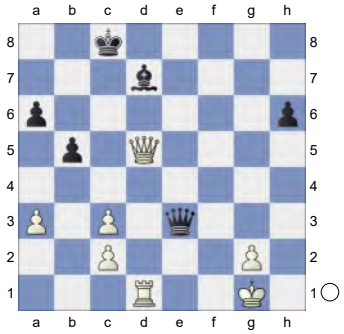
(Diagram)



28.Rxe4! 1.92/23 The board is on fire.
28...dxe4
[28...fxe4 29.Bg3]
29.Be8 A strong pair of Bishops. **29...f4?** 5.17/25
[29...b5 2.29/23]
30.Bxd7+ Bxd7

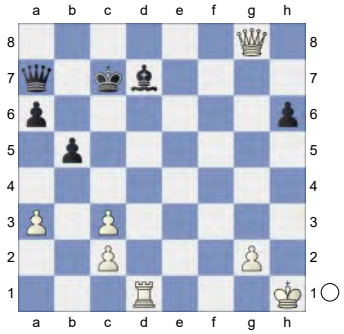


31.Bxf4 b5 32.Rd1 Re8 33.Qd5 e3 34.Bxe3 Rxe3 35.fxe3 Qxe3+

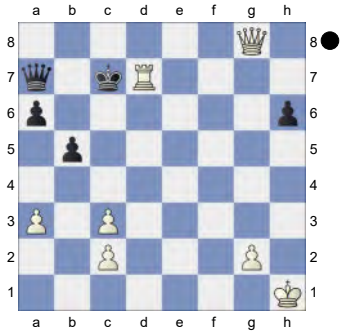


36.Kh1 Qa7 37.Qg8+ Kc7

(Diagram)



38.Rxd7+!

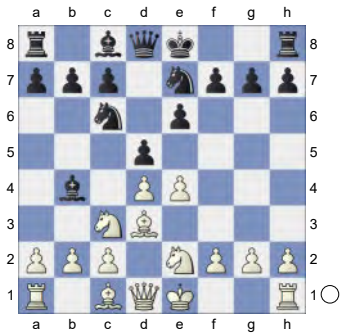


Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.80
1-0

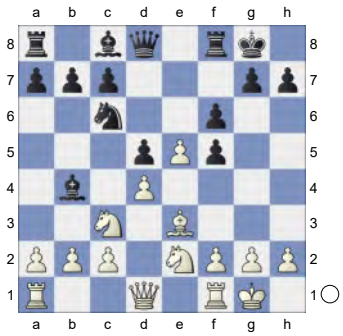
158 **C15**
□ **Andersson,Ulf** **2640**
■ **Nimzowitsch,Aron** **2550**
Upsala 1921
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd3 Nc6 5.Nge2 Nge7

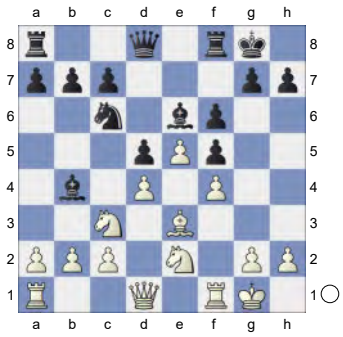
(Diagram)



6.0-0 0-0 7.e5 Nf5 8.Be3 0.19/18
[8.a3± 0.54/17 is superior. Bxc3 9.bxc3]
8...f6 1.21/20
[8...Nxe3= 0.19/18 9.fxe3 g6]
9.Bxf5± exf5

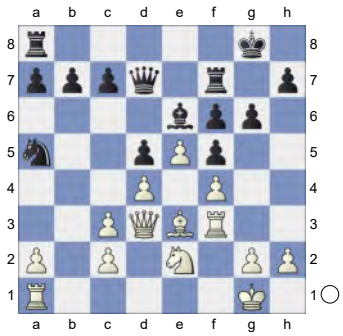


10.f4? -0.55/18
[Only move: 10.exf6!± 1.24/19 Qxf6 11.Nxd5]
10...Be6 0.10/17
[10...Rf7!∓ -0.55/18]

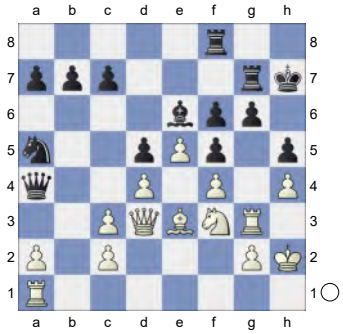


11.Ng3 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Na5 13.Qd3 Qd7 14.Rf3 g6 15.Ne2 Rf7

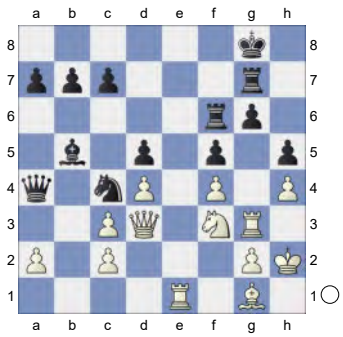
(Diagram)



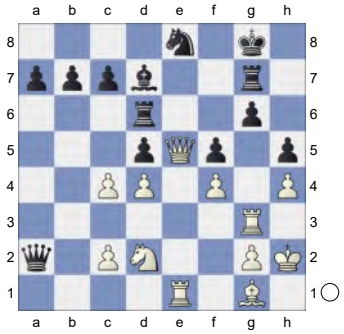
16.h4 -0.20/19
[16.Bf2 0.15/20 deserves consideration.]
16...h5= 17.Kh2 Raf8 18.Rg3 Kh7 19.Ng1 Rg7 20.Nf3 Qa4



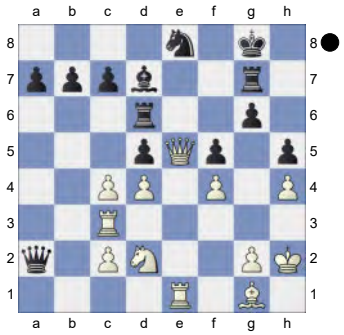
21.exf6 Rxf6 22.Ng5+ -1.23/19
[22.Rb1= -0.27/17 keeps the balance.]
22...Kg8 -0.22/20
[22...Kh6∓ -1.23/19]
23.Bg1 -0.64/21
[23.Re1= -0.22/20 might be stronger.]
23...Nc4∓ 24.Re1 Bd7 25.Nf3 -1.04/21
[White should play 25.Re5∓ -0.54/20]
25...Bb5∓



26.Qd1 Qxa2 27.Qe2 -1.34/21
[⌓27.Ne5 -0.93/19]
27...Nd6 -0.59/21
0x0.00213a1c9e22dp-1022s more active pieces.
[27...a5∓ -1.34/21 Strongly threatening ...a4. 28.Rc1 a4]
28.Qe5!∓ Ne8↑ White is under pressure.
29.Nd2 Rd6 Threatens to win with ... Nf6. **30.c4** -1.03/22
[30.Rb1∓ -0.54/21 Bd7 31.Qe1 *(31.Rxb7? Re6-+)*]
30...Bd7∓

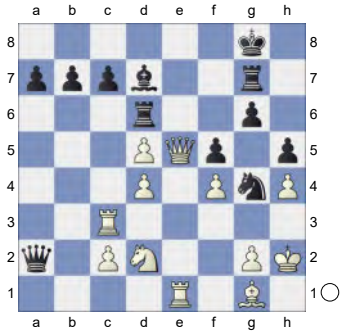


31.Rc3? -3.06/22
[31.Rc1∓ -1.03/20]



31...Nf6 -1.36/22
[31...Qa5-+ -3.06/22 32.Qe3 Re6]
32.cxd5? -8.18/21
[32.Qe2∓ -1.36/22]
32...Ng4+

(Diagram)

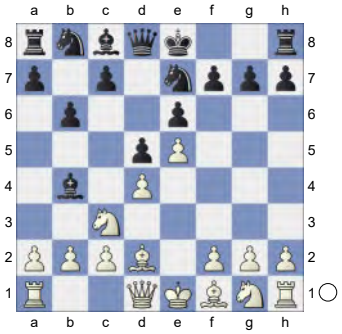


Weighted Error Value: White=0.58/ Black=0.30
0-1

159 **C16**
□ **Bartel,Mateusz** **2637**
■ **Mista,Aleksander** **2606**
Polish League (9.1) 26.11.2017
[Richard Palliser]

Richard Palliser,MH: 'C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5 LesEchecs.com: 'C16: Défense française (variante Winawer avec 4.e5) "
1.e4 Richard Palliser,MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4!? 4.e5** Preventing ...Bf5, but as the black bishop can also go to g4, not everyone bothers to: **4...Ne7!? 5.Bd2!?**
[This gives the queen a6, but that isn't the panacea it may at first seem. I can't bring myself to criticise Bartel's far-from-forced 11th move, as from a practical perspective it must have been pretty scary to face, but it does seem that 5.a3! leaves White without a great follow-up. The issue is ...Ba6 and Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.Qg4 still leaves White somewhat struggling to snare the queen. 0-0! 8.Bd3]
5...b6

(Diagram)



6.Nce2 Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 Ba6!? Wow, Black doesn't want the b-pawn, but he does want to obtain the bishop-pair! Can he really get away with such ambition? **8.f4** 0.05/22

[8.c3± 0.46/20 (Richard Palliser,MH) was preferrable.]

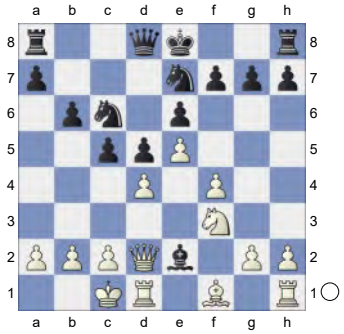
[8.Nf3 Richard Palliser,MH c5 9.c3 Nbc6 10.h4 0-0 11.h5 f6 12.h6 g6 13.Nf4 Bxf1 14.Rxf1 Qd7 15.Nd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Rac8 17.exf6 Rxf6 18.Rc1 Rff8 19.Rh1 Nf5 20.Rh3 Nfxd4 21.Nxd4 Nxd4 22.Rxc8 Rxc8 ½-½ Mastrovasilis,D (2580)-Lputian,S (2640) Acropolis (open GMI) 2005 (3)]

8...c5?! Richard Palliser,MH: '=?!' Richard Palliser,MH: 'The position is equal.' **9.Nf3! Nbc6 10.0-0-0!** A key lever, placing some pressure on Black's centre and so curtailing his options. Richard Palliser,MH: 'N'

[10.c3 0-0 *(10...Rc8* Richard Palliser,MH *11.g3 Qc7 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.b3 Qa5 14.Bh3 h6 15.Kf2 0-0 16.Rhe1 d4* French Winawer-6.bc3 b6 7. ♘f3 Survey 2012*; 10...Nf5* Richard Palliser, MH *11.0-0-0 h5 12.Ng3 Bxf1 13.Nxf5 exf5 14.Rhxf1 c4 15.Ng5 Qe7 16.Rde1 Nd8 17.e6 f6 18.Nf3 g6 19.Nh4 Rg8 20.Rf3 Nb7 21.Rg3 Nd6 22.Rxg6 Rxg6 23.Nxg6 Qh7 24.Nh4 0-0-0 25.Qd1* 1-0 Bruzon Batista,L (2701)-Roselli Mailhe,B (2449) 9th Panamerican Team Chess Championship 2013 (2)*)* 11.Ng3 .]

10...Bxe2 0.20/21

[⌓10...h5! -0.21/20 Richard Palliser, MH]



11.Bxe2!? A big move. Must Black retreat or will his queen land up in as much a mess as even Magnus's did against Aronian in Norway? **11...c4!** 0.51/23

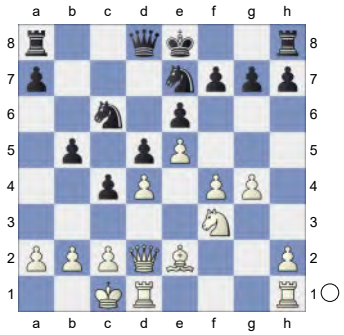
[11...0-0= 0.09/21 Richard Palliser, MH]

12.g4 0.15/19

[12.Kb1 b5 when matters are pretty grim for Black, who is riddled with weaknesses and must still watch his queen, as shown by 13.b3 -0.46/19 *(13.g4=* 0.11/21 Richard Palliser,MH *)*]

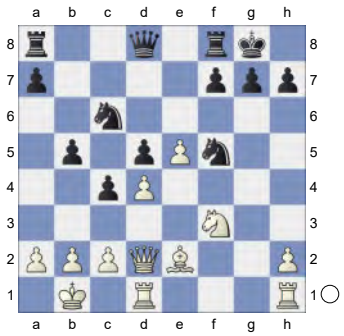
[12.h4± 0.51/23 (Richard Palliser,MH) is more appropriate.]

12...b5 Richard Palliser,MH: '

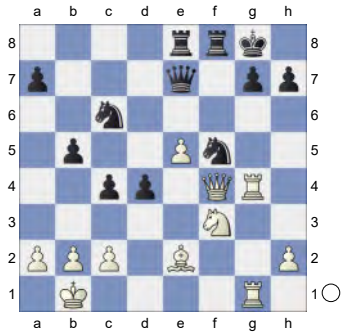


' **13.f5** -0.01/21 **exf5? 14.gxf5 Nxf5**

15.Kb1?!
[15.Qf4 g6]
15...0-0!



Another bold move by Mista and another which seems fully sound. **16.Rhg1**
[16.Qf4 -0.40/22 Richard Palliser,MH: '16.Rh1-g1 -0.01' Qd7! 0.01/21 would have retained full control: for example, *(16...Nce7!∓* -0.40/22 Richard Palliser,MH *)*]
16...f6?! 17.Rg4 -1.11/22
[17.Bf1!= 0.01/20 (Richard Palliser, MH) remains equal.]
17...fxe5 -0.71/23
[⌓17...Qe7 -1.11/22 Richard Palliser, MH 18.Re1 a5 *(18...fxe5 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.dxe5∓)*]
18.dxe5! -1.14/20 The problem. Suddenly White levers open the position somewhat to his advantage.
[Richard Palliser,MH: ' White should try' 18.Nxe5 -0.71/23 Qd6 19.Bf3 , but what then? Black threatens ...a4 and there's no more than perpetual check against the brave queen. *(19.Re1* Richard Palliser,MH*)* or 19...Rad8 -0.63/21 *(19...Rae8∓* -0.99/21 Richard Palliser,MH *20.Re1 Nxe5 21.dxe5 Rxe5 22.Rxe5 Qxe5 23.Qxd5+ Qxd5 24.Bxd5+ Kh8)*]
18...d4? Richard Palliser,MH: '∓?'
19.Rdg1 Qe7 20.Qf4 Richard Palliser, MH: ' aiming for Rg4-g5.'
[20.Nh4? Richard Palliser,MH Nxh4 21.Rxg7+ Qxg7 22.Rxg7+ Kxg7-+]
20...Rae8 -0.01/24
[20...Kh8!∓ -1.19/22 (Richard Palliser, MH) Hoping for ...Ra8-e8. 21.Qe4 Rac8]



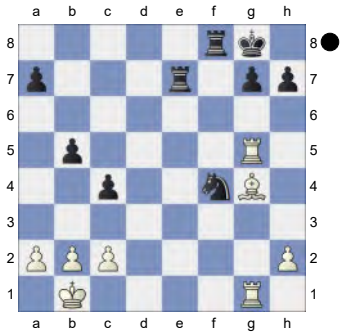
21.Rg5 -1.54/22 Winning back the gambitted pawn and, once again, we find the black queen in a spot of bother. Richard Palliser,MH: '?'
[21.Qe4 -3.62/21 Richard Palliser, MH: '?' Richard Palliser,MH: '21.Nf3-h4 0.01' Nxe5]
[White has to play 21.Nh4= -0.01/24 Richard Palliser,MH Nxh4 Discovered Attack *(21...Qxe5? 22.Nxf5 Kh8 23.Qxe5±)* 22.Rxg7+ Qxg7 23.Rxg7+ Kxg7 24.Qxh4 Rxe5 25.a3]
21...Nxe5 Richard Palliser,MH: '!' Richard Palliser,MH: ' And now ...Ne5-g6 would win. Excellent horsemanship.'
22.Nxd4!
[22.Rxf5 -2.27/27 Richard Palliser, MH: '22.Nf3xd4 -1.31' Rxf5 23.Qxf5 . or Nxf3 Richard Palliser,MH: '!' 24.Bxc4+ -2.33/22 *(⌓24.Qxf3* -1.94/25 Richard Palliser,MH *Qxe2 25.Qd5+ Qe6 26.Qxd4 Qe1+ 27.Qd1 Qxd1+ 28.Rxd1; 24.Bxf3?* Richard Palliser,MH *Qe1+* Double Attack *25.Bd1 Qxg1-+)* 24...bxc4! Richard Palliser,MH: '-+' '-+!' 25.Qxf3 Qe1+ 26.Qd1 Qxd1+ was a bit uncomfortable, but also

essential. Except that this wasn't the right follow-up. I'm sure that 27.Rxd1! was on Black's radar, but with such a queen position it can be very easy to see ghosts. Here White does have Re2 -1.24/20 (Better is *27...h5*-+ -1.82/23 Richard Palliser,MH *28.b4 Rd8*)]

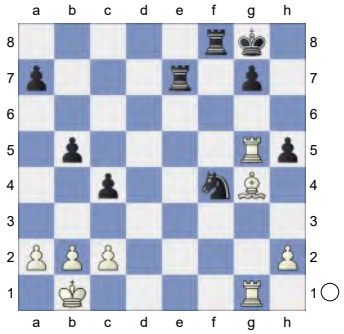
22...Ng6 23.Nxf5 Nxf4

[Flashy, if not especially good, and yet one can't really blame Mista for wanting to avoid a material-down suffering after 23...Qxe2 24.Qg3 -1.83/20 (*24.Qc1∓* -1.46/22 Richard Palliser,MH)]

24.Nxe7+ Too many black pieces are hanging. **24...Rxe7** **25.Bg4** Richard Palliser,MH: '

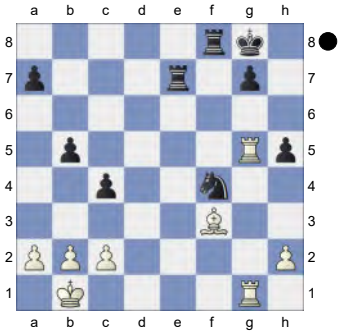


' **25...h5**



Richard Palliser,MH: ' ↑!' Richard Palliser, MH: ' Black is in control.' **26.Bf5** -2.79/23 Richard Palliser,MH: ' This move loses the game for White.'

[26.Bf3 -1.36/26 was Black's idea. He doesn't have enough for the piece after Richard Palliser,MH: '∓' '



was Black's idea. He doesn't have enough for the piece after' Richard Palliser,MH: ' keeps fighting.' Ref7 , but Bartel finds something even stronger. Richard Palliser,MH: '!']

26...Ref7 Richard Palliser,MH: '-+'

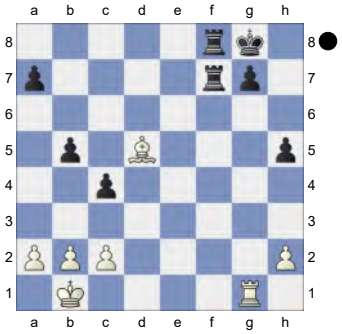
27.Be4! The simplest approach and therefore the best. White's major pieces will dominate, even if Black manages to grab the a-file, and Bartel makes it all look most easy for here on. **27...Nh3** Richard Palliser,MH: ' (→ ...Rf7-f1+)'

[27...Ne6 -1.19/22 Richard Palliser, MH: '27...Nf4-h3 -2.60' 28.Rd5]

28.Bd5 Nxg1

[28...Nxg5 Richard Palliser,MH 29.Rxg5 Rd8 30.a4= (*30.Bxf7+ Kxf7 31.a4 bxa4∓*)]

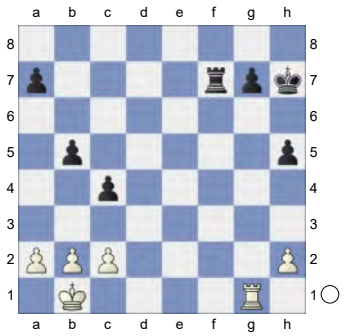
29.Rxg1 Richard Palliser,MH: '



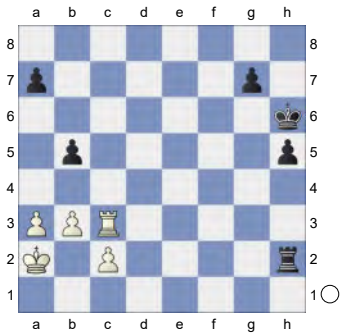
' **29...Kh7** Richard Palliser,MH: '!'

30.Bxf7 Rxf7

(Diagram)



Richard Palliser,MH: ' KR-KR' **31.b3! c3 32.a3 Kh6** Desperation with f7 about to drop. Richard Palliser,MH: 'Desperation with f7 about to drop. Prevents Rg1-g5' **33.Rg3 Rf1+ 34.Ka2 Rf2** Richard Palliser,MH: '!' **35.Rxc3 Rxh2**

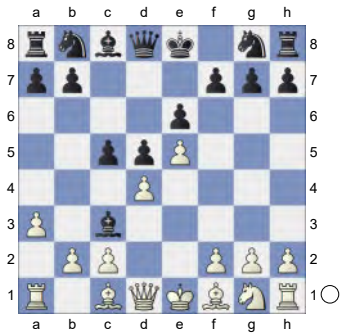


Richard Palliser,MH: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/Black=0.15 (very precise) . Loss on time!?'
1-0

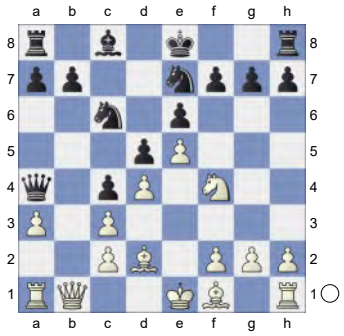
160 **C18**
☐ **Sakai,Kiyotaka** **2637**
■ **Peek,Marcel** **2480**
corr WC.2004.F.00001 16.05.2005
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)

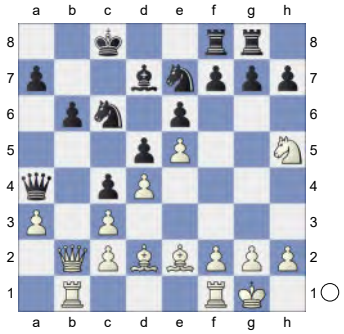


6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qb1 c4 9.Nh3 Nc6 10.Nf4 Nge7

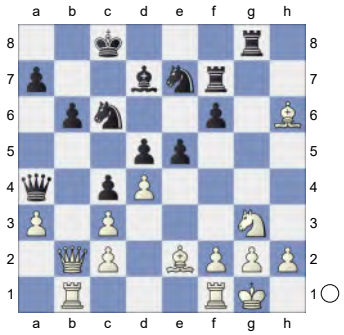


11.Nh5 Rg8 White is slightly better.
12.Qb2N
[12.Be2 b6=]
[12.g3 Bd7 13.Bh3 0-0-0 14.0-0 Kb8 *(14...Rdf8 15.Re1 Kb8 16.Qb2 Nc8 17.Re3 Nb6 18.Rf1 Qa5 19.Qc1 Be8 20.Nf4* Winawer 6...Qa5-Portisch-Hook & 6…Nc6 ChessPub Guide 2024 French [John Watson]*)* 15.Qb2 Ka8 16.Rae1 Rc8 17.Kh1 h6 18.g4 Nd8 19.f4 g6 20.Nf6 Rh8 21.Rb1 Rc7 22.Bg2 Bc8 23.Qb5 Qxb5 24.Rxb5 Rc6 25.Bc1 Ra6 26.Rf3 Ndc6 5.00 00 6.a4 (2659)-Pelt, A (2669) corr 2008 200 Traps In The Opening [WIT 29/2/1908; 4LS #17 p3; Harding] 1-0 (37)]
12...Bd7 13.Rb1
[13.Qxb7? Rb8 14.Qc7 Qxc2-+]
13...b6 14.Be2 0-0-0 15.0-0 Rdf8

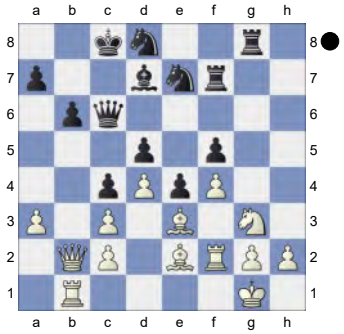
(Diagram)



16.Bg5 h6 17.Bf4 f5 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Bxh6 Rf7 20.Ng3 e5

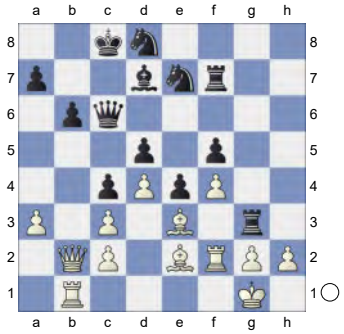


21.Be3 -0.01/20
[21.dxe5± 0.55/17 fxe5 22.h4]
21...f5= 22.f4 e4 23.Nh5 -0.43/21
[23.Rbe1= 0.01/19]
23...Nd8
[23...Na5!?]
24.Rf2! Qc6 25.Ng3

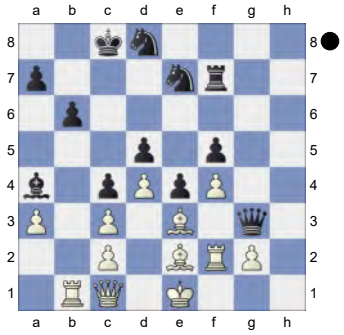


Rxg3!

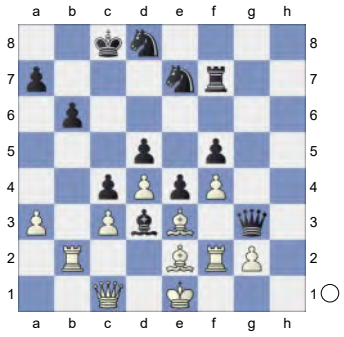
(Diagram)



26.hxg3 Qg6 27.Kf1 -1.71/22
[27.Rff1!∓ -0.70/21]
27...Qxg3-+
[27...Rh7 28.Ke1±]
28.Qc1 Ba4
[Weaker is 28...Rh7 29.Ke1∓]
29.Ke1

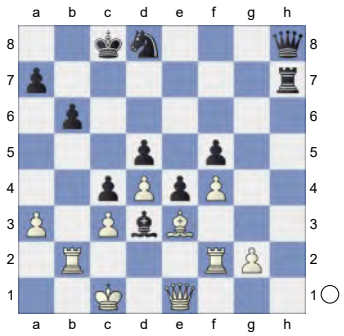


Bxc2! 30.Rb2 Bd3

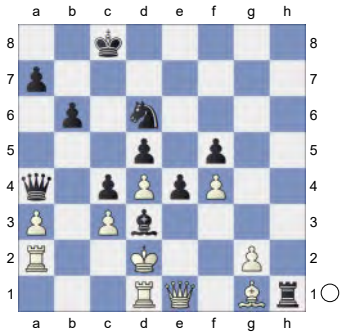


31.Kd2 Ng6 White must now prevent ... Nh4. &Nero is more active. **32.Bh5 Rh7** Chess con chili. **33.Bxg6 Qxg6 34.Qe1 Qe8** And now ...Qa4 would win. **35.Kc1** -2.83/20
[⌓35.Qd1 -1.82/21]
35...Qh8

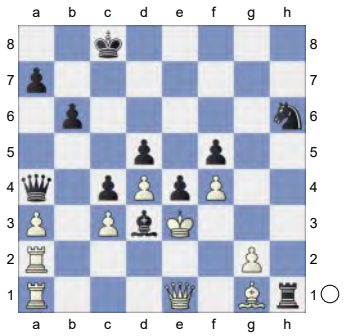
(Diagram)



...Rh1 is the strong threat. **36.Rfd2 Rh1 37.Bg1 Qe8 38.Ra2** -4.89/22
[⌓38.g3 -3.25/23 e3 39.Re2 *(39.Rh2? Qa4-+)*]
38...Nb7 Black is clearly winning.
[Don't go for 38...Qb5? 39.Rdb2 Qa5 40.Kd2-+]
39.Rd1 Qa4 Threatens to win with ... Qb3. **40.Kd2 Nd6**



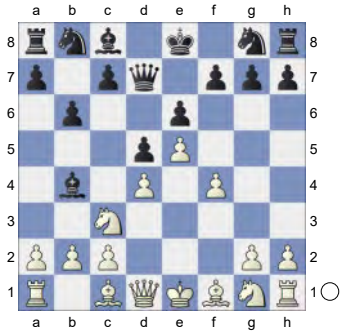
41.Ke3 Nf7 Strongly threatening ...Nh6. **42.Rda1 Nh6**



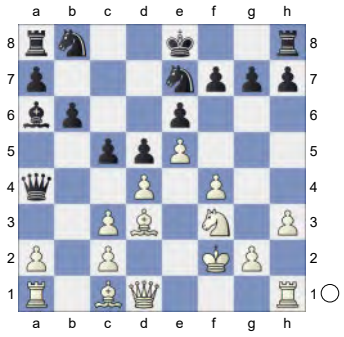
Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.07 (flawless)
0-1

161 **C16**
□ **Durarbayli,Vasif** **2635**
■ **Jacobson,Aaron** **2308**
Saint Louis Super Swiss (5) 14.03.2023

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.f4
[5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 f5]
5...b6



6.Nf3 Ne7 7.Kf2 Bxc3 8.bxc3 Qa4
[8...Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.a4 Nb8 11.Ba3 Nbc6 12.Qd3 Na5 13.Nd2 Rc8 14.Rhf1 0-0 15.Kg1]
9.Bd3 Ba6 10.h3
[10.Be3 0-0 11.g4 c5]
10...c5



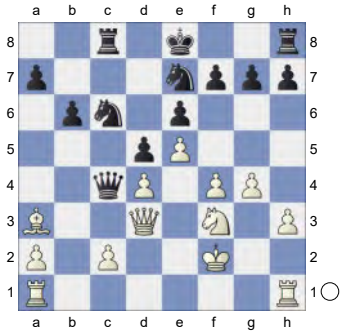
10…f5 is the modern continuation. 10…f5 ist die moderne Fortsetzung. **11.g4**
[11.dxc5 bxc5 *(11...Nd7 12.cxb6 axb6 13.Be3 0-0 14.Qd2 Rfc8 15.Rhb1)* 12.Rf1 0-0 13.Kg1 h6]
11...cxd4
[11...0-0 12.Kg3 *(12.f5 exf5 13.gxf5 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 c4)* 12...Rc8

13.Be3 cxd4 14.cxd4 Nbc6 15.c3 Qxd1 16.Raxd1 Bxd3 17.Rxd3 Na5 18.Nh4 Rc7]

12.cxd4!? Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. **12...Nbc6 13.Bxa6N Qxa6 14.Qd3 Qc4**

[14...Qxd3 15.cxd3 Kd7 16.Ba3 Rac8 17.Rac1]

15.Ba3 Rc8



16.Rab1

[16.Qxc4 dxc4 17.Bxe7 Nxe7 18.Ng5 Rd8 19.Ke3 Nd5+ 20.Kf3 Ke7 21.Ne4]

16...Na5 17.Rhc1 Ng6

[17...Qc7 18.Bb4 Nc4 19.f5 Qd7 20.fxe6 fxe6 21.Rf1 0-0 22.Kg3 h6 23.Nh4 Rxf1 24.Rxf1 Nc6 25.Bc3]

18.Kg3

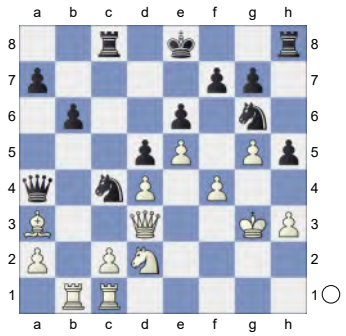
[18.f5 Nf4 *(18...Ne7 19.f6)* 19.Qd2 *(19.Qe3 Qc3 20.Qxc3 Nxh3+ 21.Ke2 Rxc3 22.Bb4 Rxf3 23.Kxf3 Nc4)* 19...Qc3 20.Bb4 *(20.Qxc3 Nxh3+ 21.Ke2 Rxc3 22.Bb4 Rxf3 23.Kxf3 Nc4 24.Rh1 Ng5+ 25.Ke2 Kd7)* 20...Qxd2+ 21.Bxd2]

18...h5 19.Nd2

[19.Ng5 Ne7 20.f5 exf5 21.Bxe7 f4+ 22.Kxf4 Kxe7 23.Kg3 Rc6 24.Rf1 h4+ 25.Kh2 Qxc2+ 26.Qxc2 Rxc2+ 27.Kg1 Rf8 28.Nh7 Re8 29.Ng5 Rf8]

19...Qa4 20.g5 Nc4

(Diagram)



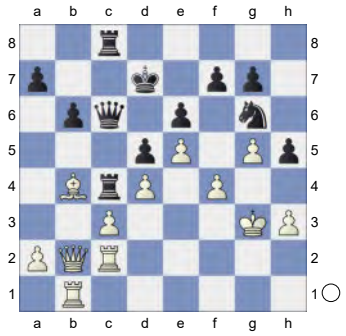
21.Bb4 Nxd2

[21...a5 22.Bd6 h4+ 23.Kf3 Nxd6 24.exd6 Qc6 25.Qb5 Qxb5 26.Rxb5 Rc3+ 27.Kf2 Nxf4 28.Rxb6 Nxh3+ 29.Ke2 Kd7 30.Rb7+ Kxd6 31.Rxf7 Nxg5 32.Rxg7 Ne4]

22.Qxd2 Rc4 23.c3 Qc6 24.Qb2 Kd7 25.Rc2

[25.a4 Rb8]

25...Rc8



26.Rbc1 Qb5 27.a4

[27.Ba3 Qxb2 28.Bxb2 Ne7 29.Kf3 Nf5]

27...Qxa4 28.Rf2

[28.Ra1 Qxb4 29.Rxa7+ Ke8 30.cxb4 Rxc2 31.Qb3 R8c3+]

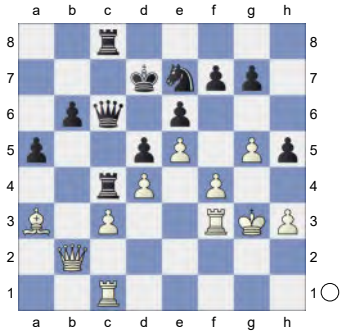
28...a5 29.Ba3

[29.Bd6 Qc6 30.Rf3 Rxd4 31.Qf2 Re4 32.f5 Nxe5 33.Bxe5 Rxe5 34.fxe6+ Qxe6 35.Rxf7+ Ke8 36.Rf8+ Ke7 37.Rxc8 Re3+]

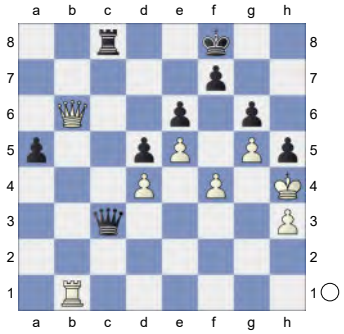
29...Qc6

[29...b5 30.Bc5 1-0 (57) Rios Parra,A (2355)-Ferreira Morales,J (1835) Bogota 2011 R8xc5 31.dxc5 Rxf4]

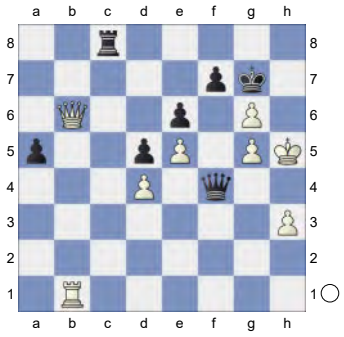
30.Rf3 Ne7



31.Bxe7 Kxe7 32.Kh4
[32.g6 fxg6 33.Kh4 Kf7 34.Qb1 Rxd4 35.Rg1 Re4]
32...g6 33.Rb1 Rxc3 34.Rxc3 Qxc3 35.Qxb6 Kf8



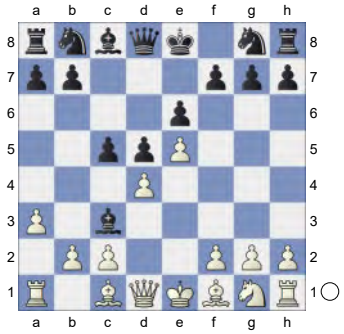
36.f5 Qf3 37.fxg6 Predecessor:
37...Qf4+ 38.Kxh5 Kg7



1-0

162 **C18**
☐ **Durarbayli,Vasif** **2635**
■ **Mamedov,Rauf** **2646**
Airthings Masters Play In rapid (9)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 g6
[8...Kf8
A) 9.Qd1 b6 *(9...Ne7 10.Qb1 c4 11.Ne2 Nbc6 12.Nf4)* 10.h4 Ba6 11.Nf3 Bxf1 12.Kxf1 Nc6 13.h5 h6 14.Rh4;
B) 9.h4
B1) 9...Ne7 10.h5 h6 11.Qd1 b6 12.Nf3 Ba6 13.dxc5 bxc5 *(13...Bxf1 14.Kxf1 bxc5 15.Rh4 Qc6 16.c4)* 14.Rh4 Qc6 15.c4 Bxc4 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Qe2;
B2) 9...Nc6 10.h5 Qxc2 11.Rc1 Qe4+ 12.Qxe4 dxe4 13.Ne2]
9.h4
[9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Be2
A) 10...Bd7 11.0-0 c4 12.Ra2 *(12.Qh4)* 12...0-0-0 13.Bg5 Rf8 14.Qh4 h6 15.Rb1 Rh7 16.h3 f5;
B) 10...c4 11.Ra2 Bd7 12.Qh4 h6 13.0-0 Nce7 14.Bg5]
9...Nc6! 9...cxd4 is better than 9...Qb6. 9...cxd4 ist besser als 9...Db6.
[9...h6 10.h5 *(10.Qd1)* 10...g5 11.f4

f5 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Qd1]

10.h5 Nge7N

[10...Bd7 11.Nf3 *(11.Qd1 0-0-0 12.Nf3 h6 13.hxg6 fxg6 14.dxc5 Nge7 15.Bd3 g5 16.Qe2 g4 17.Nh4 Rdg8 18.0-0 g3 19.fxg3 Rxg3 20.Rf4 Qa5 21.Qf2 Rgg8 22.Nf3 Ng6 23.Bxg6 Rxg6 24.c4 Qd8 25.cxd5* 1-0 Djukic,N (2543)-Nikcevic, N (2441) Crna 118/108 2013 *exd5 26.Nh4 Rg4 27.Rxg4 Bxg4 28.Qf6 Re8 29.Re1 Qxf6 30.exf6 Rxe1+ 31.Bxe1 Kd7 32.Ng6 Ke6* ½-½ Bc4,B (2517)-Stronsky,V (2440) Karen Asrian Mem rapid 2008 (4.3)*)* 11...0-0-0

A) 12.h6 f6;

B) 12.Bd3 h6 13.hxg6 fxg6

B1) 14.Qxg6 Nge7 15.Qf7 Rdf8 16.Qg7 Rhg8 17.Qxh6 Nf5;

B2) 14.Bxg6 Nge7;

B3) 14.c4 Nge7 *(14...dxc4 15.dxc5)*;

B4) 14.Qh3 Nge7 15.dxc5 g5;

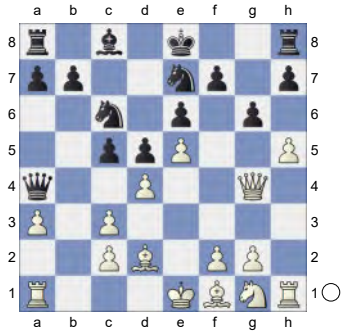
C) 12.Qf4

C1) 12...Nge7 13.h6 *(13.dxc5)*;

C2) 12...gxh5 13.Ra2 *(13.Rxh5 Nge7; 13.dxc5 Qxc2 14.Nd4 Qb2 15.Rd1 Nge7 16.Nb5)* 13...Nge7 14.dxc5 d4 15.Nxd4 *(15.cxd4 Nd5 16.Qe4 Ncb4 17.c4 Bc6 18.cxd5 Bxd5 19.axb4 Qxa2 20.Qd3 Bxf3)* 15...Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Qc6 17.Rxh5]

[10...Nxe5 11.Qg3 Nc6 12.hxg6 fxg6 13.Rxh7 Rxh7 14.Qxg6+ Rf7 15.Qxg8+]

[10...Qxc2 11.Nf3 *(11.Rc1 Qf5 12.Qg3)* 11...c4 12.hxg6 Qxg6 13.Qf4 *(13.Qxg6 fxg6 14.Be2)* 13...Bd7]



11.Nf3! White is better. **11...Bd7**

[11...gxh5 12.Qxh5 *(12.Rxh5 Bd7 13.Bg5 Qxc2 14.Rc1 Qb2 15.Qf4)* 12...Bd7 13.Bd3 0-0-0 *(13...c4 14.Bxh7 0-0-0 15.Bg5; 13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Qxd4 16.Rb1)* 14.dxc5]

12.Qf4 0.32/20

[12.h6!± 0.99/19 0-0-0 *(12...Qxc2 13.Rc1 Qa4 14.Be2)* 13.Be2 Rdf8 14.0-0 f6 *(14...Nf5 15.Bg5 Qxc2 16.Rfe1 Qxc3 17.Rac1 Qxa3 18.Ra1 Qc3 19.dxc5)* 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.Qg5 Rhf8 17.dxc5]

12...Qxc2!? 0.80/19 A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.

[12...h6!± 0.32/20]

[12...gxh5]

13.Rc1!N Qa4 1.13/20

[13...Qf5 14.g4]

[⌓13...Qa2 0.73/20]

14.Bd3 0.66/20

[14.Ng5± 1.13/20 0-0-0 *(14...Nf5 15.g4)* 15.Nxf7 *(15.dxc5 Qxa3 16.h6 Na5±; 15.Qxf7? Rdf8-+)*

A) 15...Rdf8 16.Bb5 Qxa3 17.Bxc6 Bxc6 *(17...Nxc6 18.hxg6)* 18.Qf6;

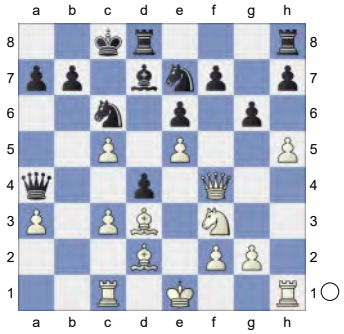
B) 15...Rhf8 16.Bb5 Qxa3 17.Qf6]

[14.dxc5?! Qxf4 15.Bxf4 h6=]

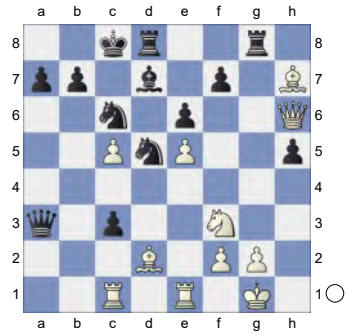
14...0-0-0

[14...gxh5]

15.dxc5 0.41/19
[15.Qxf7?! Rdf8 16.Qg7 Rhg8 17.Qxh7 gxh5=]
[15.h6± 0.87/19]
15...d4 0.85/19
[15...Qxf4± 0.41/19 should be considered. 16.Bxf4 h6]

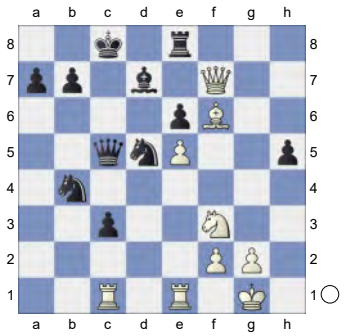


Black is weak on the dark squares
16.0-0 0.47/20
[16.cxd4 Nf5 17.Rh3 Rhf8+-]
[16.Qxf7 Rdf8 17.Qg7 Rhg8]
[16.h6± 0.85/19]
16...gxh5 1.24/18
[16...Nd5± 0.47/20 17.Qe4 *(17.Qxf7 dxc3 18.Bg5 Rdf8∓)* 17...gxh5]
17.Rfe1 -0.10/20
[17.Bc2± 1.24/18 Qxa3 *(17...Qb5 18.cxd4)* 18.cxd4 Rhg8]
[17.cxd4 Rhg8 18.Bc2 Qxa3 19.Ra1 Qb2 20.Bxh7 Rg4 21.Qxf7 Nxd4 22.Rfb1 Qxa1 23.Rxa1 Be8 24.Qxe7 *(24.Qf6 Nd5)* 24...Nxf3+ 25.Kh1 Rh4+ 26.Qxh4 Nxh4 27.Bg5 Rd4 28.f3]
[17.Nxd4 Nxd4 18.cxd4 Bc6=]
17...Rhg8 0.31/21
[17...Nd5= -0.10/20 is superior. 18.Qh4 *(18.Qxf7 dxc3 19.Bg5 Rdf8∓)* 18...Rdg8 19.cxd4 *(19.Nxd4 Rg4∓)* 19...Rg4 20.Qxh5 Rhg8]
18.Bc2 -0.35/20
[18.Qxf7 dxc3 19.Rxc3 *(19.Bxc3? Qg4-+)* 19...Qg4-+]
[18.Nxd4 Nxd4 19.cxd4 Bc6∓]
[18.cxd4± 0.31/21 Rg4 19.Qxf7]
18...Qxa3∓ 19.Bxh7
[19.cxd4 Nd5 20.Qe4 Rg4 21.Ra1 Rxe4 22.Rxa3 Rxe1+ 23.Bxe1 Rg8]
19...Nd5! 20.Qh6 -1.01/22
[20.Qxf7∓ -0.59/22
A) 20...dxc3 21.Bxg8;
B) 20...Rgf8 21.Qg7 *(21.Qxh5)*;
C) 20...Rdf8 21.Qxh5 Rh8 22.c4 Nf4]
20...dxc3!∓



21.Bg5 Rde8 -0.17/20
[21...Qxc5!∓ -0.89/21 And now ...Qc5-f8 would win. 22.Bxd8 Rxd8]
22.Bxg8= Rxg8 23.Qh7↑ White has good play.
[23.Qxh5 Qxc5 24.Qxf7 Qf8]
23...Re8 24.Qxf7 -0.55/19
[24.Bh4 Qb4 *(24...Qxc5 25.Ng5)* 25.Re4 *(25.Qxf7 Qg4)* 25...Qxc5 26.Ng5 Nd4 27.Nxf7 Nf5]
[24.Red1= 0.00/19]
24...Qxc5∓ 25.Bf6 -1.41/20
[25.Qh7 b5 26.Be3 Qc4 *(26...Nxe3 27.Rxe3 b4 28.Ng5)* 27.Ng5 Re7 28.Qg8+ Kb7 29.f3]
[25.Qxh5∓ -0.60/19 b5 26.Bh4]
25...Ncb4!∓

(Diagram)



Dancing on a razor blade. Excellent horsemanship. **26.Ng5** -2.07/23

[26.Red1∓ -1.51/20 was worth a try. Ba4 27.Kh2]

26...Qf8

[26...Nd3 27.Ne4 Qc6 28.Nd6+ Kb8]

27.Qh7

[27.Qxh5 Nd3]

27...Qg8 -0.82/22

[27...Bc6 28.Ne4 *(28.Red1 c2; 28.Qxh5? Nd3-+)* 28...Qg8]

28.Qe4

[28.Qxh5 Nd3 29.Ne4 Bc6= *(29...Nxe1 30.Rxe1 Kb8 31.Rc1-+)*]

28...Bc6 -0.31/19

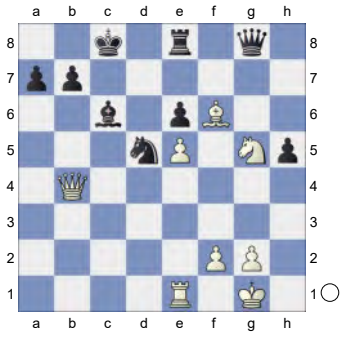
[28...c2∓ -0.94/22 Strongly threatening ...Kc8-b8. 29.Rxc2+ Nxc2 30.Qxc2+ Kb8]

29.Rxc3!∓ Deflection **29...Nxc3**

[29...Nxf6? 30.exf6 Qxg5 31.f7+- *(31.Qxb4? Qxg2#)*]

30.Qxb4 Nd5

[30...Nb5]



31.Qc5 a6

[31...Qf8 32.Qxa7 Nxf6]

32.Rc1 Qf8

[32...Kb8]

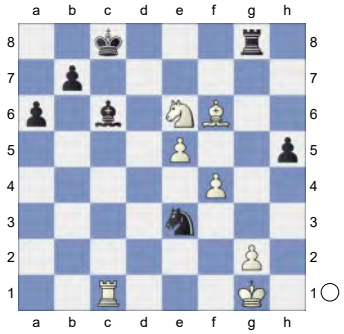
33.Qxf8 Rxf8 34.Nxe6 Rg8 35.f4

[35.Nd4!?]

35...Ne3

[35...Rxg2+ 36.Kxg2 Nxf4+ 37.Kh2 Nxe6]

[35...Rg4 36.Bg5 *(36.Rd1 Kb8)* 36...Ne3 37.Kh2 Rxg2+ 38.Kh3 Rf2 39.Kg3]



36.Bg5

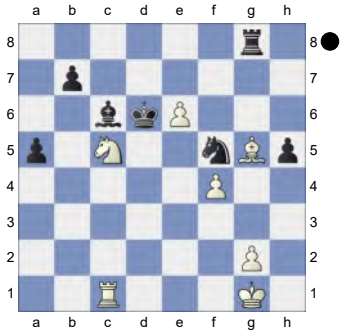
[36.Kf2 Ng4+ *(36...Nf5 37.Ng5 Rg6)* 37.Ke2 Kd7 38.Ng7 Bxg2 39.e6+ Kd6 40.Rd1+ Bd5 41.Bb2 h4 42.Rd3 Rxg7 43.Bxg7 Kxe6]

36...Nf5 Inhibits Ne6-d4. **37.Nc5 a5 38.e6 Kc7 39.Re1 Kd6 40.Rc1?** -1.78/19

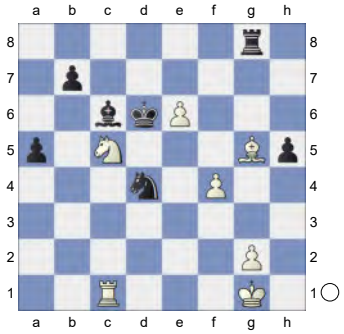
[40.Ne4+= 0.00/24 Bxe4 41.Rxe4 b5 42.Re5 Rxg5 43.Rxb5 Rg8]

[40.e7 Re8 *(40...Kxc5 41.Re5+ Kd6 42.Rxf5 a4 43.Rf8 Rxg5 44.fxg5 Kxe7 45.Rf5)* 41.Re6+ Kxc5 42.Re5+ Kd6 43.Rxf5 a4 44.Kf2 b5 45.Rf6+ Kd7 46.f5 Bd5 *(46...a3 47.Rxc6 Kxc6 48.f6)* 47.Rb6]

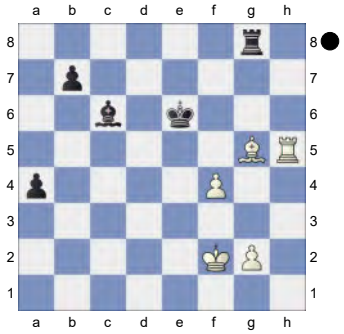
(Diagram)



40...Nd4 -1.08/19
[40...a4 41.Nd3 Nd4 *(41...Kxe6? 42.Kf2-+)*]

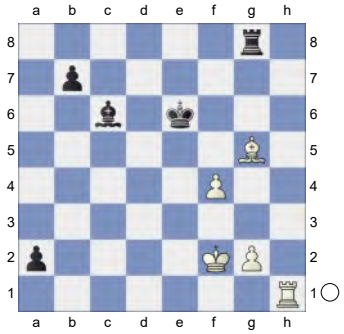


41.Kf2∓ Nxe6 42.Nxe6 Kxe6 Endgame. KRB-KRB **43.Rh1** -2.14/20
[43.Re1+∓ -1.07/22 is a better defense. Kd6 *(43...Kd7 44.Rh1)* 44.Re5 b5 45.Ke3]
43...a4-+ 44.Rxh5

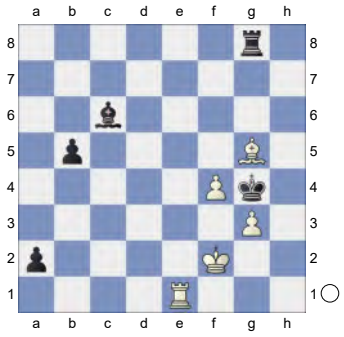


a3! 45.Rh1 a2

(Diagram)



46.Re1+ Kf7? -4.38/22 **47.Re7+**
[47.g4 Be4 48.Ra1 Bb1]
47...Kg6 48.Re6+ Kh5 49.Re1 Kg4 -1.53/17
[49...b5-+ -2.84/19
A) 50.Bf6 Rxg2+ 1-0 (40) Durarbayli,V (2628)-Mamedov,R (2646) Shusha 2022 *(50...Bxg2 51.Rg1∓)* 51.Ke3 b4 *(51...Kg4)*;
B) 50.g3 Rxg5]
50.g3? -4.31/23
[50.Bf6∓ -1.53/17]
50...b5 -2.08/20
[⌓50...Rg6 -4.31/23 51.Ra1 Bd5 52.Ke3 Rb6 53.Kd2 Rb1 54.Bf6 b5]



51.Bf6 b4 aiming for ...Bc6-b5. **52.Ke3** -2.81/22
[52.Rc1 -1.65/18 was necessary.]
52...Kf5 -1.30/23
[52...Rf8-+ -2.81/22 and Black stays clearly on top. 53.Bb2 Rd8 *(53...Kxg3? 54.Be5-+)*]
[52...Kxg3 53.Rg1+ Bg2 54.f5-+]
53.Ba1∓ Rxg3+ -0.53/24

[53...Rd8∓ -1.25/20 ½-½ (19) Sadhwani,R (2555)-Nihal,S (2620) Veliko Gradiste 2021 Hoping for ...Kf5-g4. 54.Bb2 *(54.Rc1 Ba8)* 54...Bb5 55.g4+ Kxg4 56.Rg1+ Kh3]

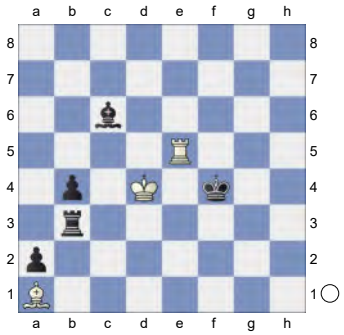
54.Kd4∓ Rb3 0.00/25

[Better is 54...b3∓ -0.53/23 55.Kc5 Be4 56.Kb4]

55.Re5+ The position is equal.

[55.Re2]

55...Kxf4



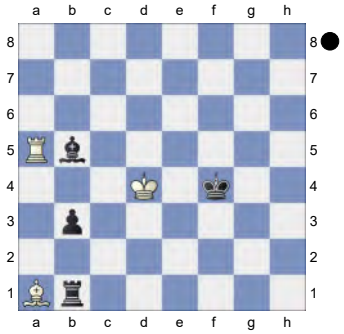
White must now prevent ...Rb3-b1. Vorgänger: **56.Ra5 Rb1**

[Don't do 56...Ra3 57.Rc5∓ *(57.Rxa3 bxa3 58.Kc4 Kf5=)*]

57.Rxa2 b3 58.Ra6

[58.Rf2+ Kg3 59.Rd2 Rxa1∓]

58...Bb5 59.Ra5



Black had all chances to win. Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/Black=0.32. Loss on time!?

0-1

163 **C16**

□ **Edouard,Romain** **2635**

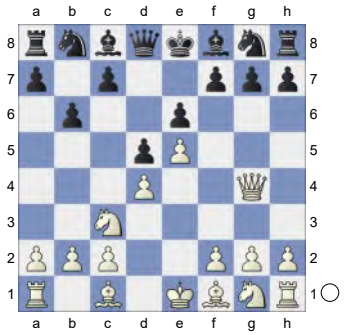
■ **Skytte,Rasmus** **2373**

EU-Cup 35th Ulcinj (3.10) 12.11.2019

[Edouard,Romain]

Edouard,Romain, MH: 'C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5 ' **1.e4** Edouard,Romain, MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.Qg4!?** An interesting line to force Black to make a decision with his g7-pawn. **5...Bf8!**

[5...Kf8?! would be what White wants, e.g. 6.Bd2 Ne7 7.Nf3 c5 8.h4 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.h5 h6 11.Qf4 Nb8 12.Ne2 Bxd2+ 13.Nxd2 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Qd7 15.N2f3± 0-1 (67) Hansen,E (2615)-Ehlvest,J (2521) chess.com 2019]



6.Bg5!? Forcing ...Qd7 isn't very useful by itself, but White also temporarily prevents ...Ne7. **6...Qd7**

[6...Ne7?! 7.Bxe7 and Black has no good way to take back on e7, as Qxe7 loses a pawn: 8.Nxd5±]

7.0-0-0!? Edouard,Romain, MH: ' White has more active pieces.' It is unusual to castle longside against the Winawer, but White uses his lead in development.

7...Ba6

[It would make sense to play 7...h6 before White has time to go f4 and

keep his bishop on the d8-h4 diagonal. 8.Be3 *(8.Qh3 Ne7* wouldn't be clear, as after *9.Bxe7 Bxe7* the g7-pawn is not hanging. This was played in Guliyev,N (2577)-Marin, M (2572) Azerbaijan 2016, 1-0 (31). *10.f4* Edouard,Romain, MH *Ba6 11.Nf3 Bxf1 12.Rhxf1 Nc6 13.g4 0-0-0 14.f5 Na5 15.Kb1 c5 16.Qh5 Rhf8 17.b3 Nc6 18.Ne2 Kb8 19.fxe6 fxe6 20.Qg6 cxd4 21.Nexd4 Nxd4 22.Nxd4 Rde8 23.Nxe6 Rxf1 24.Rxf1 Qb5* 1-0 Hawranke,D (2577)-Mikhailov,S (2572) Berlin-ch 2023 (6. 4) *)*

A) 8...Ne7 9.h4 *(9.Nh3* Edouard,Romain, MH *Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qe2 Nb4 12.g4 0-0-0 13.Nf4 g6 14.Kb1 Kb7 15.h4 Nec6 16.h5 g5 17.Nd3 Nxd3 18.Qxd3 Nb4 19.Qe2 c5 20.dxc5 bxc5 21.Ne4 Qc6 22.c3 Na6 23.f4 Be7* 1-0 Fernandez Cardoso, A (2438)-Berdayes Ason,D (2505) CUB-ch 59th Holguin 2023 (3)*)* 9...Nbc6 1.00/18 *(9...a5⩲* 0.63/18 (Edouard,Romain, MH) is more appropriate.*)* 10.h5 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' ±' Bb7 11.f4 0-0-0 12.Qf3 f5 13.Bf2⩲ ½-½ (31) Forcen Esteban,D (2561)-Narciso Dublan,M (2482) Linares 2016;

B) 8...Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Qe2 Nb8 11.f4 Nc6 12.Nf3 Bb4 13.Qd3?! 0.13/20 *(13.Nb1!?* 0.65/19 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' ⩲'*)* 13...Bxc3 Edouard,Romain, MH: '=' This exchange makes Black's position much easier to play. 14.Qxc3 f5?! *(14...0-0-0 15.g4 h5 16.h3 hxg4 17.hxg4 Rxh1 18.Rxh1 Nh6=)* 15.h3 0-0-0 16.b3 Nge7 17.Kb1 Kb7 18.Bc1 a5 19.a4 Edouard,Romain, MH: '!' Rc8 20.Ba3 Nb8 21.g4⩲ 1-0 (43) Vocaturo,D (2557)-Gonzalez,J (2322) Spain 2016]

8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.f4 g6?! 1.01/18 Edouard,Romain, MH: 'N'

[9...Ne7 10.Qf3 0.53/18 *(10.Bxe7±* 1.08/17 Edouard,Romain, MH *Qxe7 11.Qe2)* 10...0-0-0 0.97/19 *(10...h6⩲* 0.53/18 Edouard,Romain, MH*)* 11.Nge2 Edouard,Romain, MH: '±' Kb7 12.Rhf1 Rc8 1.32/19 *(*Black should try *12...h6* 0.72/19 Edouard,Romain, MH*)* 13.g4 0.65/18 *(13.f5±* 1.32/19 Edouard,Romain, MH *)* 13...g6 1.32/18 *(* Black should play *13...b5⩲* 0.65/18 Edouard,Romain, MH*)* 14.Kb1± 1-0 (100) Shubin,K (2334)-Antipov,M (2589) St Petersburg 2018]

[9...c6! 0.64/19 Edouard,Romain, MH: '⩲' should be best for Black.

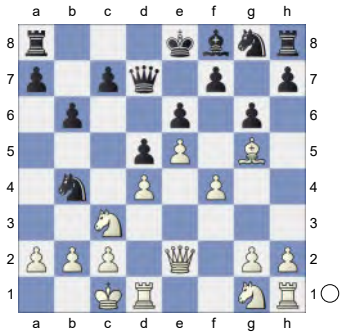
A) 10.Qe2 Nc7 11.g4?! *(11.Nf3!?)* 11...h5! 12.gxh5 f6! 13.Bh4 Qf7 14.exf6 -0.31/21 *(14.Nf3⩲* 0.32/17 Edouard,Romain, MH *)* 14...gxf6 Edouard,Romain, MH: '∓' 15.f5 0-0-0 0.10/20 *(⌓15...Qxh5* -0.27/21 Edouard,Romain, MH *16.Bg3 0-0-0)* 16.fxe6 Edouard,Romain, MH: '=' Nxe6 ½-½ (16) Lanka,Z (2345)-Dizdar,G (2455) Jurmala 1983;

B) 10.Nf3 h6 11.Bh4 h5!? 12.Qg5?! 0.14/20 *(* Edouard,Romain, MH: ' Better is' *12.Qh3!* 0.66/21 Edouard,Romain, MH: '⩲' *Nh6 13.Kb1 Nf5 14.Bf2⩲)* 12...Ne7 Edouard,Romain, MH: '=' 13.Qg3 Nf5∞ ½-½ (42) Vasiukov,E (2575)-Andersson,U (2535) Wijk

aan Zee 1973 14.Qf2 Edouard,Romain, MH Nxh4 15.Qxh4 Be7 16.Qg3 g6 17.Ng5 Nc7 18.Ne2 c5 19.dxc5 bxc5 20.Rhe1 Rb8 21.Kb1 Qb5 22.Qb3 Qxb3 23.axb3 Bxg5 24.fxg5 Rb4 25.h3 h4 26.Ng1 a5 27.Nf3 Ke7 28.Rd3 Rhb8 ½-½ Vasyukov,Y-Andersson,U Wijk aan Zee 1973]

10.Qe2 Edouard,Romain, MH: '±'

10...Nb4



11.Nf3 Be7 12.g4 0-0-0

[12...Bxg5?! 1.32/22 Edouard,Romain, MH: '12...0-0-0 0.64' 13.fxg5! is what White would love to get: the f7-pawn is a target and Black can never get a knight to f5.]

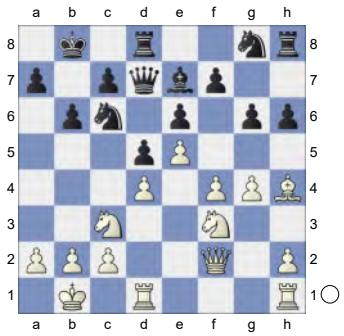
13.Kb1

[13.f5!? Edouard,Romain, MH: 'Strongly threatening Bxe7.' exf5 14.Bxe7 0.07/21 *(14.gxf5±* 0.48/20 Edouard,Romain, MH *Qxf5 15.h4)* 14...Nxe7 Edouard,Romain, MH: '=' 15.Ng5 Qe8 Edouard,Romain, MH: '!' 16.e6 was a fun idea, but after fxe6 17.Nxe6 Rd7 Edouard,Romain, MH: '!' the position is quite unclear.]

13...Kb8 14.Qf2 Nc6 15.Bh4 h6

[15...Bxh4 16.Nxh4 Nge7 would have been solid for Black.]

(Diagram)



16.h3

[I need to prepare the move 16.Bg3 0.17/21 Edouard,Romain, MH: '16.Bxe7 0.61' a little bit more, as playing it right away would allow h5! 17.h3 Nh6∞]

16...Na5?! Definitely Black should have exchanged the bishops on h4, as now he has problems to develop his pieces.

[16...Bxh4 17.Nxh4 Nge7 18.Ng2±]

17.Bg3 Kb7 18.Rhf1 Nc4 19.b3

[19.Nd2!?]

19...Na3+ 20.Kb2 Qc6 0.78/20

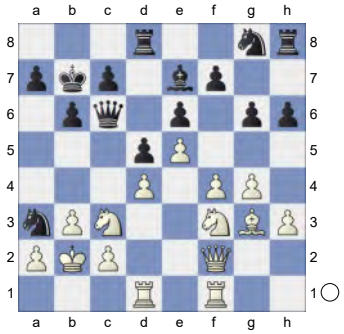
[20...Nb5 1.31/21 Edouard,Romain, MH: '20...h5 0.33'

A) 21.Nb1!? 0.72/19 Edouard,Romain, MH: '21.Nxb5 1.43' a5 1.14/20 *(⌓21...c6* 0.72/19 Edouard,Romain, MH*)* 22.c4 Na7 23.cxd5 0.46/19 *(23.f5!±* 1.25/17 Edouard,Romain, MH*)* 23...Qxd5 0.95/18 *(23...exd5±* 0.46/19 (Edouard,Romain, MH) should be considered. *24.Qc2 h5)* 24.Nc3 Edouard,Romain, MH: '±' Qc6 25.Qe2± 0.23/19 *(25.Rc1!±* 0.79/17 Edouard,Romain, MH *)*;

B) 21.Nxb5 Qxb5 22.f5±]

[20...h5± 0.37/19 (Edouard,Romain, MH) deserves consideration.]

(Diagram)



21.Bh4!? Edouard,Romain, MH: ' Black is on the road to losing.' I'm back to h4 - as I now want to target the a3-knight.

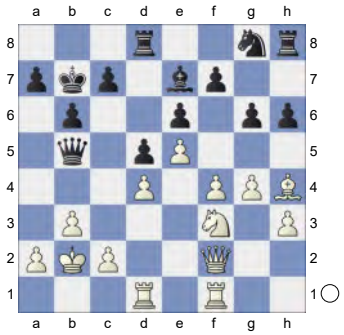
[21.f5!?]

21...Nb5 1.69/20

[21...Bb4 0.82/20 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' ±' Edouard,Romain, MH: ' was worth a try.' 22.Rd3! and the a3-knight will be lost if Black wants to exhcange his dark-squared bishop. *(22.Qe3* Edouard,Romain, MH *Rc8; 22.Bxd8?* Edouard,Romain, MH *Qxc3+ 23.Kc1 Qa1#)*]

22.Nxb5 Edouard,Romain, MH: '+-'

22...Qxb5 Edouard,Romain, MH: '

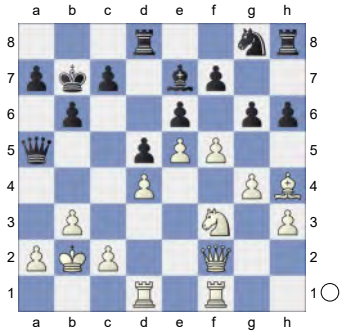


' **23.f5** Edouard,Romain, MH: '!'

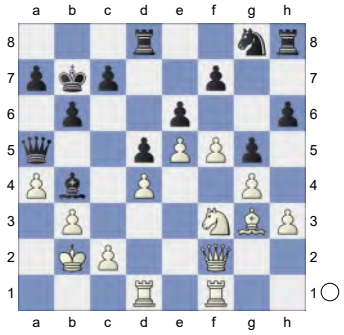
23...Qa5 1.80/20 Edouard,Romain, MH: '

[23...gxf5± 1.44/18 Edouard,Romain, MH 24.gxf5 Qc6]

(Diagram)



' **24.a4** Edouard,Romain, MH: '!' **24...g5** Probably not a good move, but without the dark-squared bishop Black has no hope to counter-attack, which is the only way to justify helping White advance on the queenside as in the game. **25.Bg3 Bb4**



26.Qe3 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' Prevents Bc3+' **26...exf5** **27.gxf5** Edouard,Romain, MH: ' f6 is the strong threat.' **27...Ne7** **28.Qd3**

[28.c3? 0.93/23 Edouard,Romain, MH: '28.Ng1 1.95' Nxf5! 29.cxb4 Nxe3 30.bxa5 Rhf8! with the idea of ...f6 wouldn't be so clear.]

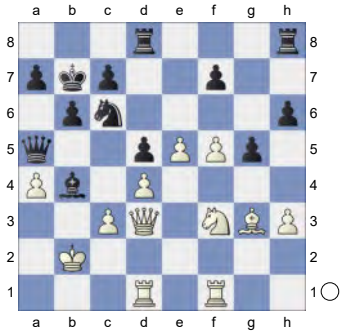
28...Nc6 2.95/20

[28...Nxf5?! 4.51/22 Edouard,Romain, MH: '28...Qa6 2.02' 29.Qxf5 Bc3+ 30.Kb1 b5 31.Be1+-]

[28...Qa6 1.93/21 (Edouard,Romain, MH) keeps fighting. 29.c3 Qxd3 Remove Defender 30.Rxd3 Nxf5]

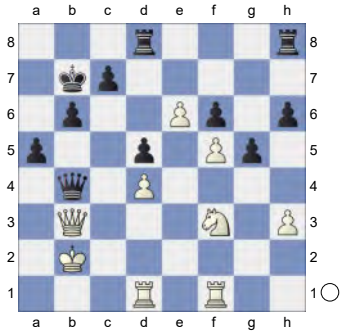
29.c3 **Bf8** **30.b4!?** Not an obligation, as obviously things went wrong for Black strategically, but I considered this move

to be a win. **30...Bxb4**
[Edouard,Romain, MH: ' Much weaker is' 30...Qxa4 4.10/21 Edouard,Romain, MH: '?' Edouard, Romain, MH: '30...Bxb4 2.25' 31.Ra1 Nxb4 32.Qe2!+- Edouard,Romain, MH: '+-' *(32.cxb4* Edouard,Romain, MH *Qxb4+ 33.Kc2 Qc4+ 34.Qxc4 dxc4+-)*]

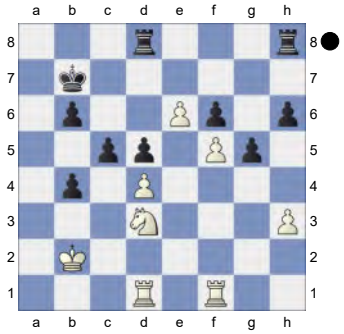


31.cxb4 Qxa4 32.Be1 Edouard,Romain, MH: ' Hoping for Ra1.' **32...Nxb4 33.Bxb4**
[Don't take 33.Qb3?! Edouard,Romain, MH Qxb3+ 34.Kxb3 Nc6+-]
33...Qxb4+ 34.Qb3 a5 3.71/22
[⚠34...Qxb3+ 2.23/18 Edouard,Romain, MH 35.Kxb3 a5]
35.e6! 2.22/19 **f6** 3.70/20
[35...fxe6 4.66/18 Edouard,Romain, MH: '?' Edouard,Romain, MH: '35...Qxb3+ 2.21' 36.Qxb4 axb4 37.f6 *(37.fxe6* Edouard,Romain, MH *Rhe8=)* 37...Rhf8 38.Ne5+-]
[⚠35...Qxb3+ 2.22/19 Edouard,Romain, MH 36.Kxb3 f6]

(Diagram)



36.Qxb4 axb4 37.Ne1! An important move. **37...c5** 5.44/19 Edouard,Romain, MH: '?'
[37...Kc6 3.36/19 (Edouard,Romain, MH) might work better. 38.Rc1+ Kd6]
38.Nd3

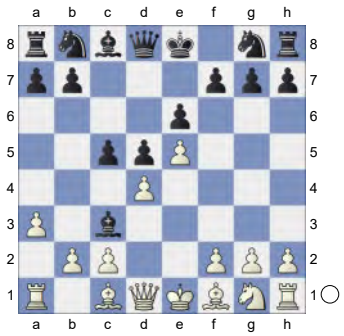


Edouard,Romain, MH: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) / Black=0.39' White will play Rc1 next and start collecting pawns.
1-0

164 **C18**
□ **Dominguez,Lenier** **2635**
■ **Gulko,Boris F** **2577**
WchT 6th Beer Sheva (8) 09.11.2005
[Ftacnik]

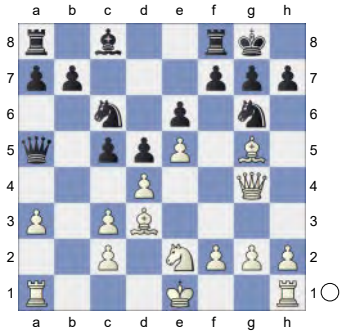
1.e4 Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez, Leinier Dominguez Perez,Leinier' **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Bg5 Qa5 10.Ne2 Ng6

[10...cxd4 Dominguez Perez,Leinier 11.f4 Ng6 12.Qh5]



11.0-0

[11.f4 Nxd4⩲ Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: 'Ftacnik: '⩲'"]

11...c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.a4

[13.f3± b5 14.h4 Qb6 15.f4 a5 16.h5 gxh5 17.Qxh5 Ra7 18.f5∞ exf5 Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '?!' '?!'' 19.Nf4 Nxe5 20.Nxd5 Qg6 21.Qh4 Nc6 22.Rae1]

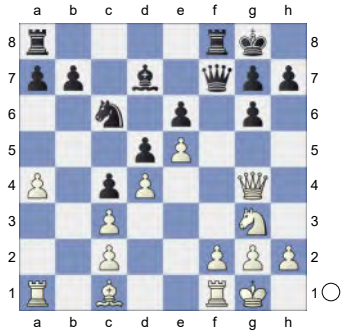
13...Qc7!? Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: 'Ftacnik: '!?'"

[13...Rf7 14.f4 *(14.Bc1 b5; 14.f3; 14.h4)* 14...Bd7 15.Rf3 Raf8+- 16.Rh3 Dominguez Perez,Leinier Qb6 17.Qh4 h6± Δ e5 Dominguez Perez, Leinier: ' Δ e5' 18.Kh1 Qb2 19.Rf1 Qxc2 20.Ng1 Rf5 21.Rf2 Qb1± 22.g4 Dominguez Perez,Leinier Qe4+ 23.Nf3 Rxf4 *(23...R5f7)* 24.Bxf4 Rxf4]

14.Bc1 Qf7 Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: 'N' 'N'' **15.Ng3**

[15.Ba3+- Qf5 16.Qxf5 Rxf5± 17.g4 Dominguez Perez,Leinier Rf7!? *(17...Rf3 18.Kg2⩲ Rf7 19.f4 Bd7 20.f5∞ gxf5!* (Dominguez Perez, Leinier) Δ Rg1 → Dominguez Perez, Leinier: ' Δ ♖g1 →' Ftacnik,Lubomir: '(Dominguez Perez,Leinier) Δ ♖g1→' *21.gxf5 exf5 22.Nf4 Nd8 23.Nxd5± Bc6?)* 18.f4 Bd7± 19.f5 gxf5! 20.gxf5 Nd8 21.fxe6 Nxe6 22.Rxf7 Kxf7 23.a5 Re8+- 24.Rb1 Bc6 25.Kf2]

15...Bd7?!

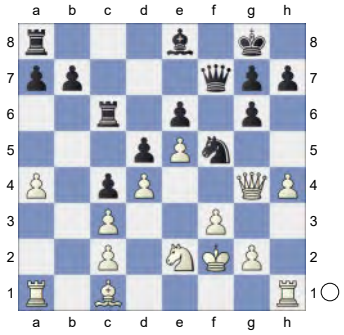


Gulko decides to swap light squared bishops and ommits the possibilty to question the white knight on d4 with 15... e5!? Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Gulko decides to swap light squared bishops and ommits the possibilty to question the white knight on d4 with 15...e5!? Dominguez Perez,Leinier: 'Ftacnik: 'Gulko decides to swap light squared bishops and ommits the possibilty to question the white knight on d4 with 15...e5!?'" **16.f3**

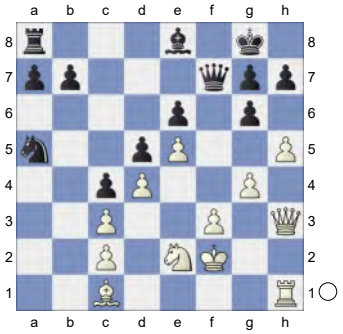
[16.Ba3 Qf4]

16...Rfc8 17.h4 Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '!' '!'' **17...Be8 18.Kf2 Ne7 19.Rh1 Nf5?** Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez, Leinier: 'Ftacnik: '?'" The real reason for defenders failure has to be this illogical

move. Black was in no way forced to touch one of the pawns yet, it will become much easier for Dominguez to open up one of the files. Ftacnik, Lubomir: 'The real reason for defenders failure has to be this illogical move. Black was in no way forced to touch one of the pawns yet, it will become much easier for Dominguez to open up one of the files. Dominguez Perez,Leinier: 'Ftacnik: 'The real reason for defenders failure has to be this illogical move. Black was in no way forced to touch one of the pawns yet, it will become much easier for Dominguez to open up one of the files.'" **20.Ne2 Rc6**

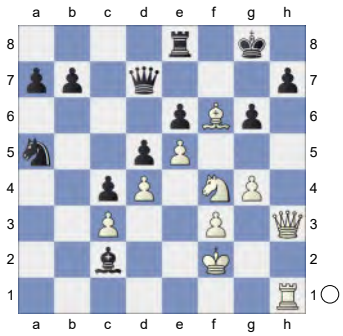


21.Qh3 Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '!' '!' Dominguez Perez, Leinier: '[Δ g5 →]' Dominguez Perez, Leinier: '[Δ g5 →]" Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '!' Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '[Δ g5→]" **21...Ra6 22.g4!** Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez, Leinier: 'Ftacnik: '!'" It becomes obvious, that Gulko had massively helped his opponent to advance his attacking chances. Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'It becomes obvious, that Gulko had massively helped his opponent to advance his attacking chances. Dominguez Perez, Leinier: 'Ftacnik: 'It becomes obvious, that Gulko had massively helped his opponent to advance his attacking chances.''' **22...Ne7 23.a5** Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez, Leinier: ' ±' '±" **23...Nc6 24.h5 Rxa5 25.Rxa5** Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '!' '!' Dominguez Perez, Leinier: '[Δ Qg2, Rg1]' Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '[Δ ♕g2, ♖g1]" Ftacnik, Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '!' Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '[Δ ♕g2, ♖g1]" **25...Nxa5**

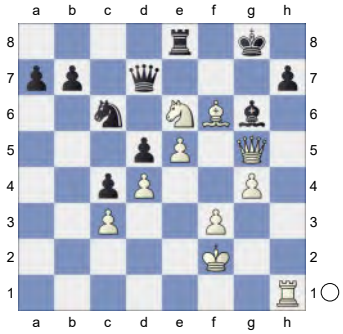


26.h6 Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '?!' '?!" **26...Ba4 27.hxg7 Qxg7 28.Bg5 Bxc2** Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '??' '??'' **29.Nf4!** Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez,Leinier: '+-!' '+-!' Dominguez Perez,Leinier: 'Ftacnik: '!'" Excellent idea, that fully exploits the passive location of black defenders. Ftacnik, Lubomir: 'Excellent idea, that fully exploits the passive location of black defenders. Dominguez Perez,Leinier: 'Ftacnik: 'Excellent idea, that fully exploits the passive location of black defenders.''' **29...Re8 30.Bf6** Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez, Leinier: '!' '!" **30...Qd7**

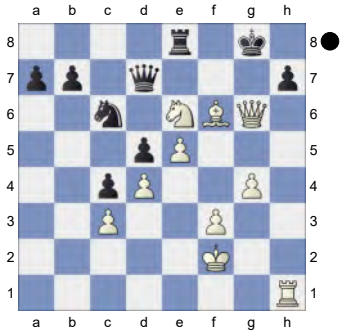
(Diagram)



31.Qh6 Nc6 32.Nh5 Rf8
[32...gxh5 33.gxh5]
33.Ng7 g5 34.Nxe6 Re8 35.Qxg5+ Bg6



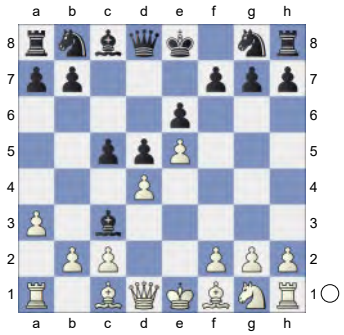
36.Qxg6+
[36.Qxg6+ hxg6 37.Rh8+ Kf7+- Ftacnik,Lubomir: 'Dominguez Perez, Leinier: 'Ftacnik: '+-'" 38.Ng5#]



1-0

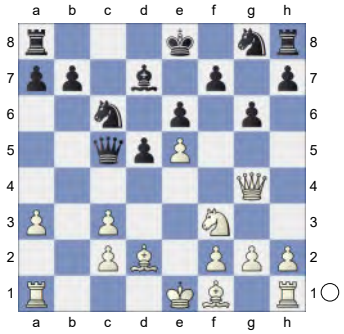
165 **C18**
☐ **Nguyen Ngoc Truong Son** **2632**
■ **Theodorou,Nikolas** **2611**
Titled Tue 8th Apr Early blitz (5) 8.4.25
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.Nf3
[Of course not 8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Qg3 Nd7=]
8...Bd7
[8...Qa5 9.Bd2 Qa4 10.Qf4 Qxc2 11.dxc5 Bd7 12.Nd4 Nxd4 13.cxd4 Ne7 14.Be2 Qe4 15.f3 Qxf4 16.Bxf4 h6 17.h4 Nc6 18.Be3 Na5 19.Rb1 Bc6 20.Rb4 Kd7 21.Kf2 b6 22.Rc1 Nc4 23.Bxc4 Vidit,S (2737)-Erigaisi,A (2727) Baku 2023 Mega2024 Update 06 [Kitty Kat] ½-½ (58)]
9.dxc5 Qa5 10.Bd2 &Bianco is more active. **10...Qxc5**

(Diagram)



White is better. **11.a4N**

[11.Bd3 Nge7 12.0-0 0-0-0 13.Rfb1 Nf5 14.Rb5 Qf8 15.Rab1 b6 16.c4 d4 17.c5 Be8 18.cxb6 a6 19.b7+ Kc7 20.b8Q+ Rxb8 21.Rxb8 Nxb8 22.Ba5+ Kc8 23.Qe4 Qe7 24.Bxa6+ Nxa6 25.Qa8+ Kd7 Botez-Cretulescu Bucharest 1953 1-0]

11...Nge7 12.h4 0.33/18

[12.Bd3± 0.78/19]

12...h6 0.73/19

[12...d4± 0.33/18]

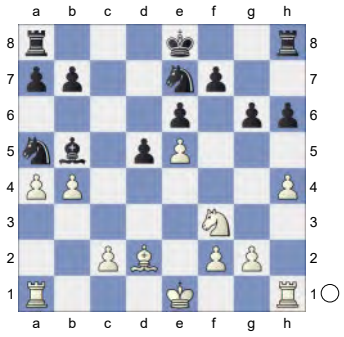
13.Bb5 0.23/20

[13.Bd3± 0.73/19]

13...Na5= 14.Qb4 -0.07/19

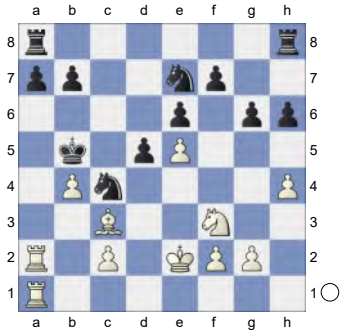
[⊿14.Bd3 0.25/18]

14...Qxb4 15.cxb4 Bxb5

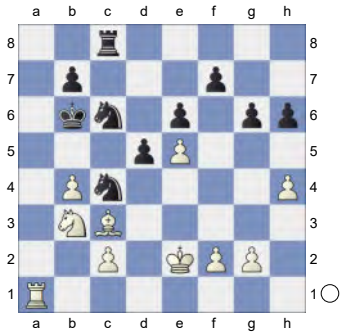


16.axb5 Nc4 17.Ke2 Kd7 18.Ra2 Kc7 19.Rha1 Kb6 20.Bc3 Kxb5

(Diagram)



21.Rxa7 Rxa7 22.Rxa7 Rb8 23.Nd4+ Kb6 24.Ra1 Rc8 25.Nb3! Nc6



26.f4 Kb5 0.04/22

[26...g5!∓ -0.47/21 27.fxg5 hxg5]

27.g4 -0.61/20

[27.Nd4+= 0.04/22 Nxd4+ 28.Bxd4]

27...Rd8 0.30/21

[27...Nxb4? 28.Nd4+ Kc5 29.Rb1+-]

[Better is 27...g5∓ -0.61/20]

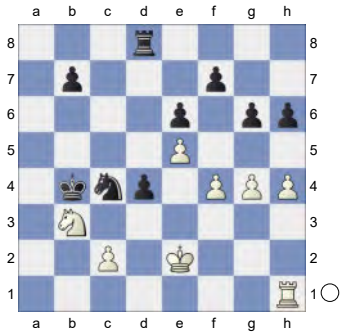
28.Rh1 -0.82/20

[28.Nd4+= 0.30/21 Nxd4+ 29.Bxd4]

28...d4∓

[28...Nxb4? 29.Nd4+ Ka4 30.Ra1+ Na3 31.Bb2 Nbxc2 32.Nxc2+-]

29.Bd2 Nxb4 30.Bxb4 Kxb4

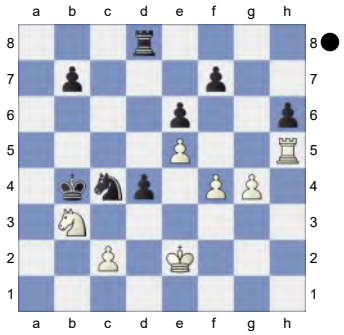


Endgame KRN-KRN **31.h5** -1.92/20

[31.Rh3∓ -0.82/21 was necessary.]

31...gxh5-+ 32.Rxh5 -2.33/22

[32.gxh5∓ -1.46/23 was the only chance. Nb2 33.Nc1]



32...Kc3? -0.57/22

[32...Nb2!-+ -2.33/22 And now ...d3+ would win. 33.Nc1 Kc3]

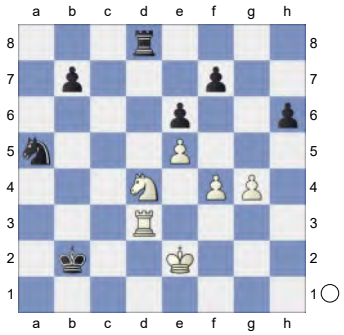
33.Rh3+∓ Kxc2 -0.14/23

[33...Ne3∓ -0.56/23 might be stronger. 34.Nxd4 Kxd4 35.Rxe3 Rc8 36.Rd3+ Ke4]

34.Rd3= Kb2 aiming for ...Rd5.

35.Nxd4 Na5 0.44/22

[35...Rd5= -0.01/23]

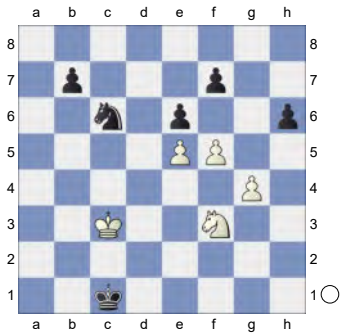


36.Rd2+± Kb1 37.f5 -0.16/22

[37.Nb5 0.17/23 is more appropriate. Nc6 38.Nd6]

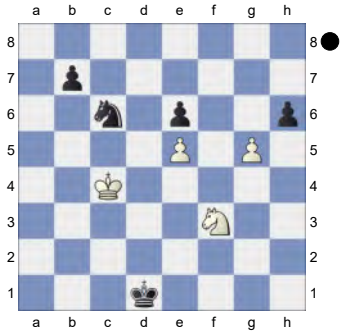
37...Rd5 38.Nf3! Black must now prevent Rxd5. **38...Rxd2+ 39.Kxd2=** KN-KN **39...Nc6 40.Kc3 Kc1**

(Diagram)



41.Kc4 Kd1 42.fxe6 fxe6 43.g5? -6.75/25

[43.Kd3= -0.11/26]

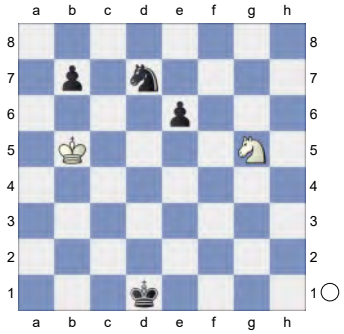


43...hxg5? 0.00/33

[43...Ke2!-+ -6.75/25 44.Ng1+ Kf2 45.Nh3+ Kg3 46.gxh6 Kxh3]

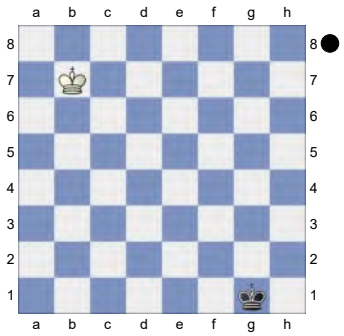
44.Nxg5 The position is equal.

44...Nxe5+ 45.Kb5 Nd7



...e5 is the strong threat. **46.Nxe6 Ke1 47.Nc5 Nxc5 48.Kxc5 Kf1 49.Kb6 Kg1 50.Kxb7**

(Diagram)



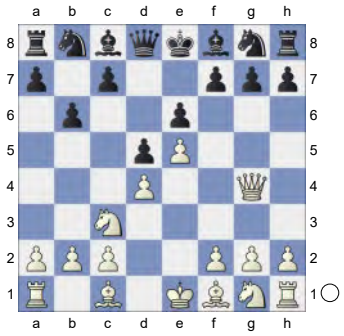
Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.44
½-½

166 **C16**
□ **Beliavsky,Alexander G** **2632**
■ **Bologan,Viktor** **2690**
CRO-chT1A 19th (8) 11.09.2010
[Postny,Evgeny]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5

1.e4 Postny,E Postny,E **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.Qg4**
[5.a3 Bf8 6.Bb5+ *(6.Nf3 Ne7 7.h4 h5 8.Bg5 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.0-0 Qd7 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.Ne2 Nbc6)* 6...c6 7.Ba4 Bd7 8.Bb3 Ne7 9.Nce2 c5 10.c3 Bb5 11.Bc2 Nbc6 12.h4]

5...Bf8



6.a4
[6.Nh3 Ba6 7.Bxa6 Nxa6 8.Nf4 Nb4 9.Qe2 Ne7 10.a3 Nbc6]
[6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Be2 Ba6 9.0-0 Ne7 10.Rd1 Nf5 11.a3]
[6.h4 h5 7.Qd1 c5 8.Bg5 Qd7 9.Bb5 Nc6 10.Nge2 a6 11.Bxc6 Qxc6 12.Nf4]
[6.Qg3 Ne7 7.Bg5 Nf5 8.Bxd8 Nxg3 9.hxg3 Kxd8 10.0-0-0 Be7 11.f4]

6...Nc6
[6...Ne7 7.Nf3 Qd7 8.a5 Nbc6 9.Bb5 a6 10.axb6 cxb6 11.0-0 Rb8 12.Ba4 C 16/19]

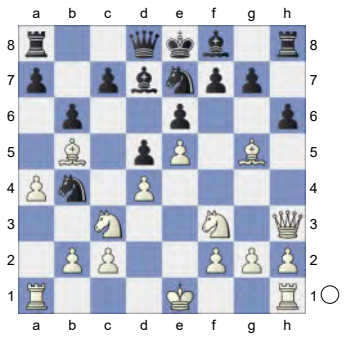
7.Bb5
[7.Nh3 Qd7 8.Bb5 a6 9.Bxc6 Qxc6 10.0-0 a5 11.Nf4 Ba6]

7...Bd7
[7...Bb7 8.a5]

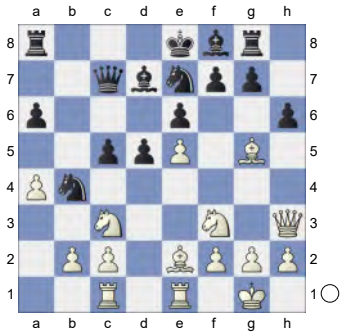
8.Bg5 Nge7 9.Nf3N The position is equal.
[9.Nd1 h5 10.Qf4 Ng6 11.Qg3 Be7 12.Bxe7 Ncxe7 13.Bd3 c5 14.c3 b5 15.axb5 cxd4 16.Nf3 Qb8 17.0-0 h4 18.Qg5 Bxb5 19.Bxb5+ Qxb5 20.Nxd4 Qd3 21.h3 Qe4 22.f4 0-0 23.Rf3 Qe1+ Lobron,E (2505)-Beliavsky,A (2635) Wijk aan Zee 1985 MCL [ChessBase] ½-½]

9...h6 10.Qh3
[10.Bxe7 Nxe7 11.Bd3 c5 12.0-0 Nc6 13.Rfe1 -0.09/19 *(⌓13.Nb5* 0.27/18 *)* 13...Qc7 1.21/21 *(13...Nb4=* -0.09/19 *)*]
[10.Bh4 g5 11.Bg3 Nf5]

10...Nb4

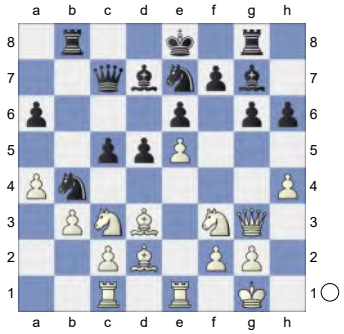


11.Rc1 a6
[11...Bxb5 12.axb5 a6 13.bxa6 Rxa6 14.0-0]
12.Be2 c5 In later games Bologan repeated the same line, but his opponents chose 12. ♘b3, instead of 12. ♘a4 which was successfully employed in the current game. Therefore, one is curious to look for a possible improvement for Black. **13.0-0 Qc7 14.dxc5 bxc5?! 15.Rfe1 Rg8**

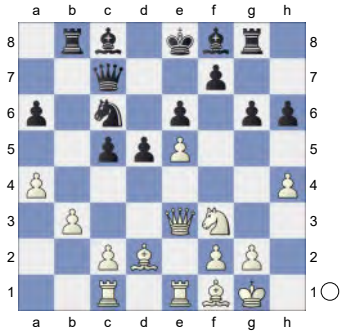


16.Bd2 Nbc6
[16...g5∞ 17.Qh5]
[16...Ng6]
[16...g5!? 17.Qh5 Ng6=]
17.Bd3 g6 18.b3
[18.Bxh6? Rh8 19.Bxa6 Bxh6-+ *(19...Rxh6? 20.Nb5-+)*]
18...Bg7 19.Qg3
[19.Bxh6 Rh8 20.Bxg7 Rxh3 21.gxh3 Nb4∓]
19...Nb4!
[19...Nf5∞ 2.56/20 19...Nb4 0.25 White has got a pawn majority on the kingside, but Black has counterplay on the dark squares. The ♘ b3 is misplaced. 20.Bxf5 gxf5 21.Bxh6!]
20.h4 0.01/19
[20.Ne2⩲ 0.35/19]
20...Rb8=

(Diagram)

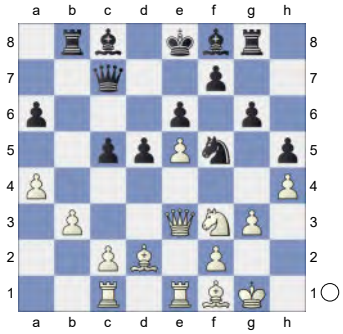


21.Bf1 Nf5 22.Qf4 Bf8 Postny,E: "⩲" **23.Nd1** Black didn't get sufficient compensation for the exchange. The only question is whether White's advantage is enough for a win. **23...Bc8** 0.89/21
[23...Na2⩲ 0.49/17]
24.Ne3 0.54/19
[White should play 24.c3± 0.89/21 g5 25.hxg5 hxg5 26.Nxg5]
24...Nxe3⩲ 25.Qxe3 Nc6
[25...Bb7! 0.90/19 25...Na2 0.53 26.Bxb4 cxb4 27.c3]

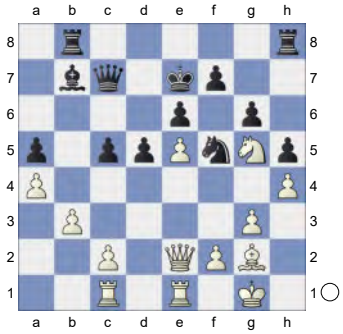


26.Bd3 Nb4 27.Bf1 0.01/18
[27.Be2⩲ 0.54/20]
27...Nc6!= 28.Nh2 h5! Black has got a second pawn, but now his queen is tied to protecting the pinned knight. Against Ng4 **29.Nf3 Ne7 30.g3 Nf5**

(Diagram)

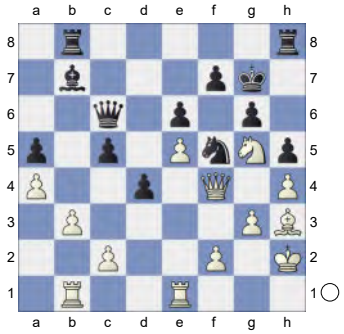


31.Qe2 Bb7 32.Bg2
[32.Bh3±]
32...Be7 33.Bg5 a5 0.68/18
[33...Bf8 0.62/17 33...d4 0.15]
[33...d4= 0.04/19]
34.Bxe7 Kxe7 35.Ng5 Rh8

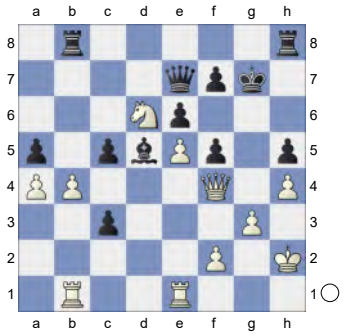


36.Qd2 Qb6 37.Rb1 Kf8
[37...Qb4 38.c3]
38.Kh2 Kg7 39.Bh3 d4
[39...Ne7 0.79/18 39...d4 0.02 40.Qf4 *(40.c3!?)*]
[39...Nh6 40.Qf4 Black must now prevent Qf6+. Rbf8? 8.59/19 *(40...Nf5⩲ 0.55/20)* 41.c3! 1.37/18 *(41.Qf6++-* 8.59/19 and the rest is easy. *Kg8 42.Nxe6)*]
40.Qf4 Qc6

(Diagram)

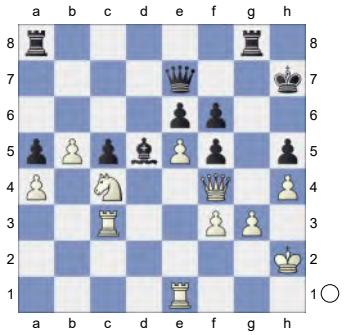


41.Ne4 Qc7
[41...Ba8!? This is an option. 42.Qg5 Rhd8 0.62/19 *(42...Rhe8=* 0.20/20 *)* 43.Nf6? -2.14/21 *(43.Rbd1⩲* 0.62/19 stays ahead. *)*]
42.Nd6 Qe7 0.71/21
[42...Nxd6 43.Qf6+!⇄ Kg8 Postny,E. aiming for ...Ne4. 44.exd6 Qxd6? 2.90/23 *(44...Qd7?* 7.62/21 44...Qd8 0.04 Postny,E *45.Rxe6; 44...Qd8⩲* 0.51/24 *45.Rxe6 Qxf6 46.Rxf6 Kg7)* 45.Bxe6± [%draw full,h1,green]]
[42...Rhd8= 0.01/23 keeps the balance.]
43.Bxf5± gxf5 44.c3 Bd5 45.b4
[45.cxd4 Rb4 46.Rbd1 Bxb3⩲]
45...dxc3 1.19/22
[45...axb4 46.cxb4 Rxb4 47.Rxb4 cxb4 48.Qxd4⩲ Rb8 49.Nxf5+]
[⌓45...cxb4 0.87/23 46.Qxd4 bxc3]

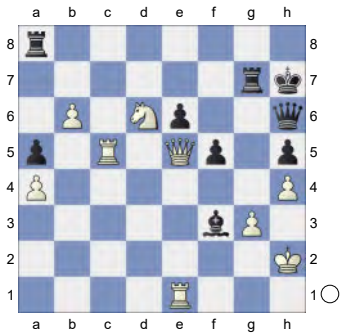


46.b5! Kh7 47.Rbc1 Rhg8 48.f3
Against Rg4
[48.Rxc3 Rg4 49.Qd2 f4=]

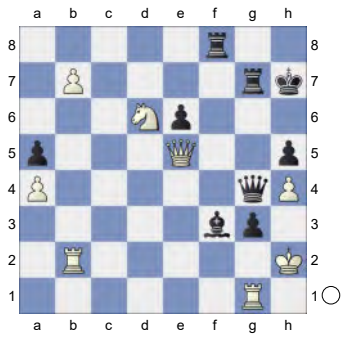
48...Rbd8 49.Rxc3 f6 50.Nc4→ White has strong attack.
[50.Rxc5 fxe5 51.Nxf5 exf5 52.Qxf5+ Rg6=]
50...Ra8 2.21/19
[50...Bxc4+- 51.Rxc4 exf6 is the strong threat. Rd5± 52.Rc2 Rgd8 1.61/19 *(52...Qd8± 0.85/21)*]
[50...Bb7± 1.01/21 51.exf6 *(51.Nxa5? Rd4-+)* 51...Qxf6]



51.exf6 Qxf6 52.Qe5 Qg6 53.Nd6 Rg7 54.Rxc5 Threatens to win with b6.
[54.b6! and the ♙b2 is taboo]
[54.Rg1??]
54...Bxf3 55.b6 Qh6? 4.00/23
[55...Rd8± 1.36/20 56.Qf4 *(56.Rxa5? Rxd6 57.Qxd6 f4∓)* 56...Bd5]



56.Rc2 1.91/22
[⌓56.Re3 4.00/23 Rd8 57.Nxf5! *(57.Rxf3 Qd2+ 58.Kg1 Rxd6=)* 57...exf5 58.Qxf5+ Kg8 59.Qxf3 Qxb6 60.Qxh5]
56...f4 2.83/24
[⌓56...Rd8 1.91/22 57.Rb2 f4]
57.Rg1 1.68/23
[57.gxf4 Qg6? is met by]
[57.Qxe6?! Qxe6 58.Rxe6 fxg3+ 59.Kg1 Rb8±]
[57.Qxf4 Qxf4 58.gxf4 Rb8+-]
[⌓57.gxf4 2.83/24 Qg6 58.Ne4]
57...Qg6 2.43/22
[⌓57...Rf8 1.68/23]
58.Rd2? 0.01/21 Active counter play!
[Only move: 58.Rf2+- 2.43/22 fxg3+ 59.Rxg3 Qxg3+ 60.Qxg3 Rxg3 61.Kxg3]
58...Rf8= 59.Rb2? -3.45/22
[59.Qg5= 0.01/21 and White is okay.]
59...Qg4? 0.32/21
[59...Qd3!-+ -3.45/22 60.Nb5 *(60.Qxe6? Qd4-+; 60.b7? fxg3+ 61.Rxg3 Rxg3-+)* 60...fxg3+ 61.Rxg3 Rxg3 62.Qxg3 Rg8 63.Qc7+ Rg7]
60.b7± fxg3+?? 3.08/23
[60...Rb8? 2.29/24 60...Bc6 0.37 61.Qxf4]
[60...Bc6= 0.28/25]



61.Qxg3+- Rb8
[61...Qf4? 62.Qxf4 Rxf4 63.Rxg7+ Kxg7 64.b8Q+-]
62.Rb5? 0.66/21 Chess con chili.
[62.Rb3+- 2.19/21 Qxg3+ 63.Rxg3]
62...Rd7± 63.Rxa5 Qxg3+ Remove Defender
[63...Rxd6?? #11/23 63...Qxg3+ 0.92

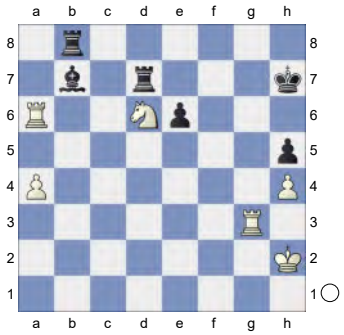
64.Rxh5+]

64.Rxg3 Bd5? 2.84/25

[64...Rxd6 65.Rxf3 Rxb7 66.Rxh5+ Kg6± 67.Rg5+ Postny,E Kh6]

[64...Rxd6± 0.65/24 65.Rxf3 Rxb7]

65.Ra6+- Bxb7



66.Rb6! And now a5 would win. **66...Rc7** 4.23/23

[66...e5 2.82/21 keeps fighting. 67.a5 Rc7]

67.a5

[67.Nxb7 Rcxb7 68.Rxb7+ *(68.Rxe6 Rb4=)* 68...Rxb7±]

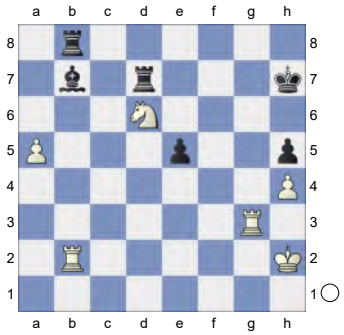
67...e5 68.Rb2 Against Rc2+

[68.a6? 0.01/21 68.Nf5 4.56 Rc2+ 69.Kg1! *(69.Kh3!* -1.32/23 69.Kg1 0.52 *Bg2+!* Postny,E *70.Rxg2 Rc3+)* 69...Rc1+ 70.Kf2 Rf8+ 71.Ke2± Bd5?]

[68.Rxb7 Rcxb7 69.Nxb7 Rxb7±]

[68.Nxb7 Rcxb7 69.Rxb7+ Rxb7±]

68...Rd7

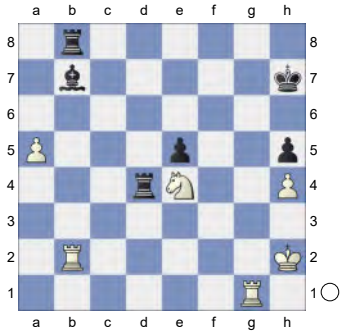


69.Ne4! Rd1

[69...Bxe4 70.Rxb8]

70.Rg1 Rd4

[70...Rxg1± 71.Kxg1? Rg8++- 72.Ng5+ Postny,E]

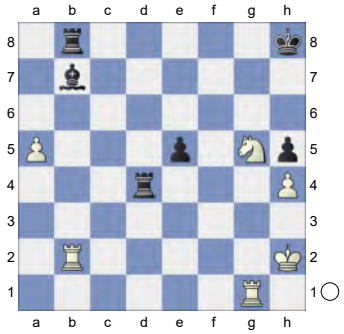


71.Ng5+? 0.81/23

[71.a6 Rxe4 72.axb7 *(72.Rxb7+ Rxb7 73.axb7 Rxh4+ 74.Kg3 Rg4+ 75.Kh3 Rb4=)* 72...Rxh4+ 73.Kg3 Rg4+ 74.Kh2 Rh4+ 75.Kg3 Rg4+ 76.Kh2 Rh4+=]

[71.Nf6++- 4.96/21 and White stays clearly on top. Kh6 72.Rb6 Rxh4+ 73.Kg3]

71...Kh8±



72.Nf7+ 0.01/5

[72.Nf3!± 1.32/21 Ra4 73.Rg5 *(73.Nxe5 Rxh4+ 74.Kg3 Ra4=)*]

72...Kh7!= Postny,E **73.Ng5+ Kh8**

74.Nf3 Rf4? 6.08/22

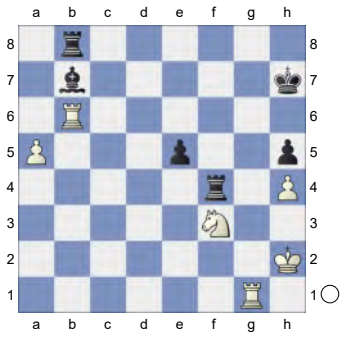
[74...Rd7? 6.40/22 74...Ra4 2.61 75.Nxe5]

[74...Ra4± 1.36/23 75.Rg5 *(75.Nxe5 Rxh4+ 76.Kg3 Ra4=)* 75...Rxa5 76.Rxh5+ *(76.Nxe5 Ra1±)* 76...Kg7 77.Rg5+ *(77.Nxe5 Ra1±; 77.Rxe5 Bxf3 78.Rg2+ Bxg2=)* 77...Kh8

78.Rxe5 *(78.Nxe5 Ra1±)* 78...Ra3]

75.Rb6+- White is clearly winning.

75...Kh7↑

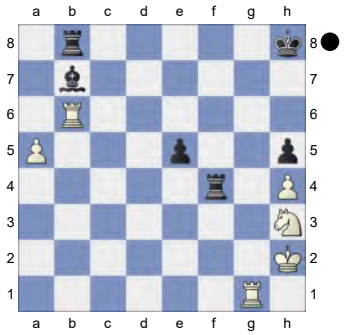


Prevents Rh6+. **76.Ng5+**

[Weaker is 76.a6 Rxf3 77.axb7 *(77.Rxb7+ Rxb7 78.axb7 Rb3=)* 77...Rf7=]

76...Kh8± 77.Nh3

[77.Nh3± Rxh4! is more precise and only then to capture the rook. 78.Rh6#]



Inhibits Rf2+.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.34

1-0

167 **C18**

□ **David,Alberto** **2631**

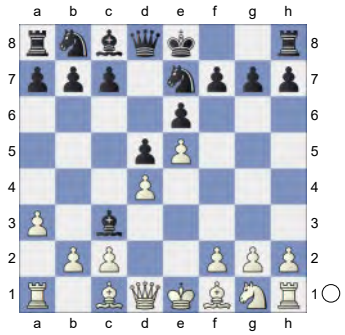
■ **Kassis,Antoine1** **2200**

Syre Memorial op 33th (2) 14.05.2010

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

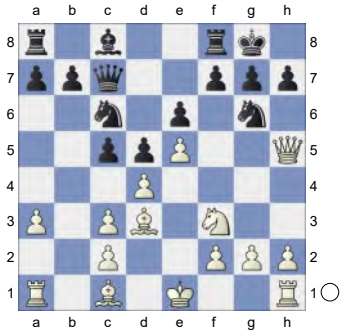


6.bxc3 c5N

[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5*

Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)) 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7



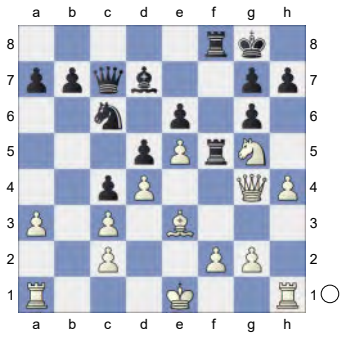
11.Be3 c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Bd7 0.59/20

[13...Qf7= 0.23/19 deserves consideration.]

14.h4± Rf5 15.Ng5 0.01/18

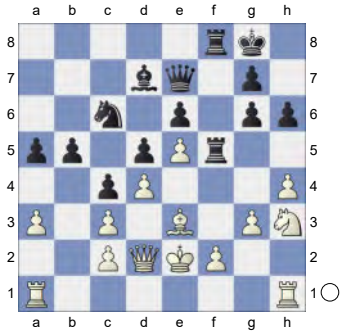
[15.h5± 0.54/19 gxh5 16.Rxh5]

15...Raf8



The position is equal. **16.Qe2 h6 17.Nh3 Qd8 18.g3 b5 19.Qd2 Qe7 20.Ke2 a5**

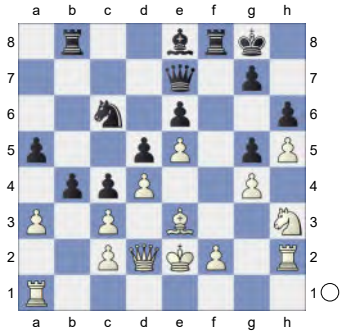
(Diagram)



21.Rh2 Rb8 22.g4 Rff8 23.Nf4 Be8 24.h5 -0.70/22

[24.f3= -0.05/20]

24...g5∓ 25.Nh3 b4



26.f4 -1.89/16

[26.axb4∓ -0.93/19 axb4 27.cxb4 Nxb4 28.Kd1]

26...gxf4-+

[Inferior is 26...bxa3 27.fxg5 Rb2 28.Rf2]

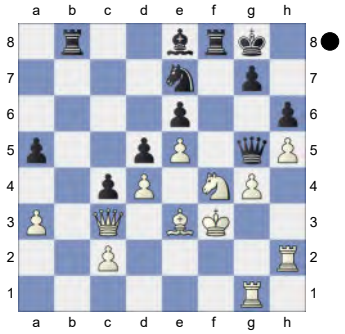
27.Nxf4 Qg5 28.Kf3 bxc3 0.01/21

[28...b3∓ -1.05/19 29.cxb3 cxb3]

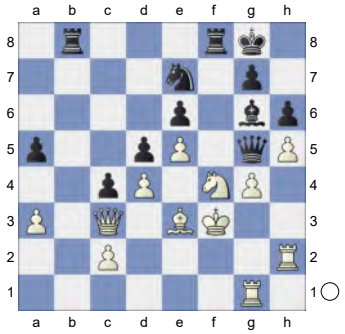
29.Qxc3= Ne7 White must now prevent ...Bg6! **30.Rg1?** -1.96/21

[30.Rf1= -0.01/19 and White stays safe.]

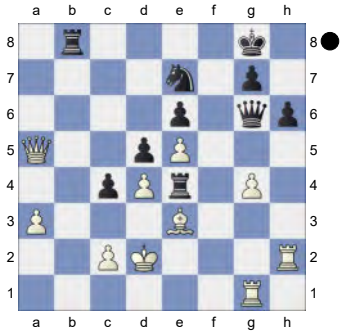
(Diagram)



This costs White the game. **30...Bg6!-+**

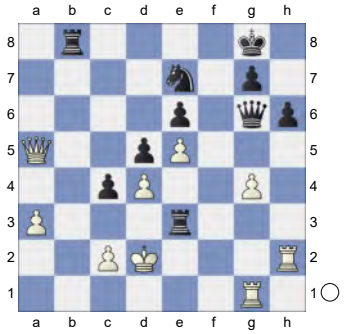


31.Ke2 -2.72/23
[⌓31.Rf2 -1.93/22 Bxh5 32.Rff1]
[31.hxg6 Nxg6]
31...Rxf4 32.hxg6 Re4 Strongly threatening ...Nf5!
[But not 32...Nxg6? 33.Rh3-+]
33.Kd2 Qxg6 34.Qxa5? -24.49/20
[34.Rhg2 -2.19/20]



34...Rxe3!

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.50/ Black=0.15 (very precise) . Loss on time!?
1-0

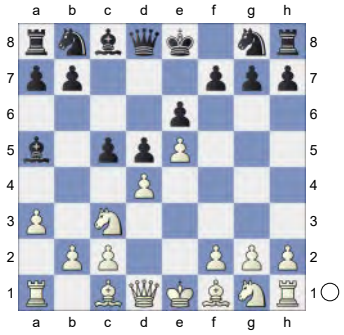
168 **C18**
□ **Seirawan,Yasser** **2630**
■ **Speelman,Jonathan S** **2600**
Olympiad-33 Elista (11.3) 10.10.1998
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 Cl1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)*

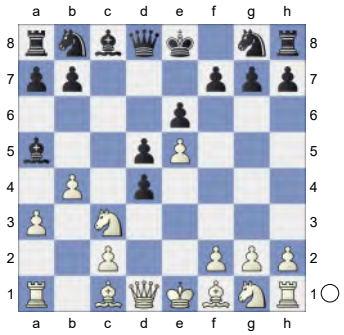
10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4

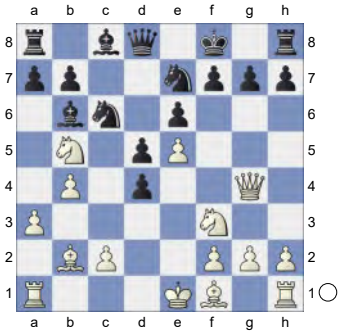


7.Qg4! Kf8 8.Nb5 White has compensation.

[Much weaker is 8.bxa5 dxc3 9.Qb4+ Ne7=]

8...Bb6 9.Nf3 Nc6 White is slightly better. **10.Bb2 Nge7**

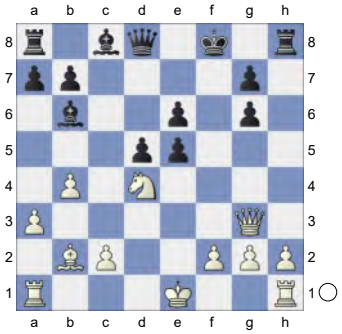
(Diagram)



11.Bd3 Ng6 12.Qg3 f6 13.Bxg6

[Of course not 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Bxg6 Rg8∓]

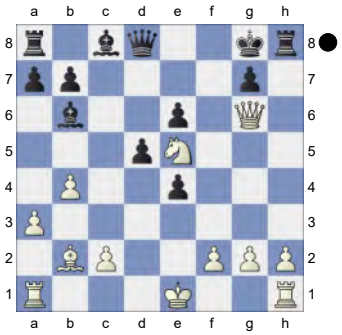
13...hxg6 14.Nbxd4 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 fxe5



16.Nf3 -0.06/20

[16.Qxe5± 0.39/21 Qe7 17.Qg3]

16...e4!= 17.Ne5 Kg8 18.Qxg6



Nf7 is the strong threat. **18...Qe7** Against Nf7 **19.Ng4** -0.42/22

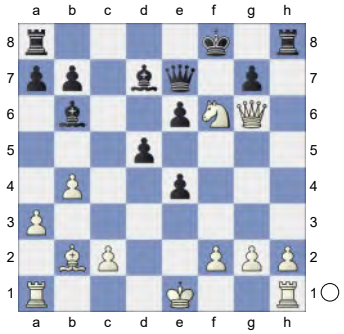
[19.Rd1= 0.03/18]

19...Bd7 0.01/18

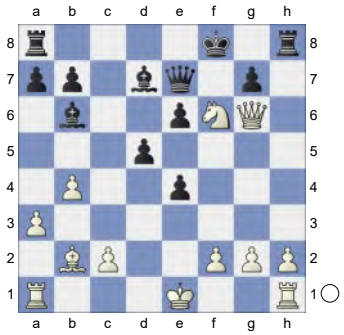
[19...e5!∓ -0.42/22 20.Nxe5 Be6]

20.Nf6+! The position is equal. **20...Kf8**

(Diagram)



21.Nh7+ Kg8⇄ Black is not holding back **22.Nf6+ Kf8 23.Nh7+ Kg8 24.Nf6+ Kf8**

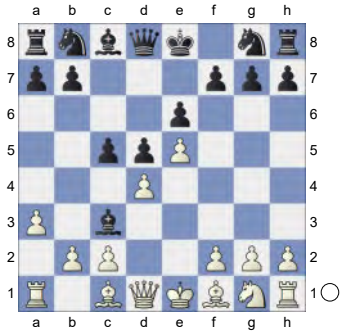


Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless) . Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
1-0

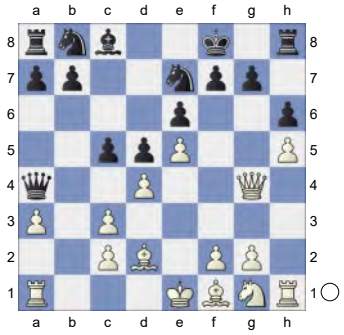
169 **C18**
☐ **Santos Latasa,J.** **2627**
■ **Maksimovic,Bojan** **2505**
25th ch-EUR Indiv 2025 (9.31) 24.03.25
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

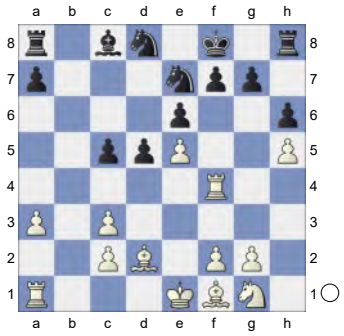
(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.h4 Ne7 9.h5
[9.dxc5 Nd7=]
9...h6 10.Qg4
[But not 10.dxc5 Qe4+ 11.Qe2 Qxc2=]
10...Kf8



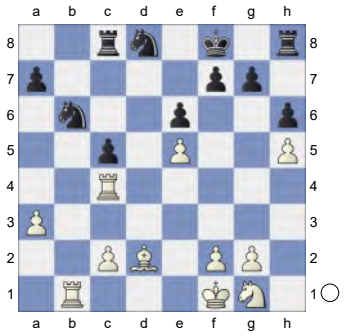
11.Rh3 White is slightly better.
11...Nbc6 12.Qf4
[Much weaker is 12.Rg3 Nf5 13.dxc5 Qxg4 14.Rxg4 Nxe5=]
12...b6 13.Rf3 Nd8 14.dxc5! Qxf4 15.Rxf4 bxc5



16.c4 Ba6 0.73/18
[16...Ndc6± 0.38/18 was preferrable.]
17.cxd5N

[17.Rb1 d4 18.Bd3 Ndc6 19.Nf3 Ke8 20.c3 dxc3 21.Bxc3 Rd8 22.Ke2 Nc8 23.Nd2 Nb6 24.Ne4 Rxd3 25.Kxd3 Nxc4 26.Nxc5 Nxa3+ 27.Nxa6 Nxb1 28.Bb2 Na3 29.Bxa3 Nxe5+ 30.Ke2 f6 31.Rb4 Kd7 Hurdzan,T (2309)-Zimmermann,R (2207) Pardubice 2023 1-0 (44) 32.Rb7+ Kc6 33.Rxg7 Kb6 34.Nc5 Nc4 35.Nd7+ Kc6 36.Bc1 f5 37.Bf4 Kb5 38.Ne5 a5 39.Rb7+ Ka6 40.Re7 Nb6 41.Rxe6 Kb5 42.Nf7 Rf8 43.Nd6+ Kc5 44.Bxh6 1-0 (44) Janowski Jenour (2309)-Das (2207) Budapest 2023 CBM 068 ext [John Watson]]

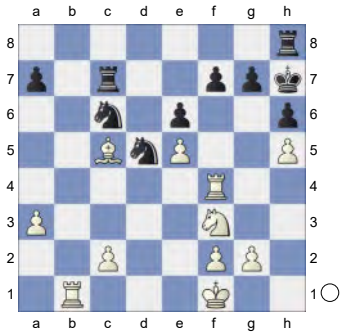
17...Bxf1 18.Kxf1 Black must now prevent d6. **18...Nxd5 19.Rc4 Rc8! 20.Rb1 Nb6**



21.Rg4 Nc6 22.Nf3 Kg8! 23.Be3 Kh7 24.Rf4!

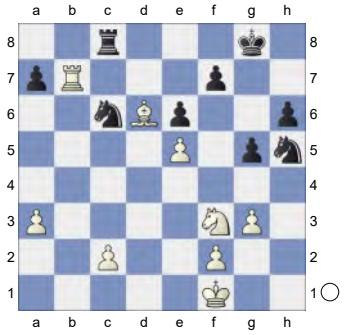
[Of course not 24.Bxc5 Nxe5! 25.Nxe5 Rxc5 26.Nxf7 Rf8∓]

24...Rc7 25.Bxc5 Nd5



26.Bd6! Rc4 is the strong threat.

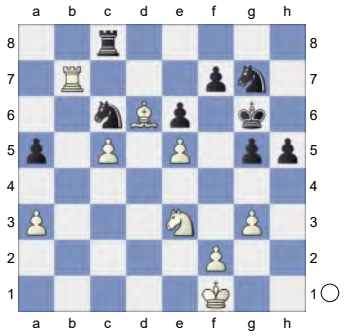
26...Nxf4 27.Bxc7 Nxh5 28.Rb7 Rc8 29.Bd6 Kg8 30.g3 Prevents Nf4. **30...g5**



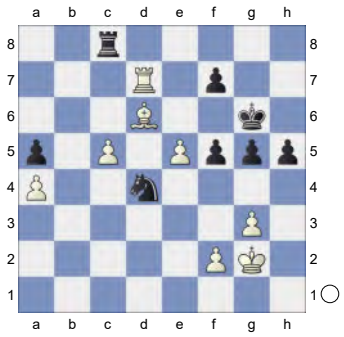
31.c4 Kg7 32.c5 0.49/23 0x0. 0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces.

[32.Rb5± 0.95/22]

32...Kg6!⩲ 33.Ne1 Ng7 34.Nc2 a5 Inhibits Nb4. **35.Ne3 h5**

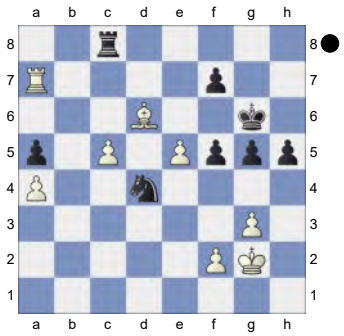


36.Kg2 Nf5 37.Nxf5 exf5 Endgame KRB-KRN **38.a4 Nd4** The position is equal. **39.Ra7 Nc6 40.Rd7 Nd4**



41.Ra7 Nc6 42.Rd7 Nd4! 43.Ra7

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

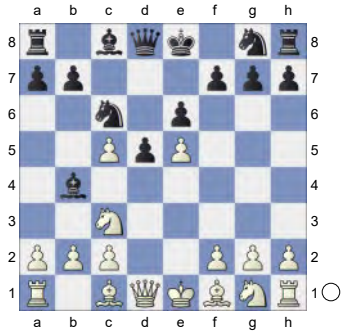
170 **C17**
□ **Hovhannisyan,R.** **2626**
■ **Hungaski,Robert Andrew** **2477**
World Rapid 2024 (4.78) 26.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines
Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356' Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**

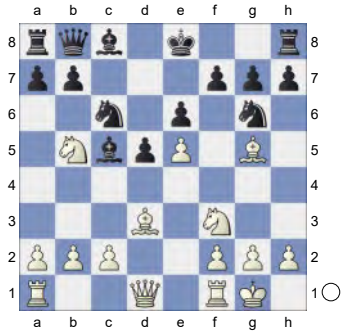
[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4* Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62)*; 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½ (45) *)* 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]

[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray G] 1-0]

5.dxc5 Nc6



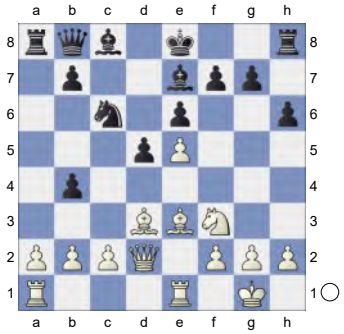
6.Nf3 Bxc5 7.Bd3 Nge7 8.0-0 Ng6 9.Bg5 The position is equal. **9...Qc7 10.Nb5 Qb8**



11.Re1 a6 12.Bxg6 Black must now prevent Nd6+!

[12.Be3 looks sharper. Bxe3 13.Nd6+ Ke7 14.Rxe3 Ngxe5 15.Nxc8+ Rxc8 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.Bxh7 Nc4 18.Rb3]

12...axb5 13.Bd3 b4 14.Qd2 h6 15.Be3 Be7



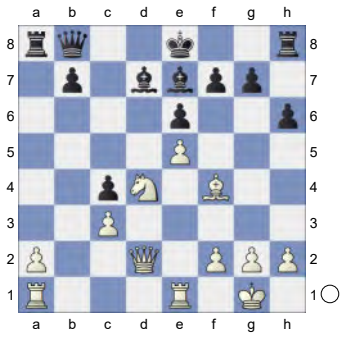
16.c4 bxc3 17.bxc3

[Much worse is 17.Qxc3 Bb4 18.Qb3 Bxe1 19.Rxe1 Bd7∓]

17...Bd7 18.Bf4 -0.08/18

[⌓18.Rab1 0.28/19]

18...Na5 19.Nd4 Nc4 20.Bxc4 dxc4



21.Nf5! Bf8

[21...exf5? 22.e6 Bxe6 23.Bxb8 Rxb8 24.Rxe6! fxe6 25.Qe2+-]

22.Rad1 Qc7 0.69/20

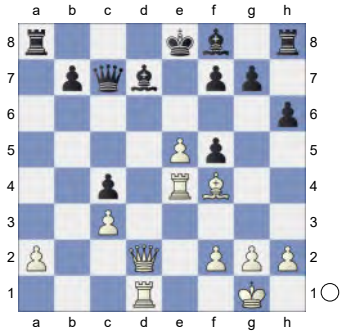
[22...Qc8= 0.28/21 23.Nd6+ Bxd6 24.exd6 *(24.Qxd6 Ra6=)* 24...f6]

23.Re4 0.34/21

0x0.0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces. **23...Ba4** 0.79/21

[23...exf5?

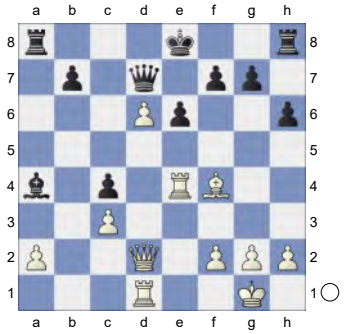
(Diagram)



24.e6! Bxe6 25.Rxe6+! Be7 26.Bxc7+-]

[23...b5!⩲ 0.34/21]

24.Nd6+± Bxd6 25.exd6 Qd7



26.Rde1 b5? 2.37/21 A mistake that costs the game.

[26...Bc6± 0.74/19 might work better.]

27.Be5 Rg8 28.Rg4 Threatens to win with Qxh6! **28...0-0-0 29.Qd4**

[Don't do 29.Rxg7 Rxg7 30.Bxg7 Qxd6 31.Qxh6 Qd2 32.Qxd2 Rxd2±]

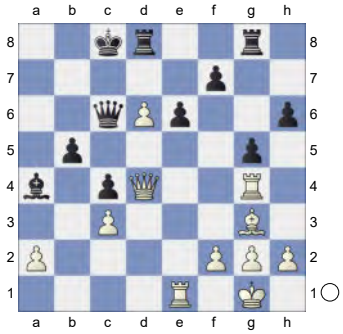
29...Qc6 2.17/21

[⌓29...f6 1.67/22]

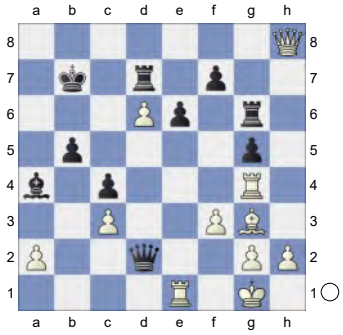
30.Bg3+- Re5 is the strong threat.

30...g5

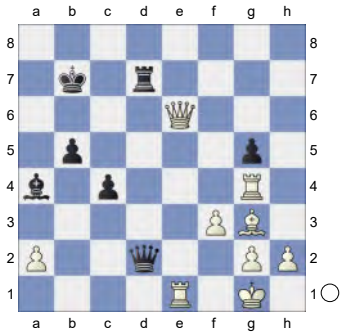
(Diagram)



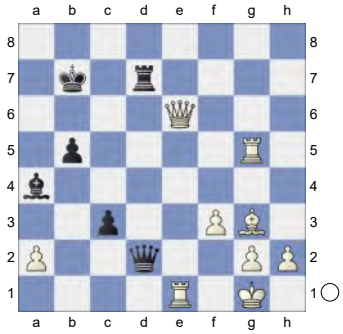
31.Qf6 Rd7 32.Qxh6 Qd5 33.Qf6 Qd2 2.32/21
[⌓33...Kb7 1.91/21 34.h4 Rg6]
34.f3 Rg6? 9.05/20
[34...Kb7 2.19/21 35.h3 Qxa2 36.Rxg5 Rxg5 37.Qxg5 Qc2]
35.Qh8+ Kb7



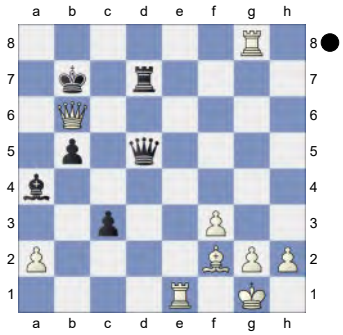
36.Qe8 Rxd6 37.Qxf7+ Rd7 38.Qxg6 Qxc3 39.Qxe6 19.13/19
[⌓39.Qe4+ #13/21 Rd5 40.Qh7+ Ka6 41.Qe7 e5 42.Qe6+ Ka5 43.Qxd5 Bb3 44.axb3]
39...Qd2



40.Rxg5!! Rg6 would kill now. **40...c3**
[40...Qd4+ 41.Kh1]



41.Rg8 White mates. **41...Qd4+ 42.Bf2 Qd5 43.Qb6#**

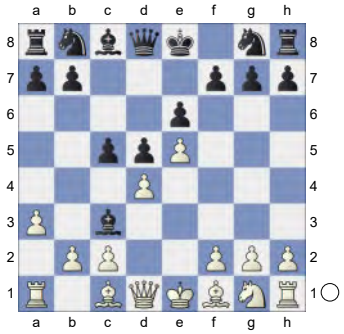


Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.70
1-0

171 **C18**
□ **Kollars,Dmitrij** **2625**
■ **Herrera Ortiz,M.** **2174**
Titled Tue 6th May Late blitz (6) 06.05.25
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.h4 Qc7

[7...Bd7 8.h5 Qa5 9.Bd2 0-0-0 10.Nf3 c4 11.h6 gxh6 12.g3 f6 13.Bh3 h5 14.0-0 h4 15.Nxh4 fxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Re1 Nc6 18.Bxe6 Nf6 19.Bg5 Ne4 20.Bxd8 Bxe6 21.Bxa5 1-0 (21) 6.f4 ♘bd7 (2629)-Salman,F (2752) Wheeling 2023 TD 92\01 [John Watson]]

[7...Qa5 8.Bd2 Qa4 9.Nf3 c4 10.h5 h6 11.Nh4 Nge7 12.Qg4 Rg8 13.Qd1 Bd7 14.g3 0-0-0 15.Bh3 Kb8 16.0-0 Rh8 17.Kh2 Rdf8 18.Qc1 Qa5 19.a4 Ka8 20.f4 g6 21.g4 gxh5 22.gxh5 Cuartas,J (2530)-Suarez Gomez,J (2453) Linares 2023 1-0 (88)]

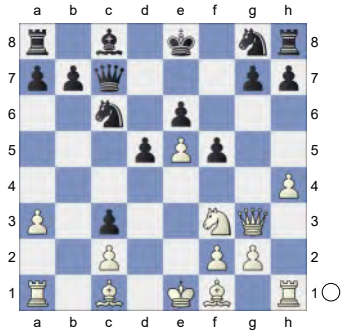
8.Qg4 f5 0.59/18

[8...f6= 0.22/18]

9.Qg3N 0.14/19

[9.Qh5+± 0.59/18 Kf8 *(9...g6 10.Qd1 cxd4 11.cxd4 Bd7 12.Nf3 h6 13.Bf4 Rc8 14.Qd2 Na5 15.Bd3 Nc4 16.Qb4 a5 17.Qb3 a4 18.Qb4 Qa5 19.Qxa5 Nxa5 20.Ke2 Nc4 21.Rhb1 b5 22.Nd2 Ne7 23.Nf3 Kf7 24.Bd2* 16.Bb2 Rb8 (2598)-Haas,M (2251) Wijk aan Zee 2020 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (78) *Rb8 25.g3 Kg7 26.Bb4 Nc6 27.Bc5 Rb7 28.Rg1 Nb2 29.Rab1 Nxd3 30.Kxd3 Na5 31.Bb4 Nc4 32.c3 Kf7 33.Kc2 Rg8 34.Nd2 Nxd2 35.Kxd2 Rbb8 36.Rh1 Rh8 37.Ke3 g5 38.Rh2 g4 39.h5* Quesada Perez, Y (2598)-Grabinsky,J (2251) chess.com INT 2020 [John Watson] 1-0 (78) *Rbc8 40.Rf1 Rhg8 41.Kd2 Rg5 42.Rh4 Rc7 43.Kc2 Be8 44.Rfh1 Kg8 45.Kd2 Rf7 46.Ba5 f4 47.Bd8 fxg3 48.fxg3 Rf2+ 49.Kc1 Rf3 50.Bxg5 hxg5 51.Rxg4 Rxc3+ 52.Kb2 Rb3+ 53.Ka2 Kh7 54.Rxg5* 16.♗b2 ♖b8_22027 (2598)-Haas,M (2251) Wijk aan Zee 2020 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (78) *)* 10.Qd1]

9...cxd4= 10.Nf3 dxc3



11.Bd3 -0.67/19

[11.a4!= 0.14/19]

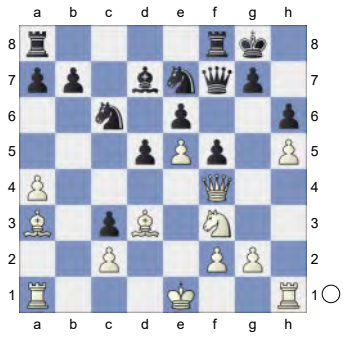
11...h6 -0.01/19

[11...Nh6∓ -0.67/19 12.Bxh6 gxh6]

12.a4 Qf7 13.Ba3 -0.57/21

[13.h5= 0.04/19]

13...Nge7∓ 14.h5 0-0 15.Qf4 Bd7



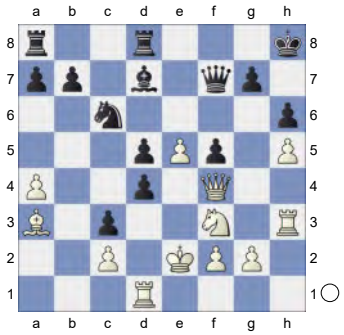
16.Rh3 Kh8 -0.54/19

[16...a5∓ -0.87/20]

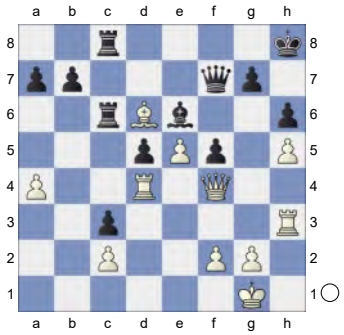
17.Ke2 -1.07/20

[17.Rb1∓ -0.54/19]

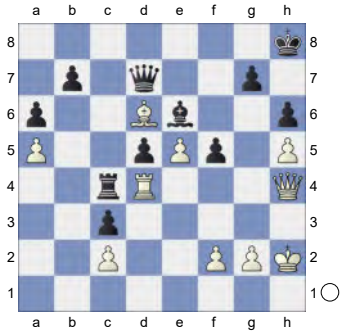
17...d4∓ 18.Bc4 Rfd8 19.Rd1 -1.57/18
[⊿19.Kf1 -0.87/19]
19...Nd5 -1.08/19
[⊿19...Na5 -1.57/18 20.Qxd4 Nxc4 21.Qxc4 Nd5]
20.Bxd5 exd5



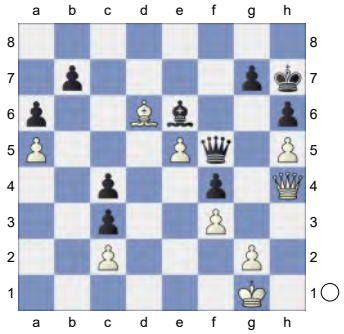
21.Bd6 Be6 22.Nxd4 Nxd4+ 23.Rxd4 Rac8 24.Kf1 -1.03/20
[24.Qh4∓ -0.67/17 should be considered.]
24...Rc6! 25.Kg1 Rdc8



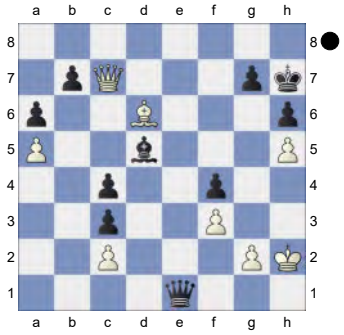
26.Qh4 -1.44/22
[⊿26.Qf3 -1.05/21]
26...Rc4 Threatens to win with ...Rxd4.
27.Rhd3 a6 -1.11/23
[⊿27...f4 -1.48/21 28.f3 Qd7 29.Rxc4 Rxc4]
28.a5 Qd7 -0.23/23
[28...f4∓ -0.77/22 29.f3 Kh7]
29.Kh2 -1.36/22
[29.Bb4= -0.23/23]
29...Rxd4 -0.11/23
[29...Qa4!∓ -1.36/22 30.Rxc4 Rxc4]
30.Rxd4= Rc4
(Diagram)



31.Rxc4 dxc4 32.Kg1 -0.44/24
[32.Kg3= -0.01/23]
32...Kh7∓ 33.Qh3 Qf7 34.Qh4 f4 35.f3 Qf5



36.Qe7 Bd5 37.e6 Qxe6 -0.03/27
[37...Qxc2 38.Be5 Qb1+ 39.Kh2]
[37...Bxe6?! 38.Qxb7 Qxc2 39.Be5 Qd1+ 40.Kh2=]
[37...Qxh5∓ -0.88/25 38.Bxf4 Qg6]
38.Qc7? -13.79/25
[38.Qxe6= -0.03/27 Bxe6 39.Bxf4]
38...Qe1+-+ 39.Kh2



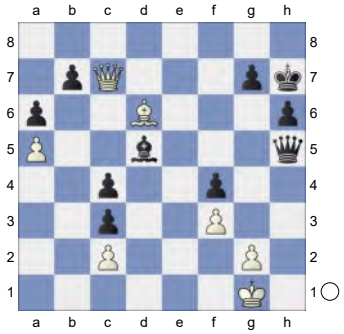
Qh4+ -2.43/5
[39...Bxf3! -14.10/29 (-> ...Qg3+) 40.gxf3 Qg3+ 41.Kh1 Qxf3+ 42.Kg1 Qd1+ 43.Kf2 Qxc2+ 44.Kf3 Qd3+

45.Kg4 Qg3+ 46.Kf5 Qh3+ 47.Ke5 c2 48.Qxc4 Qe3+ 49.Kf5 c1Q 50.Qxc1 Qxc1 51.Bxf4 Qc8+ 52.Ke4 Qg4]

40.Kg1 Qxh5 -1.28/24

[40...Qe1+? 41.Kh2 Qg3+ 42.Kh1 Qe1+ 43.Kh2-+]

[Better is 40...b5-+ -2.37/23 41.Bxf4 Qxh5]



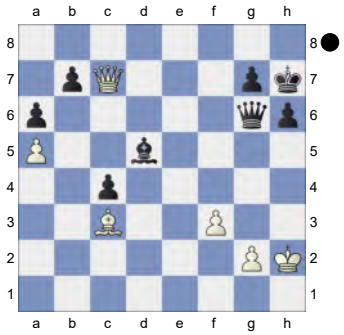
41.Bxf4 -1.94/23

[41.Qc5∓ -1.28/24 might work better.]

41...Qg6 42.Kh2? -4.60/26

[42.Qd6 -2.09/25 Bc6 43.Qxg6+ Kxg6 44.Be5]

42...Qxc2 43.Be5 Qg6 44.Bxc3



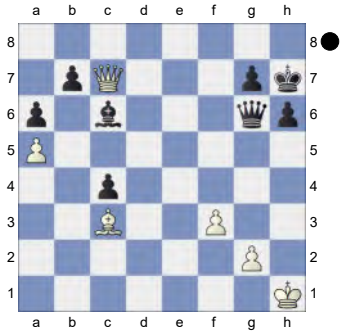
Bc6? -0.93/26

[44...Bxf3!-+ -3.88/26 and Black stays clearly on top. 45.Qg3 Bg4]

45.Kh1 -6.61/25

[45.Kh3∓ -0.93/26]

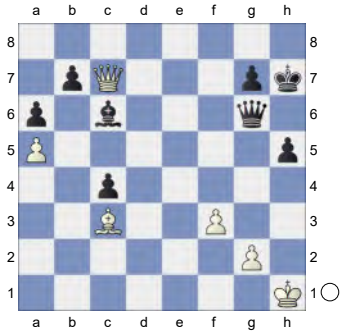
(Diagram)



45...h5? -0.56/25

[Inferior is 45...Qg5 46.Kh2∓]

[45...Bxf3!-+ -6.61/25 46.Qh2 *(46.gxf3? Qb1+ 47.Kg2 Qc2+ 48.Kh3 Qxc3-+)* 46...Qd3]



46.Qe5∓ h4 -0.36/28

[⌓46...Qf7 -0.69/22]

47.Qf4 -1.52/27

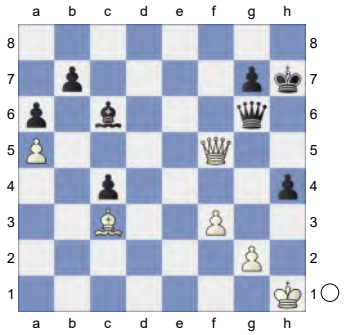
[White must play 47.Kh2!∓ -0.36/28]

47...Qh6? -0.01/25

[47...h3!∓ -1.52/27 48.Qh4+ Qh6 49.Qxh6+ Kxh6]

48.Qf5+!= Kg8 Hoping for ...Qc1+.

49.Qc8+ Kh7 50.Qf5+ Qg6



51.Qf4 Qh5 -0.01/23

[51...h3!∓ -1.31/24 52.Qh4+ Qh6 53.Qxh6+ Kxh6]

52.Qf8 -0.56/26

[White should try 52.Kh2= -0.01/23]

52...Qg6 0.01/19

[52...Qg5∓ -0.56/26 53.Kh2 Be4!]

53.Qe7 -1.41/26

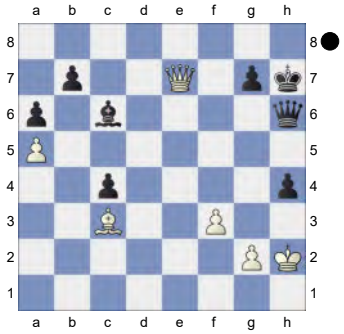
[53.Qf4= 0.01/19]

53...Qh6 -0.64/23

[53...h3∓ -1.41/26 54.Qh4+ Qh6 55.Qxh6+ Kxh6]

54.Kh2 -2.43/22

[54.Qe5!∓ -0.64/23]



54...h3? -0.83/25

[54...Bxf3!-+ -2.43/22 Strongly threatening ...Qf4+. 55.Kh3 *(55.gxf3? Qf4+ 56.Kh1 Qxf3+ 57.Kg1 Qxc3-+)* 55...Bc6 56.Qxh4 Bxg2+! 57.Kg3 Bd5]

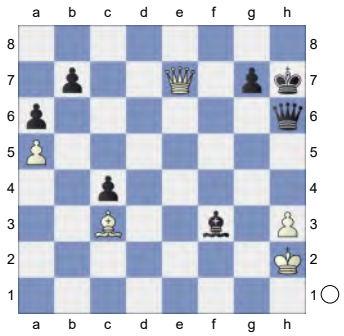
55.gxh3? -#16/23

[55.Qe5∓ -0.83/25]

55...Bxf3? -1.43/24

[55...Qf4+ -#16/23 mates 56.Kg1 Qg3+ 57.Kf1 Qxf3+ 58.Ke1 Qxc3+ 59.Kf2 Qf3+ 60.Ke1 Qg3+ 61.Ke2 c3 62.Qb4 Bb5+ 63.Kd1 Qd3+ 64.Kc1 Qd2+ 65.Kb1 Bd3+ 66.Ka1 Qc1+ 67.Ka2 Bc4+! 68.Qxc4 Qb2#]

(Diagram)



56.Kg3∓ Black must now prevent Bxg7.

56...Bc6 57.Be5? -2.75/28

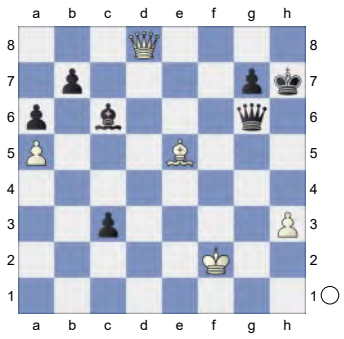
[57.h4∓ -1.21/21]

57...Qg6+-+ 58.Kf2 c3? -8.69/26

[58...Qg2+ -2.94/27 59.Ke1 Qe4+ 60.Kd2 Qd3+ 61.Kc1 Qe3+ 62.Kb2 Qd2+ 63.Ka1 Qxa5+ 64.Kb2 Qd2+ 65.Ka3 Qa5+ 66.Kb2 Qb6+ 67.Ka2 Qf2+ 68.Ka3 Qf3+ 69.Kb2 Qe2+ 70.Kc3 Qd3+ 71.Kb2 Qd2+ 72.Ka3 Qe3+ 73.Kb2 Qd2+]

59.Qh4+ Kg8 60.Qd8+ Kh7 0.01/22

[60...Kf7∓ -0.65/24 61.Qc7+ Ke8 62.Qc8+ Ke7 63.Qc7+ Kf8 64.Qc8+ Kf7 65.Qc7+ Ke8 66.Qc8+ Ke7 67.Qc7+ Kf8 68.Qd8+ Kf7 69.Qc7+]



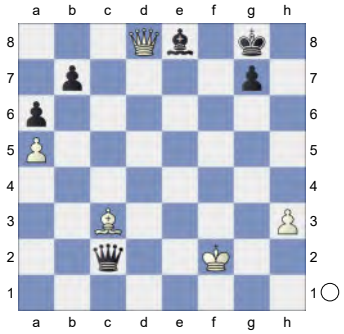
61.Qh4+= Kg8 -0.01/19

[61...Qh6!∓ -0.49/33 was preferrable. 62.Qxh6+ Kxh6 63.Bxc3 g5]

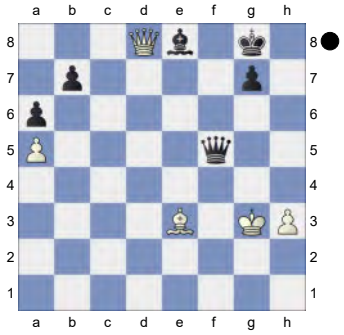
62.Qd8+! Be8 And now ...Qf5+ would win. **63.Bxc3 Qc2+ 64.Kg1 Qc1+ 65.Kf2 Qc2+** 0.01/20

[65...Qf4+∓ -0.43/25 feels stronger. 66.Ke2 Qc4+ 67.Kd1 Qa4+ 68.Ke1

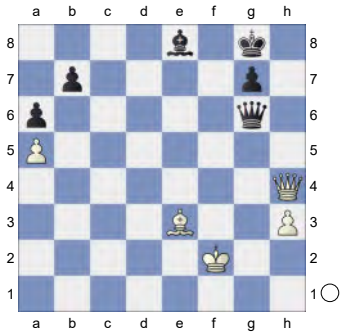
Qc6]



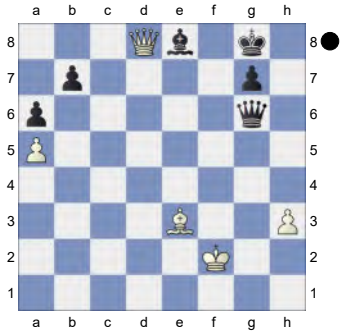
66.Bd2 -0.65/19
[66.Kg1= 0.01/20 Qe4 67.Qg5 Qb1+ 68.Kh2 Qc2+ 69.Qd2 Qxd2+ 70.Bxd2]
66...Qc5+ 67.Be3 Qf5+ 68.Kg3



Qg6+ -0.54/23
[68...Qe5+!∓ -0.93/21 69.Kf3 Kh7]
69.Kf2 Kh7 70.Qh4+ Kg8 -0.01/23
[70...Qh5!∓ -0.43/33 deserves consideration. 71.Qxh5+ Bxh5]



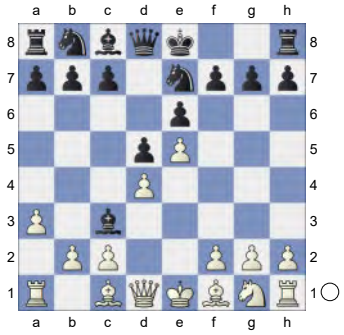
71.Qd8! Kh7 -0.01/20
[Black should play 71...Qe4∓ -0.73/22]
72.Qh4+ Kg8 -0.01/23
[72...Qh5!∓ -0.46/29 73.Qxh5+ Bxh5]
73.Qd8!



White happily takes the draw.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.79/ Black=0.79
½-½

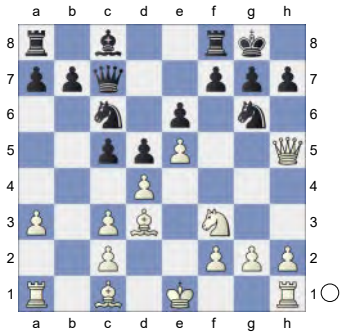
172 **C18**
□ **Areshchenko,Alexander** **2625**
■ **Efimenko,Zahar** **2643**
UKR-ch KO 74th (5.3) 02.09.2005
[Ftacnik,Lubomir]

1.e4 Psakhis,Lev Psakhis,Lev Psakhis, Lev Ftacnik,L Ftacnik Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L Psakhis,L Psakhis,L Psakhis, L: 'McDonald,Neil'' **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 c5 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'You can find an assortment of other games in this variation in the ChessPub database.

Here we'll take a fresh look at a theoretically crucial position." Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: 'You can find an assortment of other games in this variation in the ChessPub database. Here we'll take a fresh look at a theoretically crucial position." **9...Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7**



11.Be3 c4

[Psakhis,Lev: 'Sometimes Black tried also' Psakhis,Lev: 'Sometimes Black tried also' 11...Nce7 Psakhis,Lev: 'with the possible continuation' Psakhis,Lev: 'with the possible continuation' 12.h4 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' Bd7 13.Qg4 f5 14.Qh3 f4 15.Bd2 Nf5 16.0-0 c4 17.Be2 Ba4 18.Ra2 Psakhis,Lev: '1-0 Nataf,I-Pelletier,Y/Cap d'Agde Gp B 2002/(85)']

12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Qf7

[13...Bd7 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' Psakhis,Lev: 'for example' Psakhis, Lev: 'for example' 14.h4 Rf5 15.Ng5 Raf8 16.Qe2 h6 17.Nh3 Qd8 18.g3 b5 19.Qd2 Qe7 20.Ke2 a5 21.Rh2 Rb8 22.g4 Rff8 23.Nf4 Be8 24.h5 g5 25.Nh3 b4 Psakhis,Lev: '↑' '↑' '↑' Psakhis,Lev: '0-1 David,A-Enders,P/BL9900 2000 (34)']

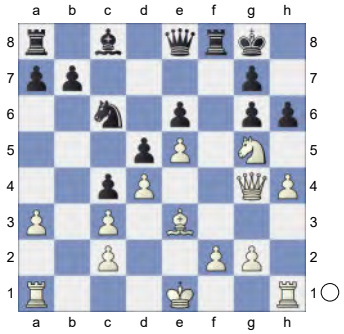
14.Ng5 Qe8 Efimenko is compromising his pawn structure on the queenside in order to prepare for the dissolution of the tension with his hanging knights.

[14...Qf5 15.Qe2 Rd8 *(15...Nxe5* Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' '?' *16.dxe5 Qxe5 17.Qd2 Bd7 18.0-0 h6 19.f4 Qd6 20.Nf3 Rf5 21.Rae1 Raf8 22.Nh4 R5f6 23.Bd4 Rxf4 24.Rxf4 Qxf4 25.Qxf4 Rxf4 26.Nxg6* Psakhis,Lev: '+-' '+-' '+-' Psakhis,Lev: '1-0 Kasparov, G-Short,N/Munich Intel Express 1994 (35)' *)* 16.g4 Qf8 17.f4 h6 18.Nf3 Bd7 19.a4 Rdb8 20.0-0 b5 21.axb5 Rxb5 22.Bc1 Psakhis,Lev: '⩱' '⩱' '⩱' Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Arakhamia,K-Peng/Tilgurg ct w(7) 1994 (37)' Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Arakhamia,K-Peng/Tilgurg ct w(7) 1994 (37)']

15.h4 h6

[15...Ne7 16.Qe2 Nf5 17.g4 Psakhis,Lev: 'N' 'N' 'N' Psakhis,Lev: 'A quite natural and strong move' Psakhis,Lev: 'A quite natural and strong move' Nxe3 18.Qxe3 h6 19.Nh3 Qe7 20.Qg3 Bd7 21.f4 Psakhis,Lev: 'White slowly but surely improves his position and Black can't organise any counterplay.' Psakhis, Lev: 'White slowly but surely improves his position and Black can't organise any counterplay.' Be8 22.Kd2 b5 23.f5 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' Psakhis,Lev: 'A nice breakthrough!' Psakhis,Lev: 'A nice breakthrough!' gxf5 *(23...exf5 24.g5* Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!'*)* 24.g5 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' Psakhis,Lev: '1-0 Nijboer,F-Harikrishna,P/Wijk aan Zee-B 2001/CBM 81/[Psakhis] (33)']

(Diagram)



16.Nh3 b5

[16...Ne7

A) 17.Nf4 Bd7 *(17...Rf5 18.Qe2 Bd7 19.g4 Rf7 20.h5 g5 21.Nh3 b5 22.f4 gxf4 23.Nxf4 a5 24.0-0 b4 25.cxb4 c3 26.Qe1 Bb5 27.Rf2 Qc6 28.a4 Bxa4 29.bxa5 Bb5 30.Ra3 Rc8 31.Qa1 Ba6 32.Rb3 Qc4 33.Qe1 Rc6 34.Rb8+ Kh7 35.g5 hxg5 36.Nh3* Psakhis,Lev: '1-0 Neelotpal,D (2468)-Pap,G (2371)/Budapest-04 GM 2005/' *)* 18.Rh3 Rf5 19.Ne2 Ba4 20.Kd2 h5 21.Qg3 Rf8 22.Nf4 a5 23.Qf3 Qf7 24.g4 g5 25.hxg5 Ng6 26.gxh5 Nxf4 27.Rh4 Ng6 28.Qxf7+ Kxf7 29.hxg6+ Kxg6 30.Rb1 Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Cranbourne,C (2465)-Atakisi,F (2490)/corr World-ch 1999/ICCF tele 1/2002' Psakhis, Lev: '½-½ Cranbourne,C (2465)-Atakisi,F (2490)/corr World-ch 1999/ ICCF tele 1/2002';

B) 17.Qe2 b5 *(17...Bd7 18.g4 b5 19.h5 a5 20.g5* Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' *Rf5 21.gxh6 Rxh5 22.Kd2 gxh6 23.Rag1* Psakhis,Lev: '↑' '↑' '↑' Psakhis,Lev: 'with a strong attack Lutz,C-Jussupow,A /Essen-A 2002 /CBM 90/[Psakhis] (41)' Psakhis, Lev: 'with a strong attack Lutz,C-Jussupow,A /Essen-A 2002 /CBM 90/[Psakhis] (41)' *)* 18.g4 a5 19.h5

B1) 19...gxh5 20.g5 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' *(20.gxh5* Psakhis,Lev: ' ∞' '∞' '∞' Psakhis, Lev: 'is also worth considering' Psakhis,Lev: 'is also worth considering' *)* 20...hxg5 Psakhis,Lev: ' □' '□' '□' 21.Nxg5 g6

B1a) Psakhis,Lev: 'Weaker is' Psakhis,Lev: 'Weaker is' 22.Kd2 Psakhis,Lev: '?!' '?!' '?!' Rf5 *(22...Nf5* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' *)* 23.Rag1 b4 24.Rxh5 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' Psakhis,Lev: 'Looks great for White, but his opponent has good a defence.' Psakhis,Lev: 'Looks great for White, but his opponent has good a defence.' *(24.axb4 axb4 25.cxb4 c3+ 26.Kxc3 Ra2* Psakhis,Lev: '→' '→' ' → ' *)* 24...bxc3+ 25.Kd1 gxh5 Psakhis,Lev: '□' '□' '□' Psakhis,Lev: 'The only move.' Psakhis,Lev: 'The only move.' 26.Ne4+ Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' *(26.Nxe6+ Kf7 27.Nc7 Qc6 28.Nxa8 Qxa8 29.Bg5 Qc6* Psakhis,Lev: '-+' '-+' '-+' Psakhis,Lev: 'loses without any fight.' Psakhis,Lev: 'loses without any fight.' *)* 26...Kh7 Psakhis,Lev: ' □ ' ' □ ' ' □ ' *(26...Kh8 27.Nd6 Qf8 28.Bg5* Psakhis,Lev: '+-' '+-' '+-' *)* 27.Nd6 Qf8 28.Nxf5 *(* Psakhis,Lev: 'In case of' Psakhis,Lev: 'In case of' *28.Rh1 Rb8* Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' *29.Nxf5 Rb1+ 30.Bc1 Rxc1+* Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' *31.Kxc1 Nxf5 32.Rxh5+ Nh6* Psakhis,Lev: ' ∓' '∓' '∓' Psakhis,

Lev: 'Black is very close tp victory' Psakhis,Lev: 'Black is very close tp victory') 28...Qxf5 29.Rg5 Qf7 Psakhis,Lev: '□' '□ ' ' □ ' 30.Rxh5+ Kg8 Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Stellwagen, D (2426)-Dgebuadze,A (2537)/ Groningen Harmonie 2002/ CBM 93/[Psakhis] (36) ' Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Stellwagen, D (2426)-Dgebuadze,A (2537)/ Groningen Harmonie 2002/ CBM 93/[Psakhis] (36)';

B1b) 22.Nh3 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' 22...Nf5 23.Bg5 Psakhis,Lev: 'with great compensation for the pawn' Psakhis,Lev: 'with great compensation for the pawn';

B2) 19...g5 20.f4 gxf4 21.Nxf4 Bd7 22.Qg2 Psakhis,Lev: 'N' 'N' 'N' *(22.Kd2 b4 23.axb4 axb4 24.cxb4 c3+ 25.Kxc3 Bb5 26.Qd2 Rxa1 27.Rxa1 Nc8 28.Kb2 Nb6 29.Kb1 Nc4 30.Qe1 Nxe3 31.Qxe3 Qe7 32.Ra3 Qxb4+ 33.Rb3 Qa5 34.Kc1 Bc4 35.Rb7 Qa1+ 36.Rb1 Qa6* Psakhis,Lev: '⇄' '⇄' '⇄ ' Psakhis,Lev: 'Luther,T-Rychagov,A/GRE t-ch 2001 0-1 (57)'*; 22.Rg1)* 22...b4 23.Ke2 Psakhis,Lev: '?!' '?!' '?!' *(23.g5* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' *Kh7* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' *24.gxh6 gxh6 25.Ng6 Rg8* Psakhis,Lev: '⇄ ' '⇄' ' ⇄ ' *)* 23...bxc3 24.g5 Psakhis,Lev: 'White completely ignores his queenside and continues his kingside actions!' Psakhis,Lev: 'White completely ignores his queenside and continues his kingside actions!' Kh7 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!'

B2a) 25.gxh6 gxh6 26.Rag1 Nf5 *(26...Rf7* Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' '?' *27.Qg6+* Psakhis,Lev: '!!' '!!' '!!' *Nxg6 28.hxg6+ Kg8 29.gxf7+ Kxf7 30.Rxh6* Psakhis,Lev: '+-' '+-' '+-' *)* 27.Qg6+ Kh8 Psakhis,Lev: '∓' '∓' '∓';

B2b) 25.Ng6

B2b1) 25...Nxg6 26.gxh6 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' Nf4+ Psakhis,Lev: ' □ ' '□ ' '□ ' *(26...gxh6 27.hxg6+ Qxg6 28.Qxg6+ Kxg6 29.Rxh6+ Kf7 30.Rf1+* Psakhis,Lev: '+-' '+-' '+-' *)* 27.Bxf4 gxh6 28.Qg6+ Qxg6 29.hxg6+ Kxg6 30.Bxh6 Psakhis,Lev: '→' '→' '→';

B2b2) 25...Rg8 26.Nxe7 *(26.gxh6 gxh6 27.Qh3* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' *)* 26...Qxe7 27.Rag1 Ba4 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' Psakhis, Lev: '0-1 Adamson,R (2373)-Abrahamyan,T (2238)/USA-ch San Diego 2004/CBM 105/[Psakhis] (45)']

[16...Qf7 17.Nf4 *(17.h5 Ne7 18.Kd2 gxh5 19.Qe2 Nf5 20.Nf4 h4 21.Qg4* Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Goloshchapov,A-Harikrishna,P/ Calcutta Goodricke op 2000/ (21)' Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Goloshchapov,A-Harikrishna,P/Calcutta Goodricke op 2000/ (21)'*)* 17...Ne7 18.Qe2 *(18.Rh3* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' *Qf5 19.Qe2 Bd7 20.g4 Qf7 21.Kd2 a5 22.h5 b5 23.g5 b4 24.gxh6 Qf5 25.hxg7 Rfb8 26.hxg6 Ba4 27.Rh8+ Kxg7 28.Rh7+* Psakhis,Lev: '+-' '+-' '+-' Psakhis,Lev: '1-0 Solozhenkin,E-

Apicella,M/St.Petersburg-Paris 1996 (31)'*; 18.Rb1 b6 19.Rh3 Bd7 20.Qe2 Kh7 21.g4 Qe8 22.h5 g5 23.Ng2 Rf7 24.f4 gxf4 25.Nxf4 Qf8 26.Qh2 Ng8 27.Ra1 Ne7 28.Kd2 b5 29.Rg1* Psakhis,Lev: '±' '±' '±' Psakhis, Lev: '1-0 Milu,R-Popescu,C/ROM t-ch 1994 (33)'*)* 18...Bd7 19.g4 Ba4 20.Rh3 a5

A) 21.h5 g5 22.Ng2 b5 23.f4 gxf4 24.Nxf4 b4 25.Kd2 Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' '?' Psakhis,Lev: 'A strange move!' Psakhis,Lev: 'A strange move!' *(25.axb4 axb4 26.cxb4 Nc6 27.c3* Psakhis,Lev: '∞' '∞' '∞' Psakhis,Lev: 'was more natural and stronger' Psakhis,Lev: 'was more natural and stronger'*)* 25...bxc3+ 26.Kxc3 Rab8 Psakhis,Lev: '0-1 Szabo,G (2399)-Apicella,M (2509)/Bucharest Ciocaltea mem 2000/CBM 77/ [Psakhis,L] (33)';

B) 21.Kf1 Ra6 22.Rb1 Bc6 23.Kg1 b5 24.h5 Be8 25.Rf1 Rb6 26.hxg6 Nxg6 27.Nh5 Ne7 28.Qd2 Qg6 29.f3 Psakhis,Lev: '↑' '↑' '↑' Psakhis,Lev: '1-0 Tischbierek, R (2522)-Naumkin,I (2406)/Porto San Giorgo op 2003/']

17.Qe2

[17.h5 gxh5 18.Qe2 Bd7 *(18...a5 19.Nf4 g6 20.g4 Ne7 21.Ng2 Kh7 22.Qd2 Ng8 23.Nf4 hxg4 24.Ke2 g5 25.Nh5 Qf7 26.f4 gxf4 27.Bxf4 Qg6 28.Raf1 g3 29.Nxg3 Qg4+ 30.Ke1 Ra7 31.Ne2 Raf7 32.Qe3 Qg6 33.Rfg1* Psakhis,Lev: '1-0 Svidler,P-Bareev,E/Elista 1997/CBM 59/ [Svidler] (33)'*)* 19.Nf4 Rxf4 20.Bxf4 Qf7 21.Be3 Be8 22.g4 hxg4 23.Qxg4 Qg6 24.Qh3 Ne7 25.Kd2 Qf5 26.Qh4 Bg6 Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Sokolov,A (2580)-Apicella,M (2530)/ Saint Chely d'Aubrac op 2004/ ChessBase (38)' Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Sokolov,A (2580)-Apicella,M (2530)/ Saint Chely d'Aubrac op 2004/ ChessBase (38)']

[17.Nf4 Ne7 18.Kd2 *(18.0-0 Bd7 19.Rab1 Qf7 20.h5 gxh5 21.Nxh5 Kh7 22.f4 Nf5 23.Bc1 Be8 24.Ng3 Nxg3 25.Qxg3 Qd7 26.Be3 Bg6* Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Firnhaber,I-Kitson, K/corr 2001/IXM (37)' Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Firnhaber,I-Kitson,K/corr 2001/ IXM (37)'*; 18.Rh3 Rf5 19.Qe2 a5 20.g4 Rf7 21.Qd2 Bd7 22.h5 g5 23.Ng2 b4 24.axb4 axb4 25.Rxa8 Qxa8 26.cxb4 Qa1+ 27.Qc1 Qc3+ 28.Qd2 Qa1+ 29.Qc1 Qc3+ 30.Qd2 Qa1+* Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Davila,M-Halldorsson,J/corr 1998 (30)' Psakhis, Lev: '½-½ Davila,M-Halldorsson,J/corr 1998 (30)'*)* 18...a5 19.Qh3 Bd7 20.Rab1 Qf7 21.f3 Rab8 Psakhis,Lev: ' ∞' '∞' '∞' 22.Ne2 Nc6 Psakhis,Lev: 'It looks for me that Black has solved all his opening problems.' Psakhis,Lev: 'It looks for me that Black has solved all his opening problems.' 23.Rb2 b4 Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Anand,V (2755)-Jussupow,A (2622)/Corsica Masters 2002/CBM 92/[Psakhis] (53)' Psakhis, Lev: '½-½ Anand,V (2755)-Jussupow, A (2622)/Corsica Masters 2002/CBM 92/[Psakhis] (53)' *(* Psakhis,Lev: 'Worth considering' Psakhis,Lev: 'Worth considering' *23...Qe7* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' *)*]

17...Bd7 18.g4 a5?! It is difficult to aprove of this queen move, much better seems proding white knight with 18... a4!? **19.h5** Psakhis,Lev: 'Beyond any doubt this move is the most crucial for

the evaluation of the whole variation. Neil: 'Psakhis: 'Beyond any doubt this move is the most crucial for the evaluation of the whole variation.'" Psakhis,Lev: 'Beyond any doubt this move is the most crucial for the evaluation of the whole variation.' Psakhis,Lev: 'Beyond any doubt this move is the most crucial for the evaluation of the whole variation. Neil: 'Psakhis: 'Beyond any doubt this move is the most crucial for the evaluation of the whole variation."'

[19.Nf4 Psakhis,Lev: 'N?!' 'N?!' 'N?!'

A) 19...b4 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' 20.h5 *(20.axb4 axb4 21.Rxa8 Qxa8 22.0-0 bxc3 23.Nxg6 Rb8* Psakhis,Lev: ' ⇄' '⇄' ' ⇄'*)* 20...g5 21.Ng6 Rf7 22.f4 Psakhis,Lev: '∞!?' '∞!?' '∞!?';

B) 19...Ne7 20.h5 *(20.Kd2* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?'*)* 20...g5 21.Nh3 b4 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' Psakhis,Lev: 'Black has a more obvious way of developing the initiative on the queenside.' Psakhis, Lev: 'Black has a more obvious way of developing the initiative on the queenside.'

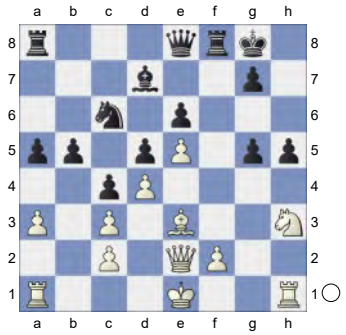
B1) 22.axb4 axb4 23.Rxa8 Qxa8 24.cxb4 Nc6 Psakhis,Lev: '≌' ' ≌' ' ≌' *(24...Qa1+ 25.Qd1 Qa3 26.0-0 Qxb4 27.Qa1 Qa4 28.Qc3 Ra8 29.Rb1 Nc6 30.Kg2 Qa3 31.Qxa3 Rxa3 32.Rb7 Be8* Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Balogh,C (2356)-Almasi,I (2420)/ Budapest-4 GM 2000/(42)' Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Balogh,C (2356)-Almasi,I (2420)/Budapest-4 GM 2000/(42)' *)*;

B2) 22.f4 gxf4 23.Bxf4 bxc3 *(23...b3* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?'*)* 24.Qe3 Ba4 25.Qxc3 Rb8 Psakhis,Lev: '0-1 Lahno,K-Smeets,J/Wijk aan Zee-C 2004/ CBM 99/[Psakhis] (36)']

19...gxh5 20.g5

[20.Rg1 Ne7 21.gxh5 *(21.g5* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?'*)* 21...Kh7 22.Qg4 Nf5 23.Kd2 Qe7 24.Qg6+ Kh8 *(24...Kg8 25.Bxh6 Be8 26.Qg5 Qxg5+ 27.Bxg5 Bxh5 28.Nf4)* 25.Nf4 Nh4 *(* Psakhis,Lev: 'RR' *25...Kg8 26.Qg4 Be8)* 26.Qg4 Rxf4 Psakhis,Lev: "!' Psakhis. ' 27.Bxf4 Rf8 28.Rh1 Nf5 Psakhis,Lev: 'Leko,P-Almasi,Z/Budapest 2003/CBM 95/ [Psakhis]/½-½ (52)' Psakhis,Lev: 'Leko,P-Almasi,Z/Budapest 2003/CBM 95/[Psakhis]/½-½ (52)']

20...hxg5



21.Nxg5 g6 22.Qf1 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!?' '!?'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!?' '!?' Psakhis,L: ''!?' McDonald,Neil. McDonald,Neil: 'The jury is still out over"'

[22.Kd2 b4 23.Rag1 0-1 Abreu,A (2480)-Delgado,N (2481)/Santa Clara 2001/ (45) bxc3+ 24.Kd1 Rf5 25.Rxh5 gxh5 26.Ne4+ Kh8 Psakhis,Lev: ' ⇄' '⇄' ' ⇄' Psakhis,Lev: '0-1 Van den Doel,E-Psakhis,L/Bled Olympiad 2002/CBM 92 (33) ' 27.Nd6 Qg8 Psakhis,Lev: '0-1 Van den Doel,E-Psakhis,L/Bled Olympiad 2002/ (33)']

[Psakhis,Lev: 'RR' Psakhis,Lev: 'RR Neil: 'The jury is still out over' Neil:

'The jury is still out over Psakhis: 'RR'" 22.0-0-0 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'which can lead to crazy complications:" Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: 'which can lead to crazy complications:" Qe7 23.Rdg1

A) 23...Qxa3+ 24.Kd2

A1) 24...b4 Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' '?' 25.Ne4 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!'

A1a) 25...Rf5 Psakhis,Lev: 'N!?' 'N!?' 'N!?' 26.Rxg6+ Kf7 *(26...Kf8 27.Rxh5 dxe4 28.Rxf5+ exf5 29.Qh5 Qxc3+ 30.Kd1 Qa1+ 31.Ke2)* 27.Nd6+ Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' Kxg6 28.Nxf5 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' *(28.Rg1+* Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' '?' *Kh7 29.Nxf5 Be8* Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!'*)* 28...Rh8 Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' '?' *(28...Qxc3+ 29.Kd1 Qa1+ 30.Bc1 Rh8 31.Qe3* Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' *exf5 32.Qg5+ Kf7 33.Qf6+ Ke8 34.Qxh8+ Ke7 35.Qf6+ Ke8 36.e6 Qxd4+ 37.Qxd4 Nxd4 38.exd7+ Kxd7 39.Rh4 Nb5 40.Rxh5)* 29.Rg1+ Psakhis,Lev: '1-0 Smikovski,I (2498)-Rodshtein,M /Moscow 2005/' *(29.Rg1+ Kf7 30.Nd6+ Ke7 31.Bg5+ Kf8 32.Qf3+)*;

A1b) 25...dxe4 26.Qxh5 Rxf2+ 27.Bxf2 Qxc3+ 28.Kd1 Qf3+ 29.Qxf3 exf3 30.Rxg6+ Kf7 31.Rf6+ Ke7 32.Rh7+ Psakhis,Lev: '1-0 Bacrot,E-Vaisser,A/FRA-ch Aix les Bains 2003/CBM 97/[Psakhis] (32)';

A2) 24...Rf5 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' 25.Nf3 b4 Psakhis,Lev: '⇄' '⇄' '⇄' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'I assume that the French GM Apicella has found something here not to his taste, but I prefer Black's chances. Here is one wild continuation:" Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'I assume that the French GM Apicella has found something here not to his taste, but I prefer Black's chances. Here is one wild continuation:'' 26.Rxg6+ Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil'' Kf7 27.Ng5+ Ke7 28.Qxh5 Raf8 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' 29.Qh4 Qxc3+ 30.Kd1 Ke8 31.Nxe6 Bxe6 32.Rxe6+ Kd7 33.Rd6+ Kc7 34.Qh7+ R8f7 35.Qh8 b3 36.Rxc6+ Kxc6 37.Qc8+ Kb5 38.Qe8+ Kb4 Psakhis,Lev: '!!' '!!' 39.Bd2 bxc2+ 40.Kc1 Qxd2+ 41.Kxd2 Rxf2+ 42.Kc1 *(42.Ke3 R7f3#)* 42...Kc3 Psakhis,Lev: 'and there is no good answer to 43...Rf1+.' Psakhis,Lev: 'and there is no good answer to 43...Rf1+. Psakhis,L: 'and there is no good answer to 43...Rf1+.";

B) 23...Rf5 24.Nf3 Be8 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!?' '!?'' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: '!?' '!?' Psakhis,L: ''!?' McDonald,Neil. McDonald,Neil: 'The critical line remains''' *(* Psakhis,Lev: 'The critical line remains' *24...Qxa3+)* 25.Nh4 Qxa3+ 26.Kd2 b4 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'I claimed this gave Black a good attack in my analysis to the Sulypa-Apicella game. In fact it seems that Black has nothing better than to force a draw- nonetheless, this still represents a moral victory for the player who moves second in the opening.'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'I

claimed this gave Black a good attack in my analysis to the Sulypa-Apicella game. In fact it seems that Black has nothing better than to force a draw- nonetheless, this still represents a moral victory for the player who moves second in the opening.' Psakhis,L: 'McDonald, Neil: 'I claimed this gave Black a good attack in my analysis to the Sulypa-Apicella game. In fact it seems that Black has nothing better than to force a draw- nonetheless, this still represents a moral victory for the player who moves second in the opening.''' 27.Nxf5 Qxc3+ 28.Kd1 Qa1+ 29.Bc1 Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil: 'Not''' *(*Psakhis,Lev: 'Not' *29.Kd2* Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald, Neil'' *c3+ 30.Kd3 Qa4* Psakhis,Lev: 'with the horrible threat of mate on b5.' Psakhis,Lev: 'with the horrible threat of mate on b5. Psakhis,L: 'with the horrible threat of mate on b5.'') 29...exf5 30.Qxh5 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'the threat is mate in three so Black calls it a draw.'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'the threat is mate in three so Black calls it a draw.' Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil: 'the threat is mate in three so Black calls it a draw.''' Qxd4+ 31.Bd2 Qa1+ Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil: '-Philippe,C-Apicella,M/Paris FRA 2005.''' *(*Psakhis,Lev: 'if' *31...c3* Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald, Neil'' *32.Qh8+ Kf7 33.Qf6+ Kg8 34.Rh8#)* 32.Bc1 Qd4+ 33.Bd2 Qa1+ Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Philippe,C (2411)-Apicella,M (2553)/Paris-ch 2005/ (33)' Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Philippe,C (2411)-Apicella,M (2553)/ Paris-ch 2005/ (33) Neil: '- Philippe, C-Apicella,M/Paris FRA 2005.' Neil: '- Philippe,C-Apicella,M/Paris FRA 2005. Psakhis: '½-½ Philippe,C (2411)-Apicella,M (2553)/Paris-ch 2005/ (33)''' Psakhis,Lev: '½-½ Philippe,C (2411)-Apicella,M (2553)/ Paris-ch 2005/ (33) Neil: '- Philippe, C-Apicella,M/Paris FRA 2005.' Neil: '- Philippe,C-Apicella,M/Paris FRA 2005. Psakhis: '½-½ Philippe,C (2411)-Apicella,M (2553)/Paris-ch 2005/ (33)''']

22...Ra7 Psakhis,Lev: 'N' 'N' 'N' Psakhis, Lev: 'Only this move turns out to be a novelty.' Psakhis,Lev: 'Only this move turns out to be a novelty. Neil: '!?' '!?' Neil: 'Psakhis: 'N' Psakhis: 'Only this move turns out to be a novelty.''' Psakhis,Lev: 'Only this move turns out to be a novelty. Neil: '!?' '!?' Neil: 'Psakhis: 'N' Psakhis: 'Only this move turns out to be a novelty.'' Psakhis,L: 'Only this move turns out to be a novelty. '!?' McDonald,Neil. McDonald,Neil: 'At first, I wondered why Black rejected'''

[22...Rf5 23.Qg2 Ne7 *(23...b4 24.Ke2 bxc3 25.Rag1 Rb8 26.Rxh5 Rb2 27.Qh3)* 24.Ke2± Kh8 25.Nf3 Qf7 26.Nh4 Rf8 27.Raf1 Kh7 28.Bg5 Nc6 Psakhis,Lev: 'Karjakin,S (2560)-Papa,S (2372)/Biel (open) 2003/' Psakhis,Lev: 'Karjakin,S (2560)-Papa,S (2372)/Biel (open) 2003/']

[22...b4 0-1 Svidler,P (2713)-Polgar,J (2677)/Dos Hermanas 1999/ (33) 23.Qg2 b3 24.Kd2 Rb8 25.Rxh5 gxh5 26.Nf7+ Kxf7 27.Rg1]

[Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'At first, I wondered why Black rejected'' 22...Ne7 23.Qg2 Nf5 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'which turned out very well for

Black in Sulypa-Apicella. The answer seems to be'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'which turned out very well for Black in Sulypa-Apicella. The answer seems to be' Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil: 'which turned out very well for Black in Sulypa-Apicella. The answer seems to be'''

A) Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'rather than Sulypa's'' 24.Ke2 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '?' '?' Neil: 'which gave Black the chance to give up the exchange without wasting a move on Kh7:'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '?' '?' Neil: 'which gave Black the chance to give up the exchange without wasting a move on Kh7:' Psakhis,L: ''?' McDonald,Neil. McDonald,Neil: 'which gave Black the chance to give up the exchange without wasting a move on Kh7:''' Ng7 25.Nf3 Rxf3 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!' Psakhis, L: ''!' McDonald,Neil. '' 26.Qxf3 0-1 Nikolenko,O (2495)-Voitsekhovsky,S (2540)/Minsk 1998/ (50) Qf7 27.Qg2 Qf5 28.Kd2 Rf8 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'and Black stood well and went on to win.'' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: 'and Black stood well and went on to win.' Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil: 'and Black stood well and went on to win.''' 29.Rh4 g5 30.Qxg5 Qxg5 31.Bxg5 Rxf2+ Psakhis,Lev: '0-1 Sulypa,A (2484)-Apicella,M (2543)/Bois Colombes BC Masters 2004/(48)';

B) 24.Nf3 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: '(McDonald,Neil) rather than Sulypa's'' Kh7 Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'Awkward is'' *(* Psakhis,Lev: 'Awkward is' *24...Ng7 25.Nh4* Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' Psakhis,Lev: 'while useless is'*; 24...Qf7* Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' *25.Rxh5 Nxe3 26.fxe3 Qxf3 27.Qxg6#)* 25.Ke2 Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'White could also try'' *(* Psakhis,Lev: 'White could also try' *25.Bg5* Psakhis,Lev: 'even though he has to reckon with' *b4)* 25...Ng7 1-0 Cuijpers,F (2496)-Kohlweyer,B (2423)/Germany 2005/ (55) 26.Rag1 Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'Better still might be'' *(* Psakhis,Lev: 'Better still might be' Psakhis,Lev: 'Better still might be' *26.Nh4* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' Psakhis,Lev: 'as Black collapses after' *Nf5* 1-0 David,A (2544)-Bekker Jensen, D (2264)/Antwerp 1999/ (59) *27.Qg5 Nxh4* Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' *28.Rxh4* Psakhis,Lev: 'with a Rxh5+ sac about to occur.'*)* 26...Rxf3 Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'Not'' *(*Psakhis,Lev: 'Not' *26...b4 27.Qg5 Rxf3 28.Qh6+ Kg8 29.Rxg6 Rf7 30.Rxh5* Psakhis,Lev: 'and wins.'*)* 27.Qxf3 Qf8 28.Qf6 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' Qxf6 29.exf6 ½-½ Svidler,P (2735)-Grischuk,A (2710)/ Poikovsky 2005/ Ne8 Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'or'' *(* Psakhis,Lev: 'or' *29...Nf5 30.Bf4)* 30.Bg5 Psakhis,Lev: 'and White has good chances.';

C) 24.Nh3 Nh4 *(24...b4 25.Nf4 Kh7 26.axb4)* 25.Qg3 Nf5 *(25...Nf3+ 26.Ke2)* 26.Qg5 Nxe3 27.fxe3 Qf7 1-0 Svidler,P (2710)-Gelfand,B (2675)/Haifa 1998/ (35) 28.Nf4 Qf5 29.Qxg6+ Qxg6 30.Nxg6 Rf7 31.Rxh5]

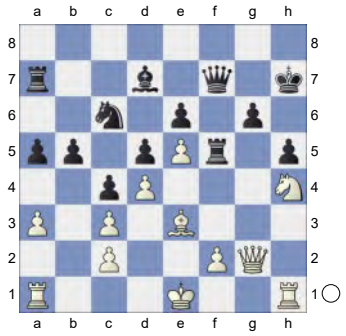
23.Qg2 Rf5? Black is not suspecting, that his position is so critical.

Areschenko will be able to transform the pawn structure entirely to his benefit. **24.Nf3!** Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'Psakhis: '!'' White has managed to execute his opening plan in the most favourable circumstances and Black has difficult problems to solve. Neil: 'Psakhis: 'White has managed to execute his opening plan in the most favourable circumstances and Black has difficult problems to solve.''' Psakhis,Lev: 'White has managed to execute his opening plan in the most favourable circumstances and Black has difficult problems to solve.' Psakhis,Lev: 'White has managed to execute his opening plan in the most favourable circumstances and Black has difficult problems to solve. Neil: 'Psakhis: 'White has managed to execute his opening plan in the most favourable circumstances and Black has difficult problems to solve.''' **24...Qf7** Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'Black's plan unfolds: he will sacrifice the exchange to get rid of White's knight- the only piece capable of jumping through the solid wall of pawns he has constructed on the light squares. Then he will strengthen his fortress by bolstering the weak point on g6 with Be8 and Rg7. He hopes that the white rooks will find no way to breakthrough, with the result that the game will end as a positional draw.'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'Black's plan unfolds: he will sacrifice the exchange to get rid of White's knight- the only piece capable of jumping through the solid wall of pawns he has constructed on the light squares. Then he will strengthen his fortress by bolstering the weak point on g6 with Be8 and Rg7. He hopes that the white rooks will find no way to breakthrough, with the result that the game will end as a positional draw.' Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil: 'Black's plan unfolds: he will sacrifice the exchange to get rid of White's knight- the only piece capable of jumping through the solid wall of pawns he has constructed on the light squares. Then he will strengthen his fortress by bolstering the weak point on g6 with Be8 and Rg7. He hopes that the white rooks will find no way to breakthrough, with the result that the game will end as a positional draw.'''

[24...Rf7⩲ 25.Rxh5 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' *(25.Qxg6+ Rg7 26.Qh6 Qg6 27.Qxg6 Rxg6∞ 28.Rxh5* Psakhis,Lev: ' ±' '±' '±'*; 25.Bg5)* 25...Rxf3 26.Rh6 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' Rxe3+ Psakhis,Lev: ' □' '□' '□' 27.fxe3 Ne7± 28.Qh3!? Psakhis,Lev: '+-' '+-' '+-']

25.Nh4 Kh7

[25...Be8 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?']



26.Ke2 Psakhis,Lev: '?!' '?!' '?!' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: 'Psakhis: '?!'' This natural move is too slow and allows Black to regroup his pieces. Neil: 'Psakhis: 'This natural move is too slow and allows Black to regroup his pieces.''' Psakhis, Lev: 'This natural move is too slow and allows Black to regroup his pieces.' Psakhis,Lev: 'This natural move is too slow and allows Black to regroup his

pieces. Neil: 'Psakhis: 'This natural move is too slow and allows Black to regroup his pieces.'"

[26.f3± Psakhis,Lev: 'ᗡ!?' 'ᗡ!?' 'ᗡ!?' Be8 Psakhis,Lev: ' Δ' '△' ' Δ' 27.Nxf5 Qxf5 28.Rh4]

26...Be8 27.Rh3! Qf8 28.Rg3

[28.Kd1 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?']

28...Rg7

[28...g5 Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' '?' 29.Bxg5]

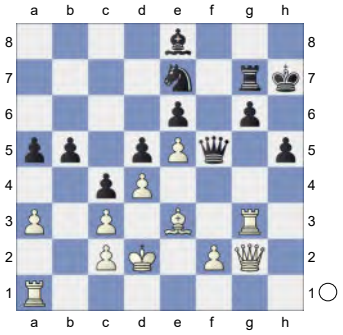
29.Nxf5 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'At last White takes the material on offer.'' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: 'At last White takes the material on offer.' Psakhis,L: 'McDonald, Neil: 'At last White takes the material on offer.'" White is in the driving seat and black has no sounterplay at all. **29...Qxf5**

[29...gxf5 Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' '?' 30.Rg1 Rxg3 31.Qxg3± Psakhis,Lev: '+-' '+-' '+-']

30.Kd2 Ne7

[30...Rf7 31.Rg1]

[Psakhis,Lev: 'Black sits tight. It was also possible to try to gain some counterplay on the queenside with' Psakhis,Lev: 'Black sits tight. It was also possible to try to gain some counterplay on the queenside with' 30...b4 Psakhis,Lev: 'when White mustn't overplay his hand:' Psakhis, Lev: 'when White mustn't overplay his hand: Psakhis,L: '(McDonald,Neil) when White mustn't overplay his hand:" 31.axb4 axb4 32.Ra8 Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' b3 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' Psakhis,Lev: 'and it's hard to see how White can stop his opponent acquiring a second queen.' Psakhis, Lev: 'and it's hard to see how White can stop his opponent acquiring a second queen. Psakhis,L: 'and it's hard to see how White can stop his opponent acquiring a second queen. "]



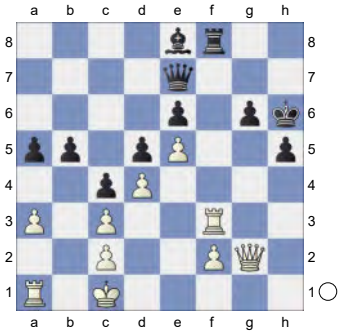
Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald, Neil: 'Black sits tight. It was also possible to try to gain some counterplay on the queenside with'" **31.Bg5 Qf7 32.Bf6 Rg8 33.Bxe7**

[33.Rg1 Nf5 34.Rh3 Bc6±]

33...Qxe7 34.Rf3 Rf8

[34...b4 35.axb4± axb4 36.Rf6 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?']

35.Kc1 Kh6



36.Kb2 g5 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!' Neil: 'Black has survived the pressure without too much trouble and now clears the g6 square for his bishop. White tries to exploit the loosening of the black pawn structure in a dramatic way.'' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!' Neil: 'Black has survived the pressure without too much trouble and now clears the g6 square for his bishop. White tries to exploit the loosening of the black pawn structure in a dramatic way.' Psakhis,L: ''!'

McDonald,Neil. McDonald,Neil: 'Black has survived the pressure without too much trouble and now clears the g6 square for his bishop. White tries to exploit the loosening of the black pawn structure in a dramatic way.'"

[36...b4 37.Rxf8 Qxf8 38.axb4 axb4± 39.Qg3 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?']

[36...Rxf3 Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' 37.Qxf3 g5]

37.Rxf8! The advance of white h pawn is threatening to undermine the whole defensive setup. **37...Qxf8** **38.f4** Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!' Neil: 'In fact White must play open lines as he cannot tolerate Black playing Bg6 and Qf5, when his rook would be tied down to the defence of c2. .'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!' Neil: 'In fact White must play open lines as he cannot tolerate Black playing Bg6 and Qf5, when his rook would be tied down to the defence of c2. .' Psakhis,L: ''!' McDonald,Neil. McDonald,Neil: 'In fact White must play open lines as he cannot tolerate Black playing Bg6 and Qf5, when his rook would be tied down to the defence of c2. .'" **38...g4** Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '?' '?'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '?' '?' Psakhis,L: ''?' McDonald,Neil. McDonald,Neil: 'The game should end in a draw after'"

[Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'The game should end in a draw after'' 38...Qxf4± 39.Rf1 Qe4 Psakhis,Lev: '⇄' '⇄' '⇄' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!' Neil: 'Psakhis: ' ⇄'" Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!' Neil: 'Psakhis: '⇄'' Psakhis,L: ''!' McDonald,Neil. '' 40.Qf2 Psakhis,Lev: '**Δ**' '△' '**Δ**' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: 'Psakhis: ' **Δ**'" Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'Psakhis: ' **Δ**'' Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil: 'Not'" *(* Psakhis,Lev: 'Not' *40.Qxe4* Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald, Neil'' *dxe4 41.Rf6+ Bg6 42.Rxe6 e3 43.Kc1⇄ h4* Psakhis,Lev: 'when Black's pawns are unstoppable.' Psakhis,Lev: 'when Black's pawns are unstoppable. Psakhis,L: 'when Black's pawns are unstoppable.'')* 40...Bg6 41.Qf8+ Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil'' Kh7± 42.Qe7+ Kh6± 43.Qf8+ Psakhis,Lev: 'with perpetual check.' Psakhis,Lev: 'with perpetual check. Psakhis,L: 'with perpetual check.'']

39.f5 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' '!' Psakhis,Lev: 'This sacrifice destroys the seemingly safe position of Black's ♔ and gives White a strong attack. Neil: 'Psakhis: 'This sacrifice destroys the seemingly safe position of Black's ♔ and gives White a strong attack.'" Psakhis,Lev: 'This sacrifice destroys the seemingly safe position of Black's ♔ and gives White a strong attack.' Psakhis,Lev: 'This sacrifice destroys the seemingly safe position of Black's ♔ and gives White a strong attack. Neil: 'Psakhis: 'This sacrifice destroys the seemingly safe position of Black's ♔ and gives White a strong attack.'"

[39.Qd2 Qf5]

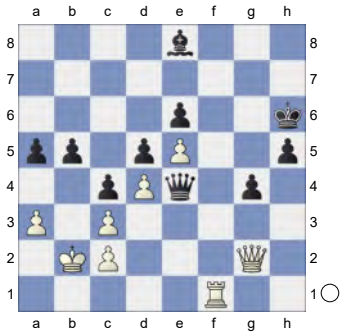
39...Qxf5 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '?' '?'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '?' '?' Psakhis,L: ''?' McDonald,Neil. McDonald,Neil: 'Black had to trust in his passed pawns with'"

[Psakhis,Lev: 'Black had to trust in his passed pawns with' Psakhis,Lev: 'Black had to trust in his passed pawns with' 39...exf5 Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil'' 40.Qxd5 h4]

40.Rf1! Light squared bishop was dominating the scene, his relocation is breaking the last defensive bariers.

40...Qe4

[40...Qg5 41.Rf6+ Bg6 42.Rxe6± h4 *(42...g3* Psakhis,Lev: '!?' '!?' '!?' *)*]



41.Qd2+ Kh7 42.Rf4 Qh1 Psakhis,Lev: '?' '?' '?' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: ' Psakhis: '?'' Having achieved a bad position from the opening Black has done everything he could but now he goes astray. After Neil: 'Psakhis: 'Having achieved a bad position from the opening Black has done everything he could but now he goes astray. After''' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'Psakhis: '?'' Psakhis, L: 'McDonald,Neil: 'Not even two queens can save Black after''' Psakhis,Lev: 'Having achieved a bad position from the opening Black has done everything he could but now he goes astray. After' Psakhis,Lev: 'Having achieved a bad position from the opening Black has done everything he could but now he goes astray. After Neil: 'Psakhis: 'Having achieved a bad position from the opening Black has done everything he could but now he goes astray. After'''

[Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'Not even two queens can save Black after'' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: 'Not even two queens can save Black after'' 42...Qg6 Psakhis,Lev: ' □' '□' '□' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'Psakhis: ' □''' 43.Rf6+- Qg7 44.Rxe6

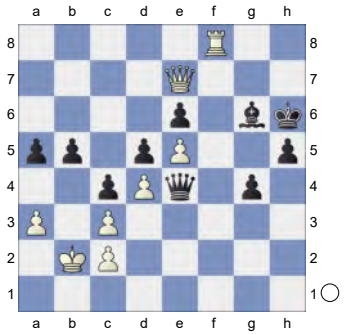
A) 44...g3 45.Rxe8 g2 46.Qe2 Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!'' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: '!' '!' Psakhis,L: ''!' McDonald,Neil. '' Qg6 Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: '(McDonald,Neil) Or'' *(Psakhis,Lev: 'Or' 46...g1Q* Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'McDonald, Neil'' *47.Qxh5+± Qh6 48.Re7+)* 47.Re7+ Kg8 48.Qf3 Psakhis,Lev: '!' '!' g1Q 49.Qxd5++- Kh8 50.Qd8+ Qg8 51.Re8 Psakhis,Lev: 'and wins.';

B) 44...Bd7 45.Rd6 Psakhis,Lev: '±' '±' '±' Psakhis,Lev: ' ♕' Psakhis, Lev: ' ♕ Efimenko could continue resistance.' Psakhis,Lev: 'Efimenko could continue resistance.']

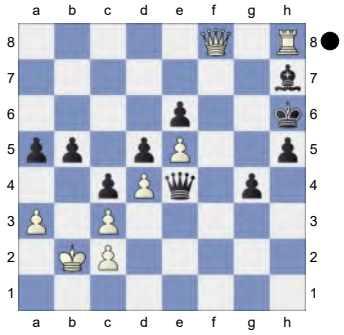
43.Rf8 Psakhis,Lev: '+-' '+-' '+-' Psakhis, Lev: 'Neil: 'Psakhis: '+-''' **43...Bg6**

[43...Qe4 44.Qg5]

44.Qg5 Qe4 45.Qe7+ Kh6



46.Rh8++- Bh7 47.Qf8+

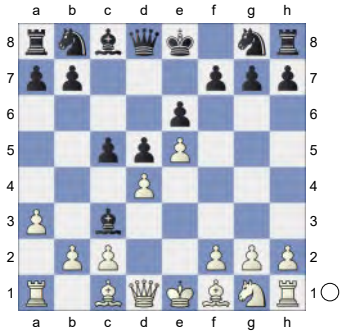


Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'It is checkmate next move on f6.'' Psakhis,Lev: 'Neil: 'It is checkmate next move on f6.' Psakhis,L: 'McDonald,Neil: 'It is checkmate next

move on f6.'''
1-0

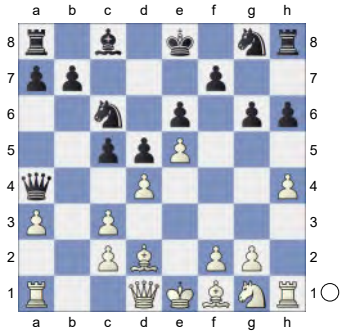
173 **C18**
□ **Ivic,Velimir** **2622**
■ **Dgebuadze,A.** **2417**
24th OGD Rapid 2025 (6.2) 15.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

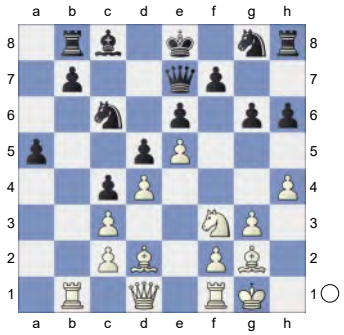


6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 g6 9.h4 h6
[9...Nc6 10.h5 Nge7 11.Nf3 Bd7 12.Qf4 Qxc2 13.Rc1 Qa4 14.Bd3 0-0-0 15.dxc5 d4 16.0-0 gxh5 17.Rfe1 Rhg8 18.Bc2 Qxa3 19.Bxh7 Nd5 20.Qh6 dxc3 21.Bg5 Rde8 22.Bxg8 Rxg8 23.Qh7 Re8 24.Qxf7 Durarbayli,V (2635)-Mamedov,R (2646) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (59)]
10.Qd1 Nc6

(Diagram)

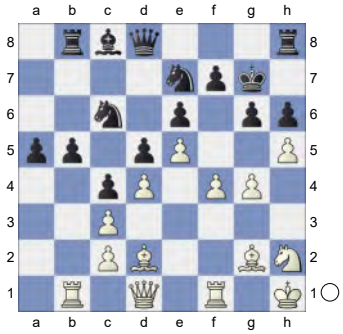


11.Rb1N White is slightly better.
[11.dxc5 Nxe5 12.c4 Nxc4 13.Bc3 f6 14.Bd3 Kf7 15.Qf3 Qc6 16.Rd1 e5 17.Bxc4 dxc4 18.Rd6 Qxf3 19.Nxf3 Be6 20.0-0 Ne7 21.Rb1 Bd5 22.Nd2 g5 23.Nf1 gxh4 24.Ne3 Bc6 25.f4 Rhg8 Chapter C00-Games Game 8 (32)]
11...c4 0.80/18
[11...a6⩲ 0.41/17]
12.Nf3 0.13/20
[12.Qc1⩲ 0.80/18]
12...Qxa3= 13.g3 Qe7 14.Bg2 White has compensation. **14...a5 15.0-0 Rb8**

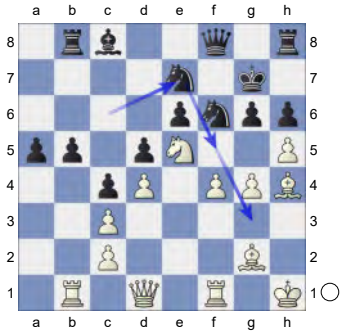


16.h5 b5 17.Nh2 Kf8 18.f4 Kg7 19.g4 Qd8 0.10/15
[19...Rh7∓ -0.63/16]
20.Kh1 Nge7

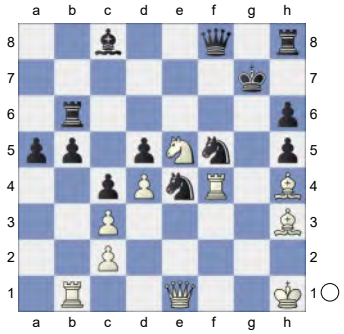
(Diagram)



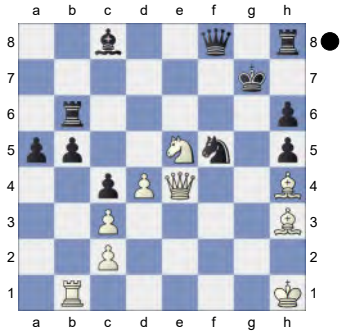
21.Be1 Ng8 22.Nf3 f5 0.94/18
[22...a4= 0.07/15 keeps the balance.]
23.exf6+ 0.61/20
[Much worse is 23.Bh4 Qe8=]
[23.Nh4± 0.94/18]
23...Nxf6± **24.Bh4!** Black must now prevent Ne5. **24...Qf8 25.Ne5 Ne7**



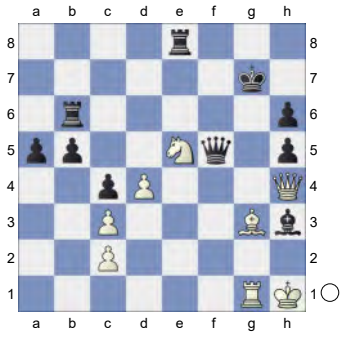
26.Qe1 gxh5 0.91/22
[26...Rb6± 0.40/18]
27.f5 0.49/20
[Better is 27.g5± 0.91/22 Ng4 28.Nxg4 hxg4 29.Qe5+ Kg6 30.Qxb8]
27...exf5 28.gxf5 Nxf5
[28...Kh7? 29.Ng6 Qg7 30.Nxe7+-]
29.Bh3 A strong pair of Bishops.
29...Ne4!
[29...Ng4? 30.Nxg4 hxg4 31.Qe5+ Kh7 32.Bxg4+- *(32.Qxb8 gxh3 33.Qc7+ Qg7∓)*]
30.Rf4⇄ White puts up resistance
30...Rb6 0.98/21
[30...Rg8= -0.01/22 remains equal. 31.Bxf5 Bxf5]



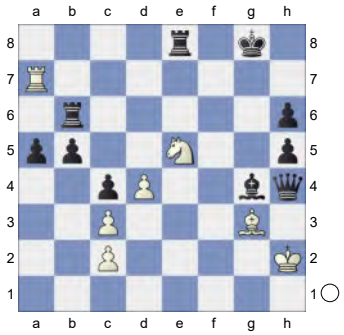
31.Rxe4 -0.01/23
[31.Kh2!± 0.98/21]
31...dxe4= Dancing on a razor blade.
32.Qxe4



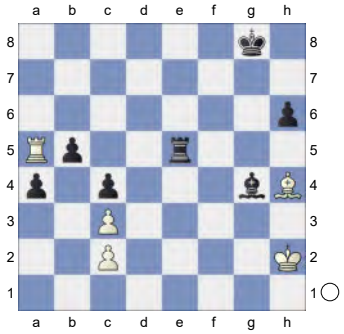
Ng3+! **33.Bxg3** **Bxh3** **34.Rg1?** -2.71/23 This costs White the game.
[34.Nxc4 Rg6 35.Be5+ Kh7 36.Qb7+ Kg8 37.Qd5+ Be6∓]
[34.Nd7!= -0.01/23 Bxd7 35.Be5+ Kg8 36.Qd5+ Qf7 37.Rg1+ Bg4 38.Qd8+ Kh7 39.Qxh8+ Kg6 40.Kh2]
34...Qf5-+ **35.Qh4** -5.38/21
[35.Qxf5 -2.62/21 Bxf5 36.Nxc4 bxc4 37.Be5+ Kf7 38.Bxh8]
35...Re8



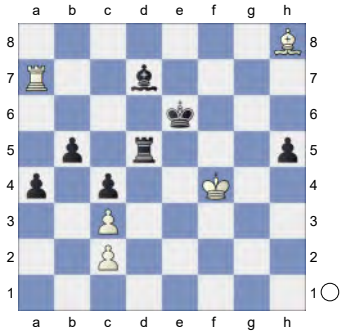
36.Kh2 Bg4 37.Rg2 -6.19/21
[⌓37.Nxg4 -4.12/19 hxg4 38.Be5+ Kh7 39.Qxg4 Qxg4 40.Rxg4]
37...Kh7 38.Rf2 Qg5 39.Rf7+ Kg8 40.Ra7 Qxh4+



41.Bxh4 a4 42.Bg3 Rbe6 43.Ra5 h4 44.Bxh4 Rxe5 45.dxe5 Rxe5

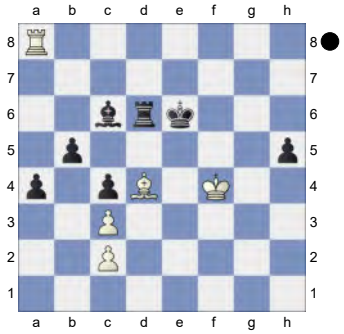


Endgame KRB-KRB **46.Bf6 Rd5 47.Kg3 Bd7 48.Ra7 Kf7 49.Bh8 Ke6 50.Kf4 h5**

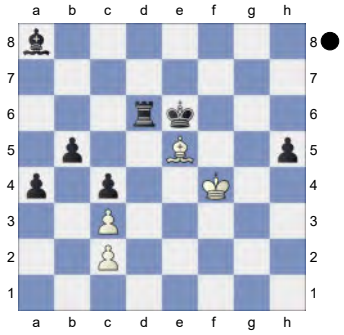


51.Ra6+ Rd6 52.Ra8 Bc6 53.Bd4? -#11/21
[53.Ra7-+ -2.81/20]

(Diagram)



53...Bxa8 -14.43/20
[⌓53...Rxd4+! -#11/21 54.Ke3 Re4+ 55.Kd2 Bxa8 56.Kc1 h4 57.Kb2 h3 58.Ka3 Re1 59.Kb4 Rb1+ 60.Kc5 h2 61.Kb6 h1Q 62.Ka5 a3 63.Kb6 Qb7+ 64.Kc5 Qa7#]
54.Be5

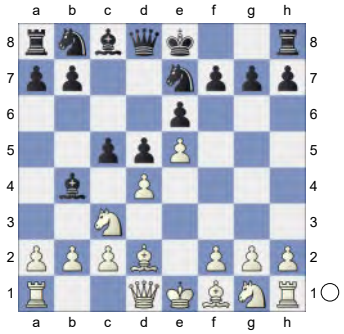


Weighted Error Value: White=0.50/ Black=0.24 (precise)
0-1

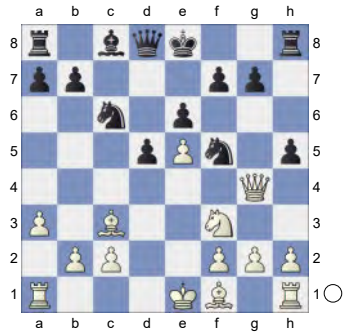
174 **C17**
□ **Bartel,Mateusz** **2621**
■ **Kiolbasa,Oliwia** **2387**
Warsaw Szansa blitz op (10) 16.09.2023

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.Bd2 Ne7

(Diagram)



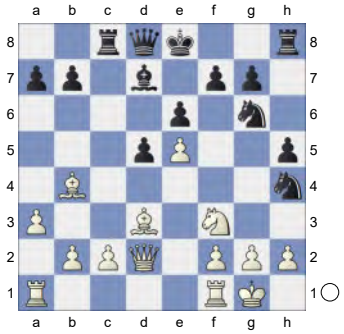
6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 cxd4
[7...0-0 8.dxc5 Nd7 9.Nf3 Nxc5 10.Bd4 Ne4 11.Bd3]
8.Qxd4 Nbc6
[8...Nf5
A) 9.Qg4 h5
A1) 10.Qf4 g5 11.Bb5+
A1a) 11...Nc6
A1a1) 12.Qb4 Bd7 *(12...d4 13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14.0-0-0)* 13.Bxc6 Bxc6 14.Ne2;
A1a2) 12.Qd2 d4 13.Bb4 Qd5 14.Qe2 Qxg2 15.Qf3 Qxf3 16.Nxf3 Bd7;
A1b) 11...Bd7 12.Bxd7+ Nxd7 13.Qd2 Nc5;
A2) 10.Qh3 Qg5;
B) 9.Qf4
B1) 9...g5 10.Qf3 Nc6 *(10...h5 11.0-0-0 Nc6 12.Bd3)* 11.0-0-0;
B2) 9...Nc6 10.Nf3 Qb6 11.Bd3 d4 12.Bd2 Qxb2 13.0-0 Qb6 14.g4 Nfe7 15.Ng5 0-0 16.Bxh7+ Kh8 17.Qg3 Ng8 18.Bxg8]
9.Qg4 Nf5
[9...d4 10.0-0-0 Nf5 11.Nf3 Qc7 12.Bxd4 Ncxd4 13.Nxd4 Qxe5 14.Bb5+ Ke7 15.Rhe1 Nh6 16.Nf5+ Qxf5 17.Qb4+ Kf6 18.Re3]
[9...0-0 10.Nf3
A) 10...Ng6 11.0-0-0 f5 12.exf6 gxf6 13.Qg3 *(13.Nh4 f5)* 13...e5 14.Nh4 Kf7 15.Nxg6 hxg6 16.f4 e4 17.Bc4 Be6 18.h4;
B) 10...Qc7 11.Bd3 Nf5 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Rfe1 a5 14.Qh5;
C) 10...Nf5 11.Bd3 d4 12.Bd2]
10.Nf3!? Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
10...h5
[10...Qb6 11.Bd3 d4 12.Bd2 Nce7 13.Qh5 Bd7 14.g4 Nh6 15.0-0 Bc6 16.Ng5 0-0-0 17.Ne4]



11.Qf4N Bd7
[11...Qb6 12.Bd3 d4 13.Bd2 Nce7 *(13...Qxb2 14.0-0 Qb6 15.Rab1 Qd8 16.Ng5)* 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Bb4 Nd5 16.Qg5 Bb5 *(16...Nxb4 17.axb4 Bb5 18.Bxf5 Bxf1 19.Qxg7 0-0-0 20.Rxf1 exf5 21.Qxf7)* 17.Bxf5 Bxf1 18.Bd6 exf5 19.Qxg7 0-0-0 20.Rxf1 f6 21.Qf7]
12.Bd3 Nce7
[12...g6 13.0-0-0 *(13.h3 Qb6 14.Ng5 Nce7 15.0-0-0 d4 16.Bd2 Nd5 17.Qf3)* 13...Qc7 14.Bxf5 gxf5 15.Qg5 a5 16.Qf6 Rg8 17.Ng5 Bc8 18.Nh7 Qe7 19.Qh6 Kd8 20.Nf6 Rxg2 21.Rxd5+ Kc7 *(21...exd5 22.Qh8+ Kc7 23.Nxd5+)* 22.Qd2 Qf8 23.Bxa5+ Nxa5 24.Rxa5 Rxa5 25.Qxa5+ b6 26.Qa7+ Bb7 27.Rd1 Qa8 28.Rd7+]
[12...Qc7 13.0-0-0]
13.0-0

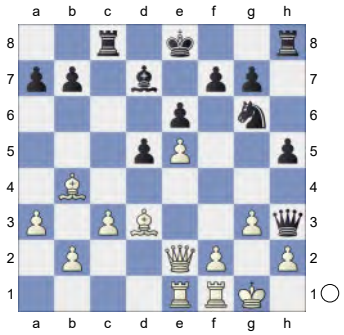
[13.0-0-0
A) 13...Qc7 14.Bb4 a5 *(14...Ng6 15.Qg5 Rc8 16.Rhe1)* 15.Bd6 Qb6 16.Bxe7 Nxe7 17.Ng5 Rf8 18.Nh7 Rh8 19.Ng5 Rf8 20.Qf3 g6 21.Nh7 Rh8 22.Nf6+ Kd8 23.c4;
B) 13...a5 14.h3 h4 15.Rhe1 Qc7 16.Bxf5 Nxf5 1-0 Grigoryan,K (2545)-Gonzalez Trigal,J (2351) La Roda op 46th 2019 (6) 17.Nd4 Nxd4 18.Rxd4]

13...Rc8 14.Bb4 Ng6 15.Qd2 Nfh4



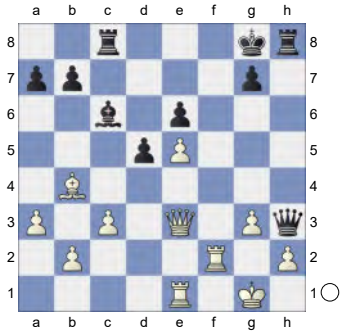
16.Nxh4 Qxh4 17.Rae1
[17.f4]

17...Qf4 18.Qe2 Qd4 19.c3 Qh4 20.g3 Qh3

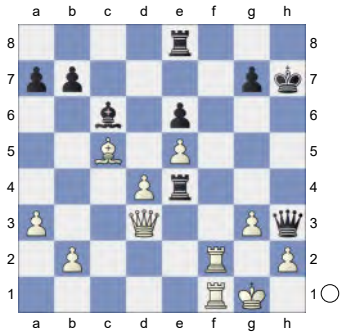


21.Qe3 h4 22.Bxg6 hxg3 23.Bxf7+ Kxf7 24.fxg3+ Kg8 25.Rf2 Bc6

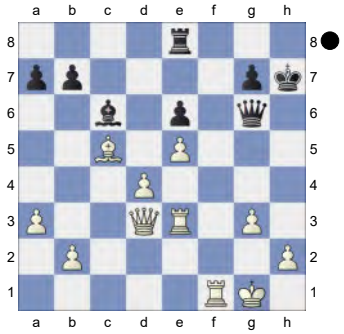
(Diagram)



26.Ref1 Rh4 27.Bc5 Re4 28.Qf3 d4 29.cxd4 Kh7 30.Qd3 Re8



31.Rf4 Vorgänger: **31...Qh5 32.Rxe4 Qg6 33.Re3**



1-0

175 **C18**
□ **Perevertkin,Vladimir Viktorovic 2621**
■ **Loeschnauer,Ruediger 2456**
corr WCCC27CT06(WS) 20.12.2007
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N

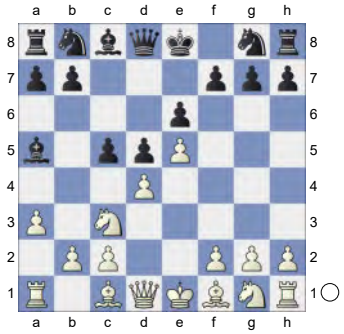
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]

[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

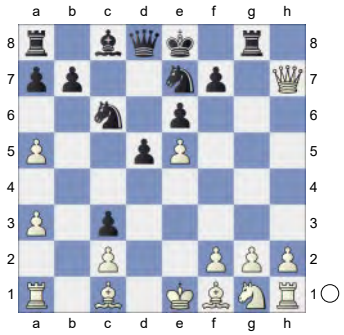
[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.a3 Ba5

(Diagram)



6.b4 cxd4 7.Qg4 Ne7 8.bxa5 dxc3 9.Qxg7 Rg8 10.Qxh7 Nbc6



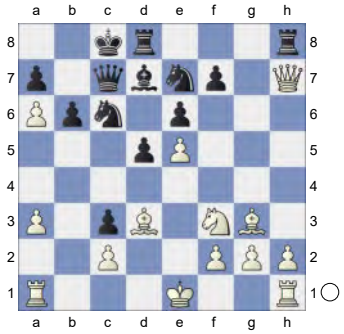
11.Nf3 Qc7 12.Bf4 Bd7 13.a6 b6 0.90/21

[13...0-0-0± 0.34/19]

14.Bg3!± 0-0-0 15.Bd3 White is slightly better.

[15.Qxf7 Nf5=]

15...Rh8



16.Qg7 0.35/21

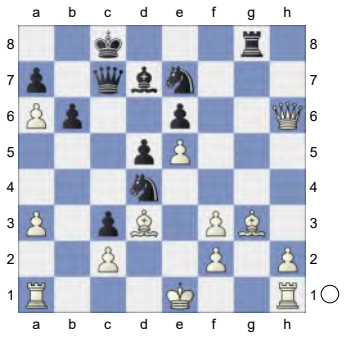
[16.Qxf7± 0.90/22 Hoping for Ng5. Rdf8 17.Qg7]

16...Rdg8 0.84/21

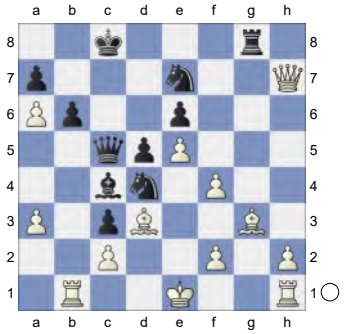
[16...d4± 0.35/21 should be considered.]

17.Qxf7 &Bianco is more active. **17...Rf8**

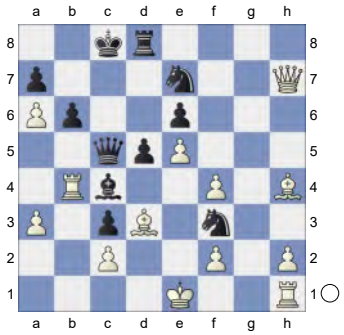
18.Qg7 Rhg8 0.99/22
[18...Be8!± 0.67/19]
19.Qh6 Rxf3 20.gxf3 Nd4



21.Qh7 Qc5 22.f4 Bb5 23.Rb1!
And now Rxb5! would win. **23...Bc4**

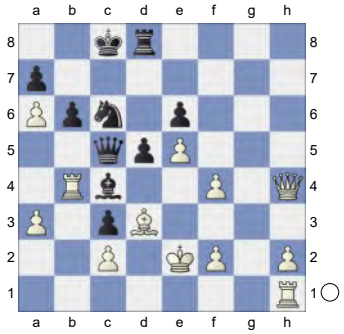


24.Rb4! Rd8 1.27/21
[⌓24...Bxd3 0.96/20 25.Qxd3 Nef5]
25.Bh4 Nf3+

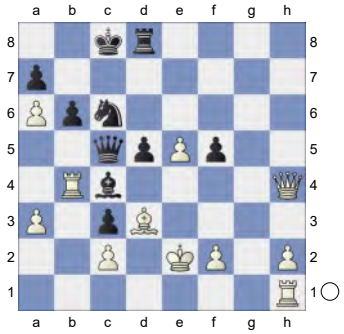


26.Ke2! Nxh4 27.Qxh4→
White attacks with force. Really sharp!
27...Nc6

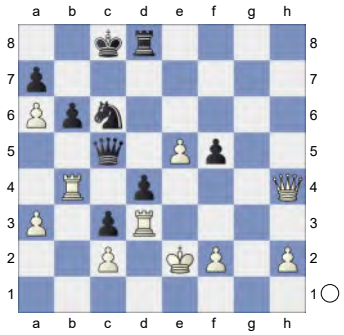
(Diagram)



28.f5! 1.26/20 **exf5**

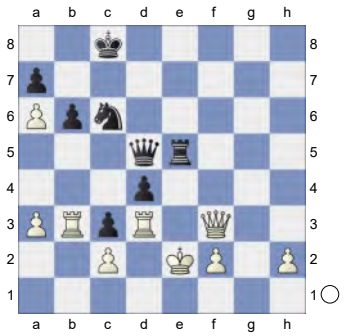


29.Rd1! Bxd3+ 30.Rxd3
[But not 30.Kxd3? d4 31.Ke2 *(31.Qh7? Nxb4+ 32.Ke2 Qxe5+ 33.Kf1 Nxa6-+)* 31...Qxe5+ 32.Kf1 Qd5-+]
30...d4

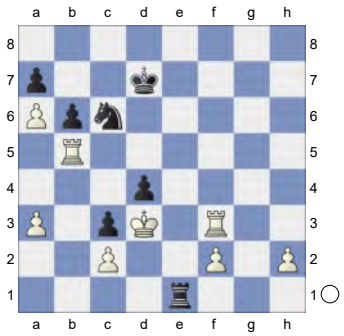


31.Qf6 Qd5 Against Qe6+ **32.Qxf5+ Kc7 33.Qf4 Kc8** 2.52/20
[33...b5± 1.42/20 34.Rb1 Kb6]
34.Rb3+- Re8 35.Qf3
[Wrong is 35.Qf5+? Kb8 36.Rb5 *(36.Qf4? Rxe5+ 37.Qxe5+ Nxe5-+)* 36...Qxb5-+]
35...Rxe5+

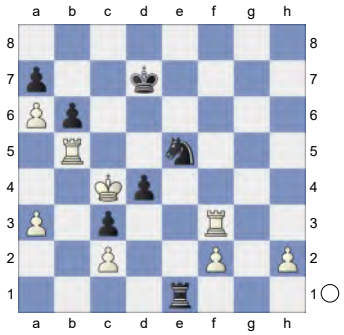
(Diagram)



36.Kf1 Qxf3 37.Rxf3 Endgame KRR-KRN **37...Rh5 38.Ke2 Re5+** 3.75/22
[⌓38...Kd7 2.39/21 39.h3 Re5+ 40.Kf1 Rh5]
39.Kd3 Re1 White must now prevent ... Ne5+. **40.Rb5 Kd7**

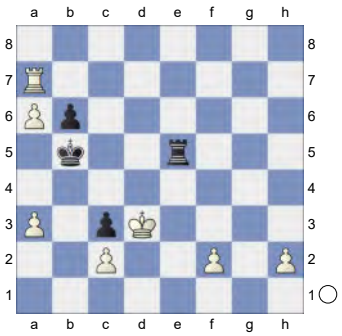


41.Kc4 Ne5+

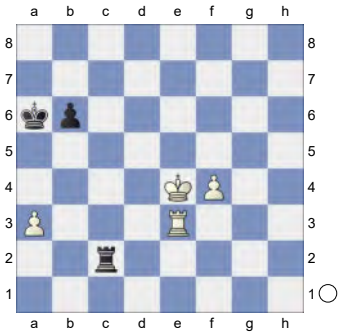


42.Rxe5! Rxe5 KR-KR **43.Rf7+ Kc6 44.Rxa7** Rg7 is the strong threat. **44...d3** 5.38/22
[44...Ra5 3.52/21 was worth a try. 45.h4 Rh5]
45.Kxd3 aiming for Rg7. White is clearly winning. **45...Kb5**

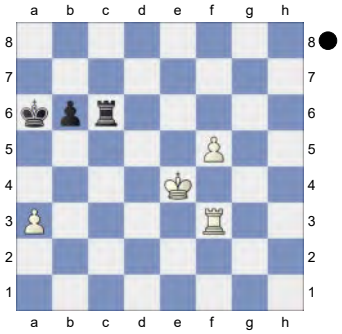
(Diagram)



46.Rc7 Strongly threatening a7. **46...Kxa6 47.f4 Rh5 48.Rxc3 Rxh2 49.Ke4 Re2+ 50.Re3 Rxc2**



51.f5 Rc6 52.Rf3

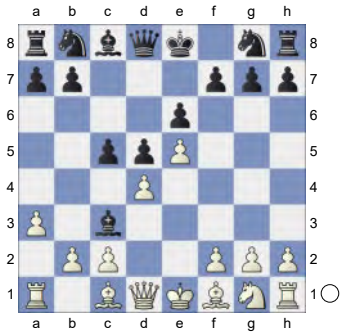


Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.22 (precise)
1-0

176 **C19**
□ **Filippov,Valerij** **2621**
■ **Frolyanov,Dmitry** **2505**
RUS-chT 12th (10) 28.04.2005
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4

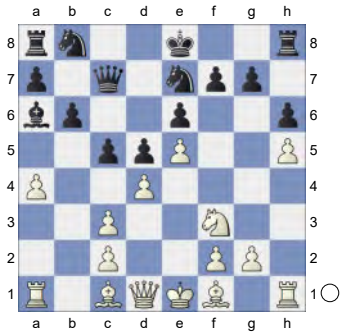
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Nf3 Ne7 8.h4 b6
[8...Nbc6 9.h5 h6 10.Be2 Bd7 11.0-0 Na5 12.a4 Rc8 13.Re1 cxd4 14.Qxd4 Nf5 15.Qg4 Nc4 16.Bd3 Kf8 17.Rb1 b6 18.Qf4 Ne7 19.Nd4 Kg8 20.Nb5 Bxb5 21.axb5 Qd7 22.Ra1 Rc7 23.Ba3 Fedorov,A (2575)-Morozevich,A (2745) Wijk aan Zee 2001 CI1-130 [Morozevich, Alexander] 0-1 (37)]

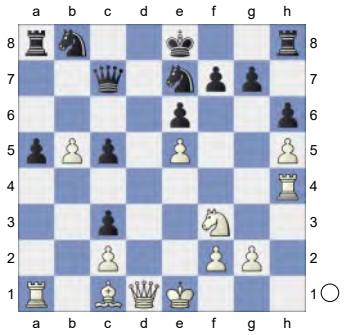
9.h5 h6 10.a4N
[10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.Bd3 Ba4 12.0-0 Nd7 13.Re1 0-0-0 *(13...Qc6 14.Rb1 a6 15.Nd2 cxd4 16.cxd4 Bb5 17.Rxb5 axb5 18.Qe2* C 19/06 *)* 14.Nh4 *(14.dxc5 Nxc5 15.Qe2 Kb7 16.Rb1 Rc8 17.Rb4 Bd7 18.Nd4 f6 19.Bf4 Nxd3 20.cxd3 Qxc3 21.Reb1 f5 22.Be3 g5 23.a4 Nc6 24.Nxc6 Rxc6 25.a5 Rhc8 26.axb6 a6 27.Bd2 Qa3 28.R4b3 Qa4* Gutsche,D (2639)-Ernazarov,N (2322) Chessfriend.com 2004 UltraCorr3a [Chessfriend.com Ltd.] ½-½ (65) *)* 14...Kb7 15.Ra2 Qc6 16.Qg4 Rdg8 Chess Informant ECO Survey 2000]

10...Ba6

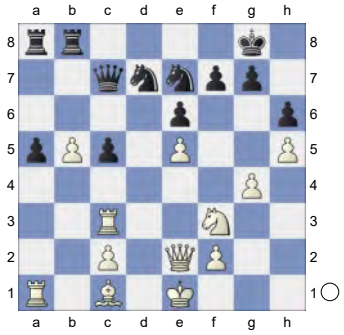


11.Bb5+ Bxb5 12.axb5 a5
The position is equal. **13.dxc5 bxc5 14.c4 dxc4 15.Rh4** -0.27/20
[⌓15.Qd6 0.25/18 Qa7 16.Be3]

15...c3



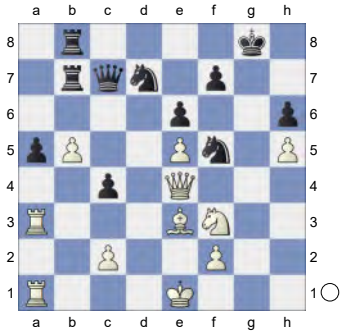
16.Rg4 Nf5 17.Rc4 Nd7 18.Rxc3 0-0 19.Qe2 Rfb8 20.g4 Ne7



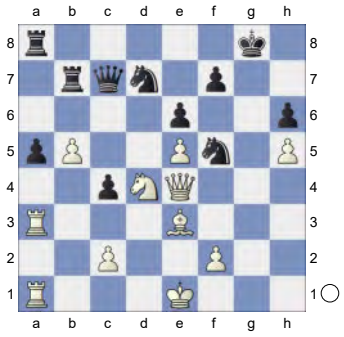
21.g5
[21.Rca3!?]

21...Nf5 0.37/19
[21...hxg5= -0.29/21 22.Bxg5 Nf5]

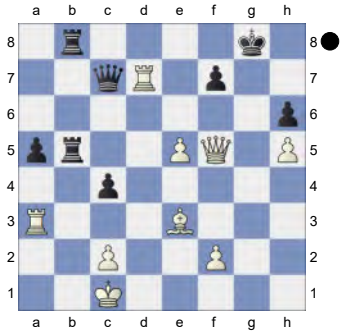
22.Rca3 -0.54/21
[Better is 22.gxh6± 0.37/19 gxh6 23.Rc4]
22...c4 -0.01/21
[22...hxg5!∓ -0.54/21 23.Bxg5 c4]
23.gxh6 -0.43/19
[23.Qe4= -0.01/21 should be considered.]
23...gxh6 0.09/21
[23...Rxb5∓ -0.43/19 24.hxg7 Qb7]
24.Qe4= Ra7 0.88/21
[24...a4= 0.01/19 keeps the balance.]
25.Be3 Rab7



26.Nd4 &Bianco is more active.
26...Ra8? 6.16/21
[26...Rxb5± 0.67/20 27.Nxb5 Rxb5]



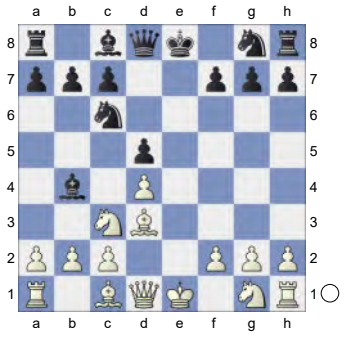
This move loses the game for Black.
27.Nxf5+- exf5 28.Qxf5 Rxb5 4.35/20
[⚆28...Qxe5 2.91/22 29.Qxe5 Nxe5 30.Rxa5 Rab8]
29.0-0-0 Rab8 17.02/22
[⚆29...Nxe5 4.30/22 30.Rg1+ *(30.Bxh6? Nd3+ 31.Raxd3 Rxf5-+)* 30...Kf8 31.Bxh6+ *(31.Qf6 Rab8±)* 31...Ke7]
30.Rxd7



Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.66
1-0

177 **C15**
□ **Shtembuliak,E.** **2620**
■ **Goncharov,Vladimir** **2077**
Titled Tue 18th Mar Early blitz (4)
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nc6



6.Nge2 Nf6
[6...Nge7 7.Bg5 f6 8.Bf4 Bf5 9.0-0 Qd7 10.Bxf5 Nxf5 11.Qd3 0-0-0 12.Nb5 Ba5 13.b4 Bb6 14.a4 Nxb4 15.Qb3 Nc6 16.a5 Bxd4 17.Rfb1 b6 18.axb6 Bxb6 19.Bxc7 Rde8 20.Nxa7+ Kxc7 21.Qxb6+ 13.g5 ♘c5 14. ♕f3 (2445)-Ozog,B

(2475) Wijk aan Zee 1994 Telechess CBM 89 [Nadanian,Ashot; Galdunts,S] 1-0]

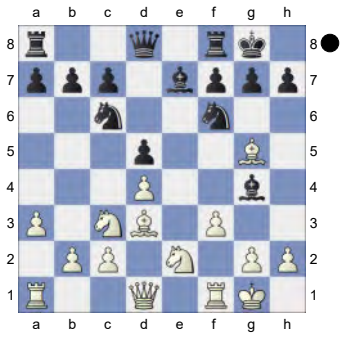
7.0-0

[7.Bg5 h6 8.Bf4 0-0 9.Qd2 Ne4 10.Bxe4 dxe4 11.0-0-0 Qe7 12.d5 Ne5 13.Qd4 Ng6 14.d6 Bxd6 15.Bxd6 cxd6 16.Qxe4 Be6 17.h4 Rac8 18.h5 Ne5 19.Rd4 Nc6 20.Rd3 d5 21.Qf4 Rfd8 Haussernot, C (2097)-Adrian,C (2238) Brest 2019 CBM 190 Extra [ChessBase II] ½-½ (31)]

7...0-0 8.Bg5 Be7 The position is equal. **9.a3N**

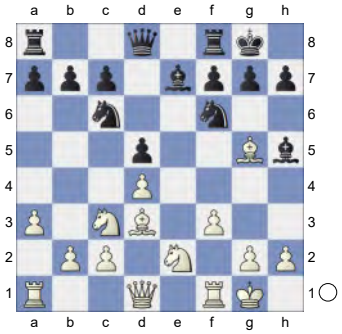
[9.Re1 Bg4 *(9...Nb4 10.Ng3 Nxd3 11.Qxd3 c6 12.Nh5 Be6 13.Nf4 h6 14.Bxh6 gxh6 15.Rxe6 fxe6 16.Qg3+ Kh8 17.Nxe6* 1-0 (17) Canal,E-N,N Leipzig 1916 HOW C15 DM [Myers]*)* 10.f3 Be6 11.Nf4 Nxd4 12.Bxh7+ Nxh7 13.Bxe7 Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Qxe7 15.Nfxd5 Qc5+ 16.Qe3 Qxe3+ 17.Rxe3 Bxd5 18.Nxd5 c6 19.Nc3 Rfe8 20.Rae1 Nf6 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Rxe8+ Nxe8 23.Kf2 Nd6 Nikolova,A-Arutyunova,D Cannes 1997 [ChessCalisthenics] ½-½ (100)]

9...Bg4 10.f3

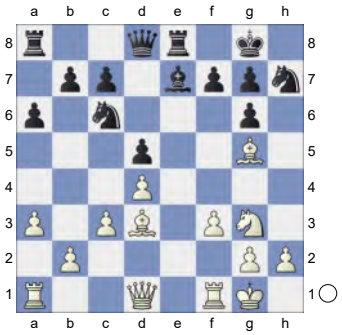


Threatens to win with Bxf6. **10...Bh5**

(Diagram)

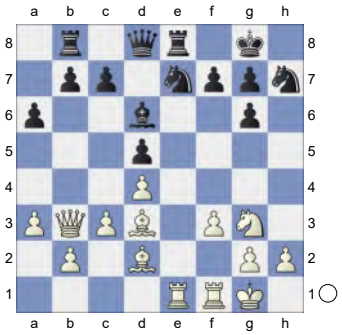


11.Nf4 Strongly threatening Bxf6. **11...Bg6 12.Nxg6 hxg6 13.Ne2 Re8 14.c3 a6 15.Ng3 Nh7**



16.Bd2 Bd6 17.Qb3 Ne7 18.Rae1 Rb8 0.33/19

[18...Qd7= -0.26/18]

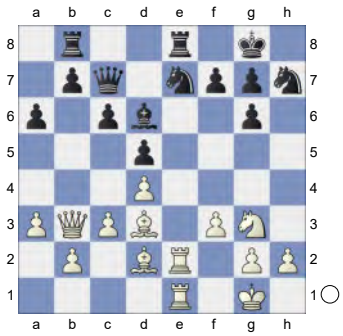


19.Re2 -0.20/19

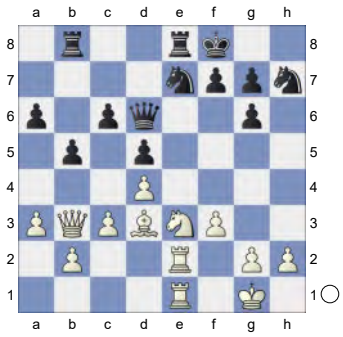
[19.Ne4!± 0.33/19]

19...c6 20.Rfe1 Qc7

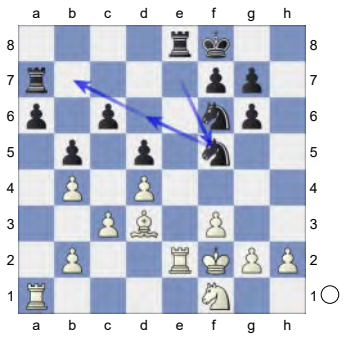
(Diagram)



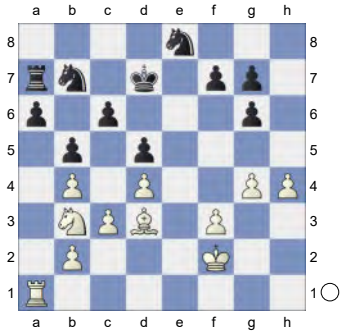
21.Nf1 Kf8 22.Qc2 Bf4 0.49/19
[22...Nf6= -0.03/18]
23.Bxf4!± Qxf4 24.Qb3 0.10/21
[24.Re5± 0.43/21]
24...Qd6 25.Ne3 b5 0.70/22
[25...Nc8= 0.22/20]



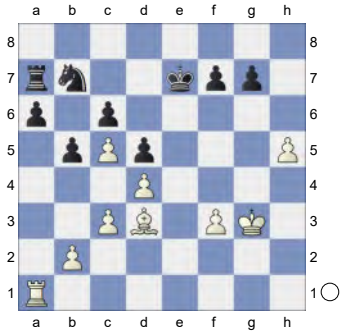
26.Qb4! Qxb4 27.axb4
[Reject 27.cxb4 Ng5±]
27...Ra8 1.04/22
[⌓27...Nc8 0.73/21]
28.Ra1 0.63/23
[28.Ng4± 1.04/22]
28...Ra7 29.Kf2 Nf6 30.Nf1 0.40/21
[30.h4± 0.73/19]
30...Nf5



31.Rxe8+ Kxe8 32.Nd2 Nd6 33.Nb3 Nb7 34.g4 Kd7 35.h4 Ne8

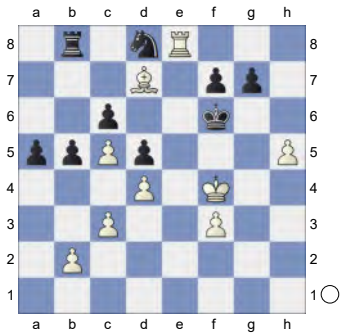


36.Kg3 Ned6 37.Nc5+ Nxc5 38.bxc5± Endgame KRB-KRN **38...Nb7** 1.89/22
[38...Nc8± 1.06/22 keeps fighting.]
39.h5 1.00/22
[White should try 39.f4+- 1.89/22]
39...gxh5 40.gxh5 Ke7

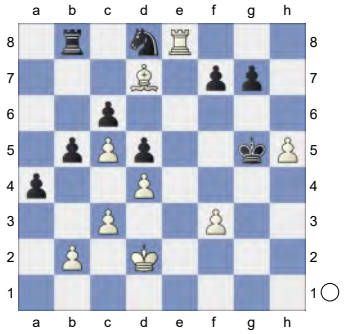


41.Kf4 0.73/24
[⌓41.Re1+ 1.17/24 Kf8 42.Bf5]
41...Kf6 42.Re1 Re8 is the strong threat. **42...Ra8** Prevents Re8. **43.Bf5** 0.16/25
[43.Rh1!± 0.63/24 was preferrable.]
43...a5!= 44.Bd7 Nd8 45.Re8 And now Kg3 would win. **45...Rb8?** 3.16/26
[45...Ne6+= 0.01/25 and Black is okay. 46.Kg4 Rxe8 47.Bxe8 Nd8]

(Diagram)



46.Ke3 a4 47.Kd2? 0.63/25
[Better is 47.Bh3+- 2.78/26]
47...Kg5 1.68/24
[47...b4!≅ 0.63/25]

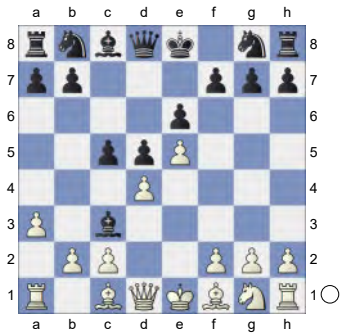


Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.28 (precise) . Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
0-1

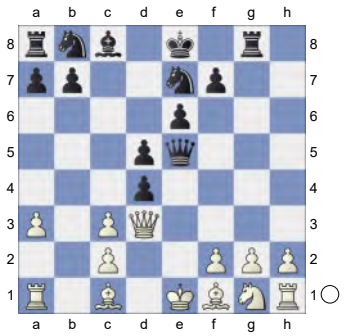
178 **C18**
□ **Huschenbeth,N.** **2620**
■ **Naiditsch,Arkadij** **2643**
FIDE World Cup 2019 (1.1) 10.09.2019
[John Watson]

John Watson,MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4** John Watson,MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Qd3 An unusual move which is not supposed to cause many problems, but gets the game out of ultra-theoretical paths.
[10.cxd4? John Watson,MH Qc3+ 11.Kd1 Qxa1-+ *(11...Qxd4+? 12.Qd3-+)*]
10...Qxe5+
[10...dxc3 , when 11.Ne2 Nbc6 *(11...Qxe5 12.Qxc3* transposes to the game*; 11...Bd7!? 12.Qxc3 Nbc6 13.f4* John Watson,MH: 'or 13 Nxc3 is an old main line, by transposition, if you want to avoid the lengthy 12...d4 theory' *Nf5* 12 -see the comment on Qxc3 *)*
A) 12.Qxc3 Bd7 13.f4 Nf5 usually goes into a main line, especially after 14.Rb1 d4 15.Qd3 *(15.Qc4; 15.Qc5)* 15...0-0-0 For these lines, you should refer to theoretical works as well as the Archives;
B) 12.f4!? goes back into main lines . That is, Black can play 12...d4 *(12...Bd7 13.Qxc3* or 13 Nxc3 is an old main line, by transposition, if you want to avoid the lengthy 12...d4 theory*)* 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Bd7 followed by ... Nf5 - see the Archives for many examples]



A big decision. If Black doesn't feel comfortable in the resulting ending, be might want to try **11.Ne2 dxc3 12.Qxc3** John Watson,MH: 'White is slightly better. ' John Watson,MH: 'transposes to the game'

[12.Bf4 has been tried in several games, e.g.,

A) 12...Qf5 0.57/20 John Watson, MH: '12…Qf6 0.10' 13.Qxf5 Nxf5 14.Nxc3⩲;

B) 12...Qh8! 13.Qxc3 *(13.Nxc3?! Nbc6∓)* 13...f6 14.Bd6 *(14.Bxb8 Rxb8 15.Qc7 Nc6∞)* 14...Nbc6 15.Ng3 Kf7 16.Be2 0.01/19 *(16.Bxe7⩲* 0.49/19 (John Watson, MH) deserves consideration. *Nxe7 17.Qc7)* 16...f5 John Watson,MH: '=' 17.Bh5+ Ng6 John Watson,MH: '!' 18.Qxh8 Rxh8;

C) 12...Qg7!? 13.Qxc3 f6;

D) 12...Qf6!? 13.Qxc3 Nd7!? *(13...Qxc3+ 14.Nxc3 a6* John Watson,MH: ' Wards off Nb5' *15.h4!? f6)* 14.Qxf6 Nxf6 15.Be5 *(15.h4!?)* 15...Nd7 16.Bb2 f6 17.c4 Kf7 *(17...dxc4!∞)* 18.cxd5 Nxd5 19.Rc1 John Watson,MH: ' Dodges Nc5' *(19.h4 b6 20.h5 Bb7∞)* 19...N7b6 0.48/21 *(19...b6=* -0.11/22 *)* 20.Nc3 John Watson,MH: ' ⩲' Bd7 21.Nxd5 Nxd5 22.h4 Bc6 23.Rh2 Rad8 *(23...Rg4!?)* 24.g3 e5?! 0.67/21 *(24...Rg4* 0.28/23 John Watson, MH: '=' *25.Be2 Re4* John Watson, MH: '!' *26.Kf1 Ne7)* 25.h5⩲ Salgado Lopez,I (2621)-Rocha,S (2410) Melilla 2011]

12...Nbc6 This looks more natural than bringing White's knight into action by

[12...Qxc3+ 13.Nxc3 , although that's not so clear. One game went a6?! *(13...Nbc6* should be tried*)* 14.Bf4?! -0.09/21 *(14.h4!⩲* 0.45/20 John Watson,MH: ' ⩲'*)* 14...Nbc6 *(14...f6=)* 15.Bg3 Bd7 16.Kd2 -0.55/18 *(16.h4=* 0.00/20 John Watson,MH*)* 16...Rc8∓ Karavitaki,A (1115)-Donchenko,E (1362) Prague 2016]

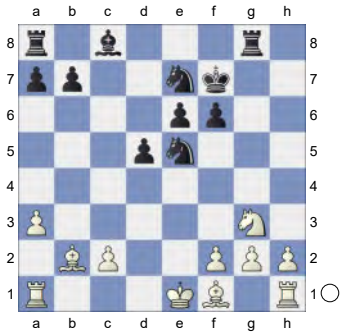
13.Qxe5 Nxe5 14.Ng3 Now we have a standard pawn structure which can arise from the 7 Qg4 Qc7 8 Bd3 cxd4 9 Ne2 dxc3 line as well. White has the bishop pair and passed h-pawn, but Black has the superior central and queenside pawn structure. John Watson,MH: 'N'

[14.h4 f6 15.h5 Bd7 is another path, also double-edged. *(15...Kf7!?)* 16.Rb1 John Watson,MH b6 17.Nd4 Kf7 18.f4 N5c6 19.Nxc6 Bxc6 20.Rg1 Rh8 21.g4 Rag8 22.Kf2 f5 23.Bb2 Rh6 24.Be2 fxg4 25.Bxg4 Ba4 26.Rbc1 Rc8 27.Be2 Nf5 28.Be5 d4 29.c3 d3 30.Bxd3 Rxh5 1-0 Campos (2678)-Campos,J (2598) 69/427 Pula 1997 (4.4)]

[14.Nf4 John Watson,MH f6 15.Bb2 N7c6 16.Nh5 Kf7 17.h3 Nd7 18.0-0-0 b6 19.g4 Bb7 20.f4 Rac8 21.Rg1 Ne7 22.Bb5 Bc6 23.Bd3 Ba4 24.Rg2 Rh8 25.Re2 Rh6 26.Kd2 Nc5 27.Rde1 Nc6 28.Bc3 Nxd3 ½-½ Posizione (2156)-Miguel,S (2004) Luis Paucar Perez Memorial 199 (2.57)]

14...f6 15.Bb2 Kf7

[15...Nd7 intending 16.Nh5 e5 is an option.]



16.Nh5! With the threat of Nxf6 followed by f4.

[16.0-0-0 -0.15/22 might be answered by John Watson,MH: '16.Nh5 0.43 might be answered by' Ng4 *(or 16...N5g6)* 17.Rd2 e5= 18.Be2!? Be6 19.h3 Ne3! 20.Bh5+ John Watson,MH: '!' Kf8 21.fxe3 Rxg3 22.Rf1 Kg7= John Watson,MH: '=!']

16...Nd7 17.0-0-0 b6 An important moment.

[Another recent and instructive game saw 17...a6?! 0.87/19 John Watson, MH: '17...b6 0.47' 18.Be2! e5!? *(18...Rxg2 19.Nf4* John Watson,MH: '!' *Rg5 20.Bh5+ Rxh5 21.Nxh5 b5* with some compensation, but White should stay on top*)* 19.Rhg1! b5 20.f4 Bb7 21.g4!± d4 22.Rdf1 *(22.Rgf1!±* threatens g5*)* 22...Ke6 23.g5 John Watson,MH: '!' Be4

A) John Watson,MH: ' White should play' 24.Ng3! 1.38/23 John Watson, MH: '±' Bh7 *(24...Bd5* John Watson,MH *25.gxf6* Remove Defender, Deflection *Nxf6 26.fxe5 Kxe5 27.Bd3)* 25.gxf6±;

B) 24.gxf6?! 0.22/21 24...Rxg1 John Watson,MH: '=' 25.Rxg1 Nxf6 26.Rg5 *(26.Ng7+!?)* 26...Nf5 27.Rg6 Rf8 28.fxe5 Kxe5 29.Nxf6 Rxf6 30.Rxf6 Kxf6 31.a4 bxa4 32.Bxa6 Ke5 John Watson,MH: '!' 33.Bb5 Nh4 34.Bxa4 Nf3 35.Bb5 Nxh2 36.Be2 Nf3 37.Bxf3 é-é Van Foreest,J (2626)-Karthik,V (2462) Zuerich 2019]

[17...Rg6 intends ...Nb6 and ....Bd7, but can be met with 18.h4! *(18.Be2 Nb6 19.Nf4 Rh6* John Watson,MH: '!' *20.Bh5+ Kf8)* 18...Nc5 *(18...e5 19.f4 Nc5 20.fxe5 Bg4 21.Nxf6! Bxd1 22.Kxd1±)* 19.Nf4 Rh6 20.Be2 Ne4 21.Bh5+ Kf8 22.g4 John Watson,MH: '!' Nxf2 23.g5 John Watson,MH: '!' Rxh5 24.Nxh5 Nxd1 25.Rxd1 fxg5 26.Rf1+ John Watson,MH: '!' Nf5 27.hxg5 Kf7 28.Bf6 still favors White with Nf4 and Rh1 coming.]

18.Rg1

[18.Be2!? 0.21/22 might improve. A few lines: John Watson,MH: '18.Rg1 0.67 might improve. A few lines:'

A) 18...Bb7

A1) 19.g4 Rac8= 20.Rhe1 Bc6!? 21.Rd2 e5 *(21...Ba4! 22.Kb1 Rc7)* 22.f4! Ng6 23.g5! Nxf4 1.67/21 *(23...fxg5±* 0.60/20 John Watson,MH *24.fxe5 Ngxe5)* 24.Nxf4 John Watson, MH: '+-' exf4 25.h4! Rh8 *(25...fxg5?* 2.71/22 John Watson, MH: '25...Rh8 1.19' *26.Bh5+ Kf8 27.Rf2+-)* 26.Bg4 Rxh4 27.Be6+ Kf8 John Watson,MH: ' Strongly threatening ...Re8.' 28.gxf6 Re8

A1a) John Watson,MH: ' Better is' 29.Rg2! 1.64/26 John Watson,MH: '+-' Rxe6 30.Rxe6 Bb5 31.a4 Nc5 32.Re7 f3 33.Rf2 Be2

34.Rc7± 1.26/22 *(34.Rxa7+- 1.69/24 John Watson,MH Rxa4 35.Rc7)*;

A1b) 29.f7?! 1.07/24 29...Rxe6 John Watson,MH: '±' 30.Rxe6 Bb5 31.Rd6 f3 32.Bd4 John Watson,MH: '!' Kxf7 33.Rxd5 Rh1+ 34.Rd1 John Watson,MH: '!' Rxd1+ 35.Kxd1 Be2+ 36.Ke1 Ke6 37.Rh5 Nb8 38.Be3 Nc6 39.Rh6+ Kd5 40.Rh7 Ke6 41.Bf2 é-é Gulbis,H (2228)-Rice,P (2315) ICCF 2019;

A2) 19.Nf4 e5 20.Bh5+ Kg7 21.Ne6+ Kh8 22.Bf7 Rg4 23.f4 d4 24.Rhe1 Rxg2 25.Nxd4 Rc8 26.Kb1;

B) 18...e5 1.08/20 John Watson, MH: '18...Bb7 0.47' 19.g4 Nc5 20.h3 John Watson,MH: ' f4 would now be deadly.' Bb7 0.11/20 *(20...Ng6± 0.70/21 John Watson, MH)* 21.f4!;

C) 18...Rxg2 19.Nf4 Rg5 20.h4 Rf5 21.Bh5+ Rxh5 John Watson, MH: '!' 22.Nxh5 Bb7 with some compensation, but White has the chances, e.g., 23.Rdg1 Nf5 John Watson,MH: ' Repels Rg7+' 24.Ng3 Nd6 25.h5 Rh8 26.f4±]

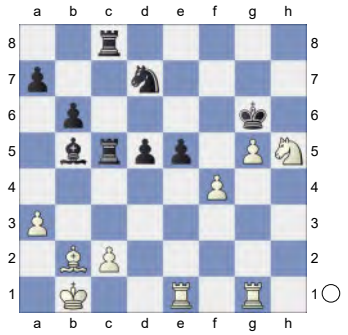
18...Bb7 19.g4 Rh8

[A correspondence game followed the computer suggestion 19...Bc6 20.h4 Rac8 , although Black failed to fully equalize: 21.Kb1 *(21.Ba6!?)* 21...Ba4 22.Rc1

A) 22...Rh8 23.Be2 Nc5!? 24.g5 Ne4 25.Nxf6 0.66/22 *(25.Bxf6± 1.15/21 John Watson,MH Rh7 26.Rge1)* 25...Rxh4 John Watson, MH: '±' 26.Bd3± John Watson,MH: '±!';

B) 22...Ng6 0.72/22 John Watson, MH: '⩲' 23.g5 fxg5 24.hxg5;

C) 22...Rc5 1.09/20 23.g5 John Watson,MH: ' ±!' fxg5 24.hxg5 Rgc8 1.50/20 *(⩲24...Bb5 1.03/20 John Watson,MH)* 25.Bd3 John Watson,MH: ' ±' Ng6 2.12/22 *(25...e5 1.63/20* (John Watson,MH) was worth a try.*)* 26.f4 John Watson,MH: '+-' Bb5 27.Bxg6+ John Watson,MH: '!' Kxg6 28.Rce1 e5 John Watson,MH: '



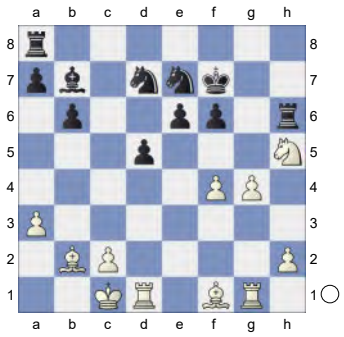
' 29.fxe5 John Watson,MH: '!' Kxh5 2.56/22 *(⩲29...d4 1.95/21* John Watson,MH*)* 30.g6+- Rxc2 John Watson,MH: ' White must now prevent ...Bd3.' 31.g7 Bd3 5.04/23 *(⩲31...Re2 3.49/23* John Watson, MH *)* 32.Ka1 John Watson,MH: '+-' Rg8 33.Re3 Bf5 John Watson,MH: ' Prevents Rh3+.' 34.e6 d4 7.09/23 *(⩲34...Bxe6 4.49/21* John Watson, MH *35.Rxe6 Rc4 36.Rh1+ Kg4)* 35.Bxd4 John Watson,MH: '+-' Nc5 36.Bxc5 Rxc5 37.e7 Bd7 *(37...Rcc8 38.Re5 Kh6 39.Rxf5* John Watson,MH: ' White wants to mate with Rf3.' *Rxg7 40.Rh1+ Kg6 41.Rf8+-)* 38.e8Q+ Bxe8 39.Rh3# 1-0 (39) Guerra,R (2217)-Beer,D (2077) ICCF 2019]

20.f4

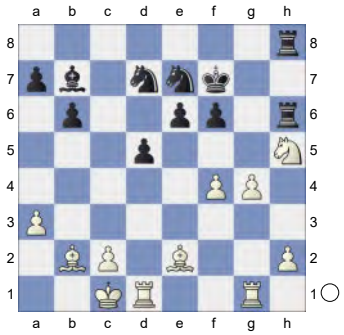
[20.Be2]

20...Rh6?! 1.06/22

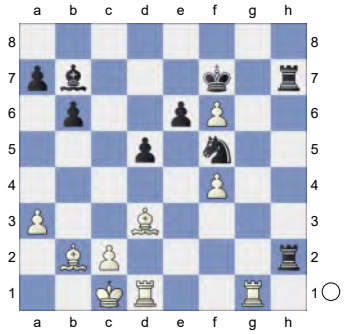
[20...Rac8 intending ...Bc6-a4]
[20...Bc6⩲ 0.62/21 John Watson,MH]



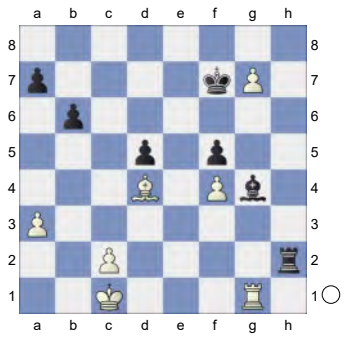
Awkward. Black should defend with **21.Be2** 0.67/22 threatening g5. John Watson,MH: 'threatening g5. White is more active.'
[21.h4± 1.06/22 John Watson,MH]
21...Rah8?! 2.02/23 John Watson,MH: '
[21...Rh7 22.h4 Rah8±]
[21...f5⩲ 0.67/22 John Watson,MH]



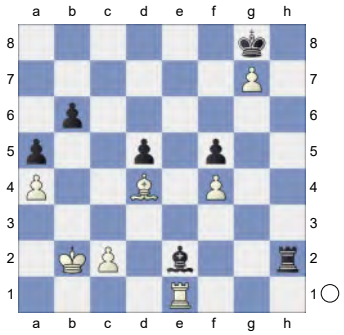
' **22.Nxf6!+-** John Watson,MH: ' Decoy'
22...Nxf6
[22...Rxf6 2.43/21 John Watson,MH: '22…Nc5 1.82' 23.g5 Bc6 24.gxf6 Nxf6 25.Bd3 Rxh2 26.Rh1+-]
[22...Nc5 John Watson,MH 23.Nh5]
23.g5 John Watson,MH: '!' **23...Rxh2**
24.gxf6
[24.Bxf6! R8h4 25.Bd3 is also already on the verge of winning. Ng6± John Watson,MH]
24...Nf5 John Watson,MH: ' Dodges Rg7+'
[24...Rxe2 9.00/24 John Watson,MH: '?' John Watson,MH: '24…Nf5 2.24' 25.Rg7+ Kf8 26.Rxe7+- *(26.fxe7+* 2.49/5 John Watson,MH: '?' John Watson,MH: '26.Rxe7 8.62' *Ke8+-)* 26...Bc6 27.Be5+-]
25.Bd3 John Watson,MH: ' A strong pair of Bishops.' **25...R8h7**



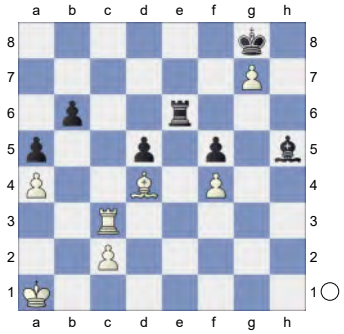
26.Bxf5 exf5 27.Bd4!
[27.Rde1 1.13/25 allows Black to wiggle with John Watson,MH: '27.Bd4 2.16 allows Black to wiggle with' d4! John Watson,MH: ' Threatens to win with ...Be4.' 28.Bxd4 Be4]
[27.Rg7+?! John Watson,MH Rxg7 28.fxg7 Kg8]
27...Ba6 28.Rg7+?
[28.Rg3!+- threatens Rdg1 and there's no good defense.]
28...Rxg7± 29.fxg7 Rg1 is threatened. John Watson,MH: '+-' John Watson,MH: 'Endgame. Rg1 is threatened. KRB-KRB'
29...Be2
[29...Bb5 30.Rg1 Kg8 31.Rg3]
30.Rg1 Bg4



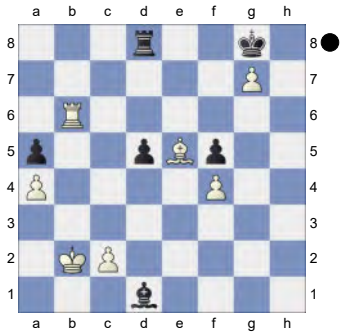
31.Re1 Be2 3.44/27
[Or 31...Re2 2.42/28 John Watson, MH: '⩲' 32.Rh1 John Watson,MH: ' Hoping for Rh8.' Re8]
32.Rg1 0.01/24 John Watson,MH: '?'
32...Bg4 John Watson,MH: '=' **33.Re1** 0.01/23
[White should try 33.a4+- 2.66/25 John Watson,MH]
33...Be2!? John Watson,MH: '!' **34.a4** 3.44/27 John Watson,MH: '+-' **34...Kg8**
35.Kb2 a5



36.Ka1
[36.Bxb6 0.79/24 John Watson,MH: '?' John Watson,MH: '36.Ka1 3.63' Bd3± 1.48/21 *(⩲36...Kxg7* 0.79/24 John Watson,MH *37.Bxa5 d4* John Watson,MH: ' ±') 37.Rc1 John Watson,MH: ' ±' Kxg7 38.Bxa5 Kg6]
36...Kf7 37.Rb1
[Weaker is 37.Bxb6 1.04/25 John Watson,MH: '?' John Watson, MH: '37.Rb1 4.15' Kxg7 38.Bxa5 Kf7± 1.43/22 *(38...d4=* 0.01/20 John Watson,MH John Watson,MH: '±' *)*]
37...Rh6 38.Rg1
[Not John Watson,MH: ' Not' 38.Bxb6? 0.84/26 John Watson,MH: '38.Rg1 3. 45' Kxg7 39.Bxa5 Rc6± John Watson,MH: '±' ' Against Bc3+']
[or 38.Rxb6? 1.07/21 John Watson, MH: '38.Rb3 4.15' Rxb6 39.Bxb6 Kxg7± John Watson,MH: '±']
38...Kg8 39.Rg3 The score ends here. Black could play on but should eventually lose, e.g., John Watson,MH: 'The score ends here. Black could play on but should eventually lose, e.g.,. Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/ Black=0.22 (precise) ' **39...Bh5 40.Rc3** John Watson,MH: ' Intending Rc8+ and mate.' **40...Re6**



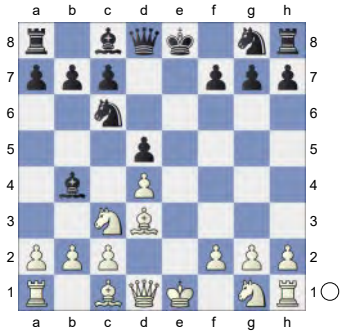
41.Rc8+ Re8
[41...Be8!? 4.14/26 John Watson,MH: '41...Re8 2.70']
42.Rc6 John Watson,MH: ' aiming for Rh6!' **42...Bd1 43.Kb2 Rb8 44.Be5 Rd8 45.Rxb6**



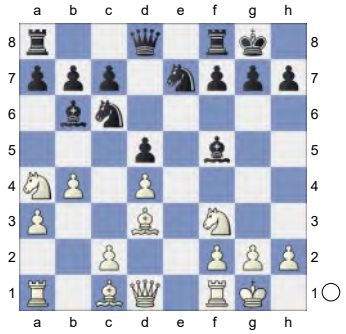
1-0

179 **C15**
□ **Demchenko,A.** **2619**
■ **Rustemov,A.** **2525**
Chess.com Classic Play-In blitz (7)
[Kitty Kat]

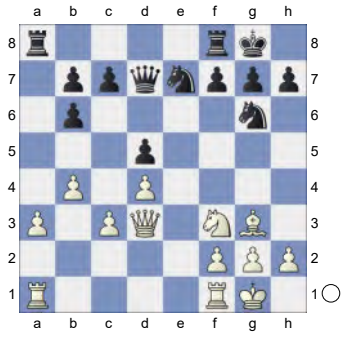
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nc6



6.a3 Ba5 7.Nf3N
[7.Nge2 Nge7 8.0-0 Bg4 *(8...0-0 9.Bg5 f6 10.Be3 Bf5 11.Nf4 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Qd7 13.c4 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 Rad8 15.Rab1 b6 16.Rb5 dxc4 17.Qxc4+ Rf7 18.Rd1 Na5 19.Qd3 c6 20.Rbb1 Qf5 21.a4 g5 22.Nh5 Qxd3 23.Rxd3* Sanjuan Garcia,M (2680)-Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2804) Beer-Sheva (rapid) 92/(476) 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Adly,Ahmed] 0-1 (50) *)* 9.f3 Bf5 10.Bxf5 Nxf5 11.Qd3 Nfe7 12.Kh1 0-0 13.Nf4 Bb6 14.Nce2 Ng6 15.c3 Na5 16.Qf5 c6 17.Nh5 Nc4 18.Neg3 Nd6 19.Qh3 Qh4 20.Qxh4 Nxh4 21.Bf4 Ne8 Imnadze,N (2201)-Tylor,T (2215) Philadelphia 2007 GAM A51 GS [Dragan Solak] ½-½ (78)]
[7.Be3 Nge7 8.Qf3 Be6 9.Nge2 Ng6 10.h4 Nxh4 11.Qg3 Ng6 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Rxh7 Rxh7 14.Qxg6+ Kd7 15.Qxh7 Qh8 16.Qxh8 Rxh8 17.0-0-0 Bxc3 18.Nxc3 Ne7 19.Bf4 c6 20.Ne2 Ng6 21.Bg3 Bg4 Lagarde,M (2532)-Nguyen,C (2372) Metz 2013 EXT 2016 [Metz Alekhine/Primel,D] 1-0 (33)]
7...Nge7 8.0-0 0-0 0.40/18
[8...Bg4!= 0.01/18]
9.b4 Bb6 10.Na4 0.01/20
[10.b5⩲ 0.34/18 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 Bxd4 12.Bxh7+! Kxh7 13.Qxd4]
10...Bf5 0.43/17
[10...Nxd4= 0.01/20 11.Nxd4 Bxd4 12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Qxd4 Kg8]

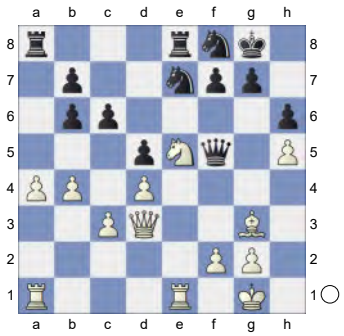


11.c3 Qd7 12.Nxb6 axb6 13.Bf4 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 Ng6 15.Bg3 Nce7

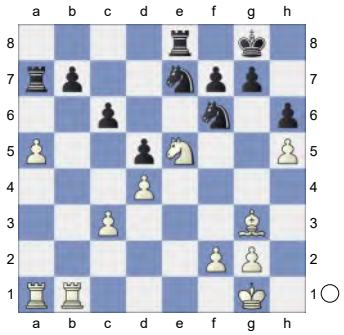


16.Rfe1 Rfe8 17.h4 h6 18.h5 Nf8 19.a4 c6 20.Ne5 Qf5

(Diagram)



21.Qd1 Nd7 22.a5 bxa5 23.bxa5 Nf6 24.Qb1 Qxb1 25.Rexb1 Ra7



26.Nd3 Ne4

[26...Nxh5? 27.Bd6+-]

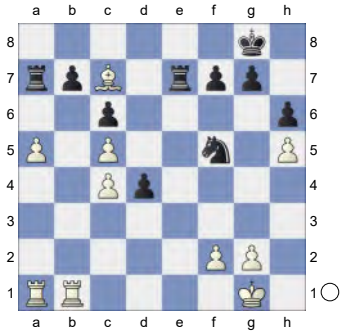
27.Nc5 Nxc5 28.dxc5 Nf5 29.Bc7 d4 1.08/21

[29...Re7⩲ 0.34/20 30.Bb8 Ra8]

30.c4 0.27/20

[30.g4± 1.08/21 Nh4 31.cxd4]

30...Re7



31.Bf4 0.01/19

[31.Bd6⩲ 0.47/21 is more appropriate. Re4 32.Ra3 *(32.Bb8 Ra8=)*]

31...d3 0.52/23

[31...Re4= 0.01/19 32.Bb8 Ra8]

32.Rd1!⩲ Re4 33.g3 -0.01/23

[33.Bc7!⩲ 0.35/23 was preferrable.]

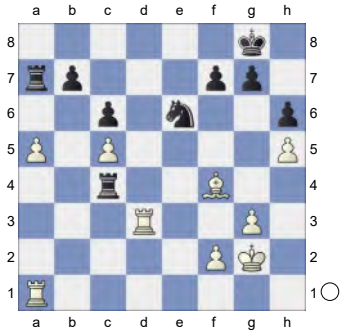
33...Rxc4 With the idea ...Nd4.

[33...Nd4 keeps more tension. 34.Bc7 d2 35.Kg2 Nc2]

34.Rxd3 Nd4 And now ...Ne2+ would win. **35.Kg2** -0.26/23

[35.Bc7! 0.10/23 is superior.]

35...Ne6



36.Be3 Kf8 0.31/20

[36...Ra8= -0.01/22]

37.Rd7 Ke8 38.Rad1 -0.18/24

[38.Rd6!⩲ 0.58/21]

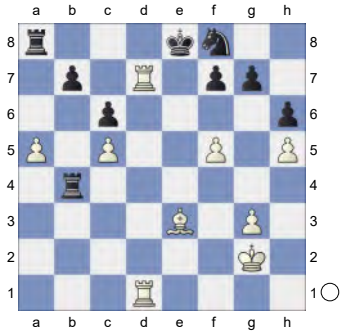
38...Rb4 39.f4 -0.34/24

[39.R7d6= -0.01/24 deserves consideration.]

39...Ra8? 1.57/22

[39...Rb3!∓ -0.34/24 keeps the upper hand. 40.f5 Rxe3 41.fxe6 Rxe6]

40.f5± Nf8

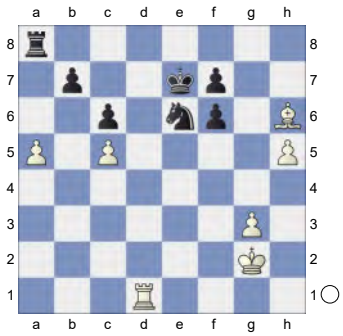


41.Rc7 Re4 42.Bf4 Re7 43.f6 0.83/23

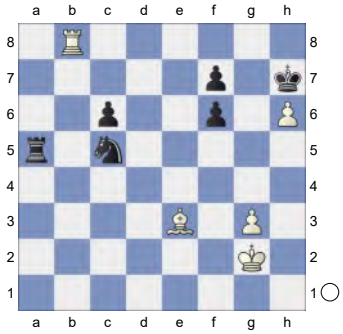
[43.Rxe7++- 2.03/22 Kxe7 44.Be5]

43...gxf6 44.Rxe7+ Kxe7 45.Bxh6 Endgame KRB-KRN **45...Ne6**

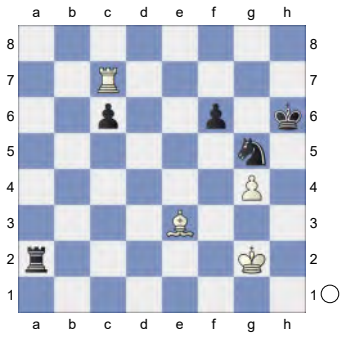
(Diagram)



46.Be3 0.01/22
[46.Rb1!± 0.73/22]
46...Rxa5= **47.h6** **Kf8** **48.Rd7** Hoping for h7. **48...Kg8** **49.Rxb7** **Nxc5** **50.Rb8+** **Kh7**

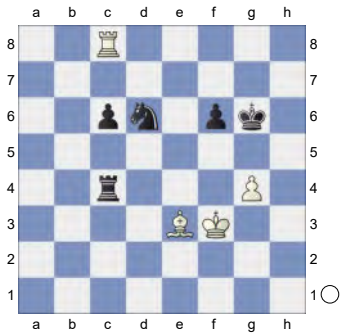


51.Rf8 **Ne6!** **52.Rxf7+** **Kg6** **53.Re7** **Ng5** **54.g4** -0.28/25
[⌓54.Bxg5 0.07/21 Rxg5 55.Rc7 *(55.h7 Rh5=)*]
54...Kxh6 **55.Rc7** -0.54/26
[55.Re6!= -0.01/26]
55...Ra2+∓

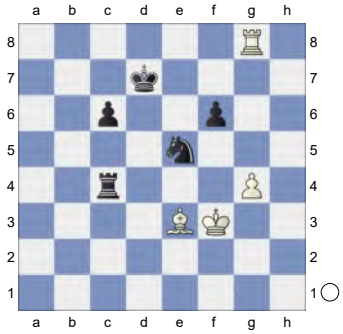


56.Kg3 **Rc2** **57.Kf4** **Kg6** **58.Rc8** **Rc4+** **59.Kg3** **Ne4+** **60.Kf3** **Nd6**

(Diagram)

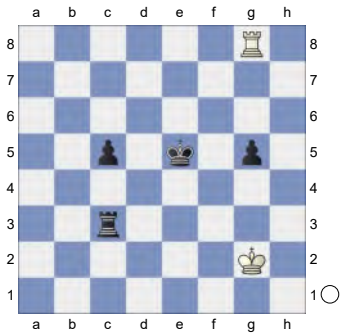


61.Rg8+ **Kf7** **62.Rd8** **Ke6** **63.Rf8** **Nf7** **64.Re8+** -1.03/21
[64.Bf4∓ -0.56/24 might be stronger.]
64...Kd7∓ **65.Rg8** **Ne5+**

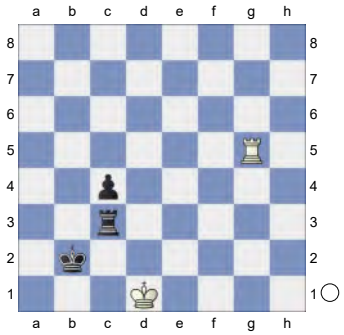


66.Kg3 **Ke6** **67.Bf4** -2.30/22
[67.Rg7∓ -1.27/20]
67...Rc3+? -0.70/22
[Better is 67...Kf7-+ -2.30/22 68.Rc8 Rc3+ 69.Kg2 Nxg4]
68.Kg2? -2.30/24
[68.Kh4∓ -0.70/22]
68...c5 -0.86/20
[68...Kf7-+ -2.30/24 has better winning chances. 69.Rb8 Nxg4]
69.Bxe5 **Kxe5** KR-KR **70.g5?** -5.13/25
[70.Rc8∓ -0.87/23 is more resistant.]
70...fxg5-+

(Diagram)

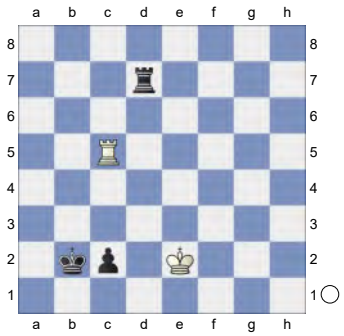


71.Rxg5+ -7.26/31
[⌓71.Kf2 -4.60/24 Kf4 72.Rf8+ Kg4 73.Rh8]
71...Kd4 72.Kf2 Kc4? -1.59/29
[72...c4-+ -6.90/31 73.Ke1 Rd3]
73.Ke2∓ Kb3 Threatens to win with ... Kb2. **74.Kd2?** -4.73/32
[74.Rg6 -2.61/32 is a better defense.]
74...Kb2-+ 75.Kd1? -9.52/30
[75.Ke2∓ -1.47/27]
75...c4

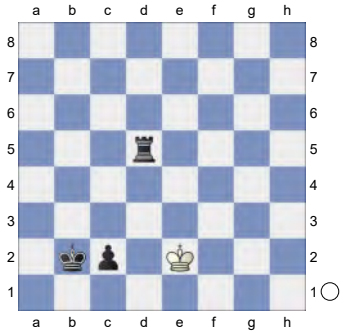


76.Rg8 Rb3 White must now prevent ... Rd3+. **77.Rb8 c3** -5.77/27
[⌓77...Rxb8 -#9/20 78.Ke2 Re8+ 79.Kf2 c3 80.Kg3 c2 81.Kf4 c1Q+ 82.Kf5 Qf1+ 83.Kg6 Rg8+ 84.Kh7 Qf7+ 85.Kh6 Qg6#]
78.Rc8 Rb7 79.Rc5 Inhibits Rb5.
79...Rd7+ 80.Ke2 c2

(Diagram)



81.Rd5 Rxd5

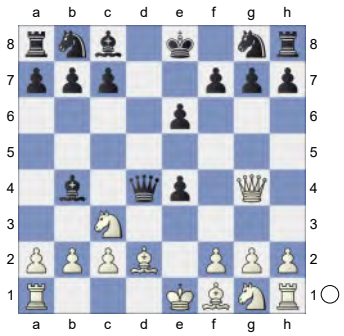


Black used his chance.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

180 **C15**
□ **Bernadskiy,Vitaliy** **2619**
■ **Larkin,Vladislav** **2388**
UKR-ch op 89th (5.7) 22.11.2020
[Mikhalchishin,Adrian]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 An old line, used in case Black did not like the Four Knights Defence. **4.Bd2 dxe4 5.Qg4 Qxd4**
[5...Nf6 6.Qxg7 Rg8 7.Qh6 Qxd4 8.Nge2 Qe5 9.h3]

(Diagram)



6.0-0-0

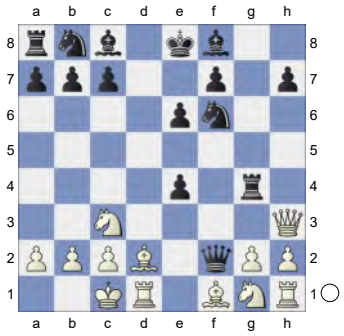
[6.Nf3 Nh6 *(6...Qf6 7.Qxe4 Qe7; 6...h5 7.Qxe6+ Bxe6 8.Nxd4 Bd7)* 7.Qxe6+ Bxe6 8.Nxd4 Bd7 *(8...e3)*]

6...Nf6

[6...h5]

[6...f5]

7.Qxg7 Rg8 8.Qh6 Bf8 9.Qh4 Rg4 10.Qh3 Qxf2



Logical development, but two other options are playable as well. **11.Nb5**

[11.Be2 Rh4 12.Qxh4! A very strong and a nice move. White's rook will now get a chance to join game very quickly. I made this move without spending too much time and decided that maybe I will not get a chance to sleep that day - I was starting to like my position. Qxh4 13.g3! Qh6]

[11.Be3 Qh4

A) 12.Be2 Qxh3 13.Nxh3 Rxg2 *(13...Bd7 14.Bxg4 Nxg4 15.Bf4 f5* 1-0 Kindermann,S-Pavasovic,D/Lippstadt 1998/ChessBase (39) *16.Bxc7 Nc6)* 14.Nf4 Rg7 15.Nh5 Nxh5 16.Nxe4 b6 17.Bxh5 Nd7;

B) 12.Qxh4! Getting more and more space - bishops need it! 12...Rxh4 13.g3 Rh5 14.Be2 I managed to get an advantage. White has two bishops, active pieces and big difference in time - up to now I had spent 35 minutes and Yusupov 2 hours 5 minutes. So maybe White's strategy was not so bad! Bh6 15.Bxh6 with simply better play, Psakhis,L (2500)-Jussupow,A (2575) Vilnius 1981 URS-ch Rxh6]

11...Na6 12.Be2

[12.Kb1 Bd7 13.Be3 Qf5 *(13...Qh4 14.Qxh4 Rxh4 15.Bg5* with solid position, Conquest,S-Piket,J/EUR-ch Ohrid 2001 Another option is *Rh6 16.Bxh6 Bxh6)* 14.Nd4 Qg6 15.Nb3 Nb4 16.Ne2 Nfd5 17.Nc3 Nxc3+ 18.bxc3 Nd5 19.Bd4 Rg5 20.g4 e5]

12...Rg6!?

[12...Rh4 13.Qxh4 Qxh4 14.g3 Qh6 with very strong attack, Carlsen,M (2863)-Bu Xiangzhi (2705) chess24.com INT 2020 ⚆15.Bxh6 Bxh6+ 16.Kb1 Ke7 *(16...Nd5)*]

13.g4 Qb6 14.Nc3 h6

[14...e5]

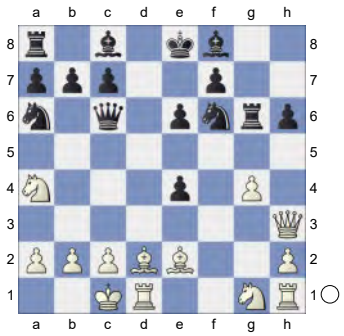
[14...Bd7]

15.Na4

[15.Be3 Bc5 16.Bxc5 Qxc5 17.Bb5+ c6 18.Bxa6 bxa6 19.Re1 e5 20.Nxe4 Nxe4 21.Rxe4 Rxg4]

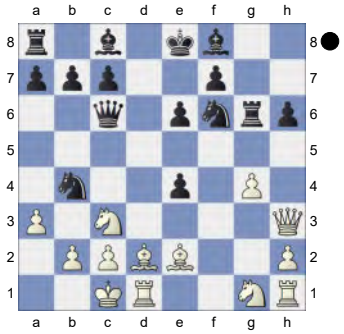
15...Qc6

(Diagram)



16.Nc3 Nb4 17.a3

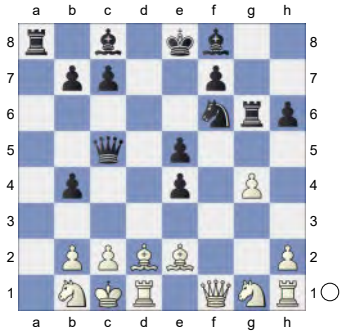
[17.Bb5 Black will have to suffer a bit, Drabke,L (2439)-Seres,L (2496) Budapest 2004 Nxa2+ 18.Kb1 Nxc3+]



17...a5? 18.axb4! In just one move Black came into a difficult situation!

18...axb4 19.Nb1! e5 20.Qf1 Qc5

[20...Ra5 21.Qe1 Rc5 22.c3 Nd5]



21.g5 The knight is lost in the middle of the board!! **21...hxg5 22.h4 e3**

[22...gxh4 23.Rxh4 Be6]

23.Be1 g4

[23...b3 24.c4 g4]

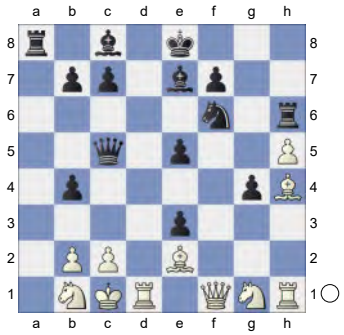
[23...Nd5]

24.h5 Rh6 25.Bh4

[25.Bc4 c6]

Or the more tricky **25...Be7**

[25...b3 26.c3 Nd5 27.Bb5+ The bishops pair will show its power soon, Quesada Perez,Y (2572)-Boros, D (2467) Philadelphia 2019 c6 28.Qc4 Qxb5 29.Qxb5 cxb5 30.Rxd5 f6 31.Ne2 Be6 32.Rxb5 Ra1]



26.Bc4 Be6

[26...Rxh5 27.Qxf6 Be6]

[26...g3 27.Bxg3 Bg4]

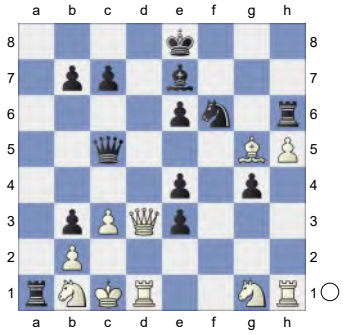
or **27.Bxe6 fxe6 28.Bg5 b3** Immediately losing was **29.c3**

[A bit artificial seems to be 29.Qe2]

29...Ra1 30.Qd3

[30.Bxh6 Qxc3+ 31.bxc3 Ba3#]

30...e4



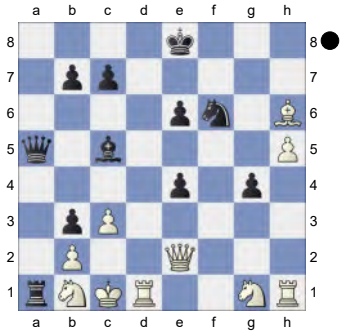
31.Qxe3 Qa5 Black would obtain a nice position after **32.Bxh6 Bc5**

[32...Qa2 33.Kd2 Qxb2+ 34.Ke1 Rxb1 Once more better was 35.Qe2

Preferable was Rxd1+ Nothing special promised 36.Qxd1 Qg2]

33.Qe2

[Risky move.Better was the simple 33.Qe2 Qa2 34.Kd2 Qxb2+ 35.Ke1 The queens' swap would allow White to keep slight pressure after Rxb1 36.Qxb2 Rxb2]



1-0

181 **C19**

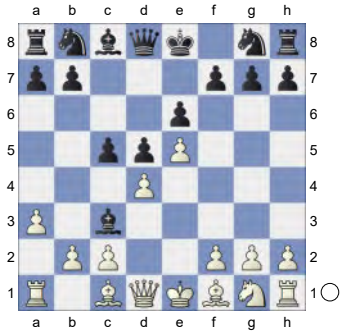
□ **Murray,Timothy J** **2617**

■ **David,Robert** **2400**

W-ch22 email 31.12.2007

[Myers]

Myers: In the Final of the 22nd Correspondence World Championship, both SM Tim Murray and SM David Vrkoc were faced with the same dubious variation of the French Winawer. Each approached the game in a fresh and creative manner, and at move 14 they parted company. Both moves proved to be spectacularly successful--in just 25 moves Black resigned twice, each game in ruins. For Black, foot soldier of chess and a lifelong adherent of the French Defense, it was a stunning debacle. Myers: In the Final of the 22nd Correspondence World Championship, both SM Tim Murray and SM David Vrkoc were faced with the same dubious variation of the French Winawer. Each approached the game in a fresh and creative manner, and at move 14 they parted company. Both moves proved to be spectacularly successful--in just 25 moves Black resigned twice, each game in ruins. For Black, foot soldier of chess and a lifelong adherent of the French Defense, it was a stunning debacle. **1.e4** Myers **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.a4 Qc7 8.Nf3 h6?! 9.Bd3 Nbc6 10.0-0 b6

[10...c4 11.Be2 Bd7 *(11...0-0 12.Ba3 f6 13.exf6 Rxf6 14.Ne5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Rf4 16.a5 Kh7 17.Bd6 Qd8 18.Qd2 Rf7 19.Bh5 g6 20.Bg4 b5 21.axb6 Qxb6 22.Ba3 Qd8 23.Rfb1 Nf5 24.Bc1 Qh4 25.f3 a5 26.g3 Nxg3 27.hxg3 Qxg3+ 28.Kh1 Kg8 29.Qg2 Qe1+ 30.Kh2 Qxe5+ 31.f4 Qf6 32.Bd2 a4 33.Re1 a3 34.Ra2 Qh4+ 35.Bh3 g5 36.Qg3 Qxg3+ 37.Kxg3 e5 38.fxg5 Bxh3 39.Kxh3 Rf3+ 40.Kg4 e4 41.gxh6 Kh7 42.Rb1 Rg8+ 43.Bg5 Rf2 44.Rb7+ Kh8 45.Rg7 Rxg7 46.hxg7+ Kxg7 47.Be3 Rf1 48.Rxa3 Kf7 49.Ra7+ Ke6 50.Ra6+ Kd7 51.Bf4 Ke7 52.Kf5 Rf3 53.Ra7+ Kf8 54.Ke5 Kg8 55.Bh2 Rh3 56.Bg1 e3*

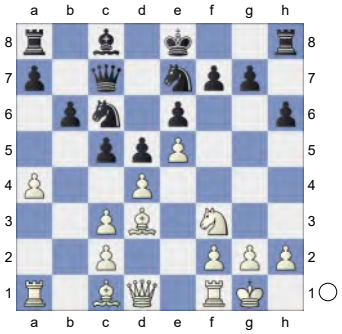
57.Kxd5 Rg3 58.Bh2 Rg2 59.Bf4 Rxc2 60.Kxc4 e2 61.Re7 1-0 Wojtkowiak,R-Kevicky,M/corr ICCF 2002/) 12.Ba3 b6 *(12...Nf5 13.g4 Nfe7 14.Nh4 f6 15.Bd6!±; 12...Qa5 13.Qd2 0-0 14.Bd6 Rfe8 15.Rfb1±; 12...0-0 13.Qc1 f6 14.Bd6 Qd8 15.Qb2±; 12...0-0-0? 13.a5 Be8 14.Bd6 Rxd6 15.exd6 Qxd6 16.Qb1±)* 13.Qd2 *(13.Qc1 Nc8 14.Qf4 a5 15.Nh4 N6e7 16.Bh5 g6 17.Qf6 Rg8 18.Rfe1 Qd8 19.Bg4 Nc6 20.f4 h5 21.Bf3 N6e7 22.Re3 Bc6 23.f5 Qd7 24.fxg6 fxg6 25.Nxg6 Nxg6 26.Bxh5 Qf7 27.Rf1 Ra7 28.Rg3* 1-0 Hasek,V-Halouzka,J/corr CZE 1992/) 13...f5 14.Nh4 0-0-0 15.Bd6 Qb7 16.a5 b5 17.a6 Qb6 18.Bc5 Qb8 19.Rfb1 g5 20.Nf3 g4 21.Nh4 Rdg8 22.Rb2 Ng6 23.Nxg6 Rxg6 24.Rab1 Nd8 25.Ra2 Bc6 26.Qc1 Nf7 27.Qa3 Qc7 28.Bb4 Kb8 29.Rab2 Ka8 30.Ba5 Qd7 31.Qc5 Rb8 32.Qa3 h5 33.Bb4 f4 34.f3 Rbg8 35.Be7 Nh6 36.fxg4 hxg4 37.Bh4 Nf5 38.Bf2 g3 39.hxg3 fxg3 40.Be1 Qh7 41.Bf3 Ne3 42.Bxg3 Rxg3 43.Qc5 Rxg2+ 44.Bxg2 Rxg2# 0-1 Levchuk,D-Babiy,A/Kiev UKR 2003/]

[10...cxd4? 11.cxd4 Nb4 *(11...Na5 12.Ba3 Nc4 13.Bxc4 Qxc4 14.Qd2 b6 15.a5!±)* 12.Ba3 *(12.Bb5+! Bd7 13.c3 Nbc6 14.Ba3 Na5 15.Bd6±)* 12...Nxd3 13.cxd3 Bd7 14.Bd6 Qd8 15.Qb3 Bc6 16.Qa3 Nf5 17.Rfe1 h5 18.a5 a6 19.Bc5 Rg8 20.Qc1 g5 21.Bb6 Qe7 22.Bc5 Qd8 23.Bb6 ½-½ Hernandez,G-Atalik,S/Elista RUS 1998/ ½-½ Hernandez,G-Atalik,S/Elista RUS 1998/]

[10...0-0 11.h4 *(11.Bxh6 gxh6 12.Qd2 Kg7 13.Qf4 Ng6 14.Qf6+ Kg8∓; 11.Qd2 b6 12.Qf4 Nf5 13.g4 Nfe7 14.g5 h5 15.Ba3±)* 11...Qd8 *(11...Bd7 12.Re1 cxd4 13.cxd4 Nb4 14.Ba3 Nxd3 15.Qxd3 Rfe8 16.Bd6 Qc6 17.Bxe7 Rxe7 18.Rec1 Rc8 19.Rab1 Be8 20.a5 Qc3 21.Qxc3 Rxc3 22.Rb3 Rc4 23.Ra3 Bb5 24.c3 Rec7 25.Kh2 Kh7 26.Kg3 Kg6 27.Kf4 Rc8 28.Ke3 Kf5 29.Nh2 Rb4 30.h5 Rb2 31.g4+ Kg5 32.Kf3 f5 33.Kg3 fxg4 34.Nxg4 Kxh5 35.Ne3 Kg6 36.Rg1 Rf8 37.f4 Kh7 38.Kf3 Bd3 39.Kg3 Be4 40.Re1 g5 41.fxg5 Rg8 42.Ng4 Rxg5 43.Kh4 Rg2 44.Nf6+ Kg6 45.Re3 Bf5* 0-1 Stastny,J-Rehurek,L/Plzen U16 CZE 1995/ *)* 12.Ba3 c4 13.Be2 Re8 14.Qd2 Nf5 15.g3 Bd7 16.Kg2 Na5 17.Rh1 Ne7 18.g4 Nc8 19.Bb4 Ne7 20.h5 b6 21.Qf4 Nb7 22.Qg3 Kh8 23.Nh4 a5 24.Ba3 Ng8 25.Bc1 f6 26.Bf4 fxe5 27.Bxe5 Nf6 28.Bf3 Ne4 29.Bxe4 dxe4 30.Qf4 Kg8 31.Qxe4 Rc8 32.Qg6 Bc6+ 33.Kg3 Qd7 34.Rhe1 Rf8 35.g5 hxg5 36.Qxg5 Rf7 37.h6 Nd6 38.Bxd6 Qxd6+ 39.Qe5 Qe7 40.Ng6 Rf3+ 41.Kg4 Qd7 42.h7+ Kxh7 43.Qh5+ Kg8 44.Qh8+ Kf7 45.Ne5+ Ke7 46.Qxg7+ Kd6 47.Nxd7 Rxf2 48.Rxe6+ Kxe6 49.Re1+ 1-0 Levchuk,D-Vdovichenko,V/Kiev UKR 2003/]

[10...Bd7 11.Ba3 b6 12.Re1 *(12.dxc5 bxc5 13.Bxc5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Qxc5 15.Qf3 Rf8 16.c4 Rc8 17.cxd5 Nxd5 18.Rfe1 Qc3 19.Qg4 g6 20.Bxg6 fxg6 21.Nxd7 Kxd7 22.Qxe6+ Kc7 23.Qxd5 Rce8 24.Reb1 Rb8 25.Rf1 Rf5 26.Qe6 Rbf8 27.Qe7+ Kc6 28.Rad1* 1-0 Nunn,J-Clarke,T/Bunratty IRL 1998/ *)* 12...Na5 13.Nd2 *(13.Nh4 g5*

14.Nf3 Bxa4 15.Bxc5 bxc5 16.Rxa4 c4 17.Bf1 Nac6 18.h3 Rb8 19.Qd2 Kd7 20.Nh2 Ng6 21.Ng4 Kc8 22.Nf6 Kb7 23.g3 Ka8 24.Bg2 Rb5 25.Kh2 Rhb8 26.Rea1 a5 27.Ng4 Rh8 28.Ne3 Ka7 29.Qc1 Nd8 30.Rb4 Kb6 31.Bxd5 1-0 Garzon Roger,J-Lopez Mateo,P/Ateneo ESP 1992/ *)* 13...Bxa4 *(13...0-0 14.Nf1 f5 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.Ne3 h5 17.h3 g6 18.c4 Raf8 19.Re2 R8f7 20.cxd5 Nxd5 21.Nxd5 exd5 22.c3 cxd4 23.cxd4 Bf5 24.Bb5 Bd7 25.Rc1 Nc4 26.Bxc4 dxc4 27.d5 b5 28.Bb2 Rf3* 1-0 Golovchenko,G-Winiwarter,F/ Oberwart OST 2004/*)* 14.c4 dxc4 15.Bxc4 0-0 16.Bd3 Rfd8 17.dxc5 Rxd3 18.cxb6 axb6 19.Bd6 Qxc2 20.Rxa4 Qxd1 21.Rxd1 Nd5 22.Kf1 Rc8 23.Ke2 Rdc3 24.Ke1 Rc2 25.Raa1 Nf4 26.Kf1 Nd5 27.Ke1 Kh7 28.g3 R8c3 29.Ra3 Rc8 30.Raa1 Kg6 31.Rdb1 R8c3 32.Ra3 Rxd2 33.Rxc3 Re2+ 34.Kxe2 Nxc3+ 35.Kd2 Nxb1+ 36.Kc2 f6 37.exf6 Nd2 38.fxg7 Kxg7 39.Be5+ Kg6 40.Kxd2 Nc4+ 0-1 Kiran,M-Cori Tello, D/Puerto Madryn U20 ARG 2009/]



11.Ba3

[11.Bd2 Na5 12.Re1 Bd7 13.Qc1 c4 14.Bf1 Bc6 15.g3 Qd7 16.Qa3 0-0-0 17.h4 Qe8 18.Nh2 Qf8 19.Bh3 Ng8 20.Qb4 Qe8 21.Bg4 Kb7 22.Nf1 Bd7 23.Bh5 Ne7 24.Ne3 Nec6 25.Qa3 Qg8 26.Qc1 Be8 27.Qd1 Ne7 28.Bc1 g5 29.Ng4 gxh4 30.Nf6 Qg7 31.g4 Ng8 32.Qf3 Nxf6 33.exf6 Qh7 34.Re2 Bd7 35.Bf4 Rhg8 36.Kh2 Nc6 37.Kh3 Rg5 38.Bxg5 hxg5 39.Kh2 e5 40.dxe5 Be6 41.Rd1 Qg8 42.Qe3 1-0 Brueggemann,J-Pluemer,D/Bad Wiessee GER 2002/]

11...0-0

[11...Bd7 12.Bb5 Na5 13.Re1 Bxb5 14.axb5 Nc4 15.Bc1 Qd7 16.Rb1 Rc8 17.Qd3 0-0 18.Nd2 cxd4 19.cxd4 Nf5 20.g4 Nh4 21.f4 f5 22.Nxc4 Rxc4 23.Qg3 Qd8 24.c3 fxg4 25.Qxg4 Nf5 26.Bd2 Qd7 27.Kh1 Kh8 28.Rg1 Rfc8 29.Rb2 Ra4 30.Qg6 Qe8 31.Qg4 Qe7 32.Qg6 Ra5 33.c4 Nh4 34.Qg4 dxc4 35.Bxa5 Qb7+ 36.Rgg2 Nxg2 37.Qxg2 Qxg2+ 38.Kxg2 bxa5 39.Kf3 Kh7 40.Ke4 Kg6 41.Rg2+ Kf7 42.d5 exd5+ 43.Kxd5 a4 44.Kd4 Rc7 45.f5 a3 46.Kc3 Rc5 47.Re2 Rxb5 48.Kxc4 Rb2 49.Re3 Rxh2 50.Rxa3 Rc2+ 51.Kd5 Rc7 52.Kd6 Rb7 53.e6+ Ke8 54.Rg3 Kf8 55.Rc3 Rb8 56.Rc7 Ra8 57.Rf7+ Kg8 58.f6 gxf6 59.Rxf6 Kg7 60.Rf7+ Kg6 61.Rf2 h5 62.e7 Kg7 63.Ke6 a5 64.Rg2+ Kh6 65.Kf6 h4 66.Rg6+ Kh5 67.Rg5+ Kh6 68.Rxa5 Rg8 69.Kf7 Rb8 70.e8Q 1-0 Rahman,S-Alam,M/Dhaka BAN 2003/]

[11...c4 12.Be2 Bb7 13.Re1 *(13.Qd2 0-0-0 14.Rfe1 Qd7 15.Bb4 Nxb4 16.cxb4 a6 17.c3 g5 18.a5 b5 19.Bd1 Ng6 20.h3 Nf4 21.Bc2 Rdg8 22.Nh2 h5 23.h4 Qd8 24.Nf3 g4 25.Qxf4 gxf3 26.g3 Rg4 27.Qxf7 Qxh4 28.Qxf3 Qg5 29.Re3 h4*

30.Bd1 Re4 31.Rxe4 dxe4 32.Qe3 Qg6 33.g4 h3 34.Kh2 Rf8 35.Be2 ½-½ Cilloniz Razzeto,A-Asker,S/corr BRA 1998/ ½-½ Cilloniz Razzeto,A-Asker,S/corr BRA 1998/*)* 13...0-0-0 14.Bf1 *(14.Bd6 Rxd6 15.exd6 Qxd6 16.Bf1 f6 17.g3 Ng6 18.Bh3 Re8 19.Nd2 Nf8 20.Qg4 Re7 21.f4 Kb8 22.Re3 e5 23.Nf3 e4 24.Nd2 g6 25.Rf1 Rh7 26.Nxe4 dxe4 27.f5 h5 28.Qe2 g5 29.Bg2 h4* 1-0 Henrick,B-Hunter,T/corr IRL 1999/*)* 14...Qd7 15.g3 Rde8 16.Nh4 Kb8 17.f4 Nc8 18.Qg4 *(18.Bh3 g6 19.Rf1 Reg8 20.Bg2 a5 21.Qe1 Ka7 22.g4* ½-½ Mecking,H-Bronstein,D/ Petropolis BRA 1973/ ½-½ Mecking,H-Bronstein,D/Petropolis BRA 1973/*)* 18...Rhg8 19.Qh5 g5 20.fxg5 hxg5 21.Nf3 g4 22.Ng5 Rg6 23.Qxg4 Reg8 24.h4 f6 25.exf6 Rxf6 26.Bc1 N8e7 27.Bf4+ Ka8 28.Bh3 Bc8 29.Qf3 Rgg6 30.Qg2 Qe8 31.a5 Nxa5 32.h5 Rg7 33.Be5 Rxg5 34.Bxf6 Rxh5 35.Bxe6 Qg6 36.Bxc8 Qxf6 37.Ba6 Nac6 38.Re3 Qg5 39.Rae1 Kb8 40.g4 Rh4 41.Qg3+ Ka8 42.Rf1 Rh8 43.Qf4 Qh4 44.Qc7 1-0 Tay,J-Newman,N/corr IECC 1999/]

[11...Na5 12.Bb5+ *(12.Qd2 Bd7 13.Rfb1 Rc8 14.Ba6 Rd8 15.dxc5 bxc5 16.Qe3 d4 17.cxd4 Nd5 18.Qd2 cxd4 19.Bd6 Qc3 20.Qxd4 Qxc2 21.Rc1 Qf5 22.Rab1 Nc6 23.Qb2 Nce7 24.Qa3 Nc8 25.Rb8 Ncb6 26.a5 Rxb8 27.Bxb8 Na4 28.Bd6 f6 29.Qb3 Kf7 30.Qb7 Rd8 31.Bb5 Ke8 32.Bxd7+ Rxd7 33.Rc8+ Rd8 34.Qb5+* 1-0 Vinter Schou,U-Masternak,G/Polen POL 1986/ *)* 12...Kf8 13.Bd3 Bd7 14.Nh4 g5 15.Nf3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nc4 17.Bc1 Nf5 18.g4 Ne7 19.Nd2 Na5 20.Bb2 Rg8 21.f4 gxf4 22.Rxf4 f5 23.Kh1 Nc4 24.Bc1 Ne3 25.Qf3 Nxc2 26.gxf5 exf5 27.Rb1 Ne1 28.Qf1 Nxd3 29.Qxd3 Rc8 30.Qe2 Qc6 31.Ba3 Ke8 32.Rbf1 Qg6 33.Nf3 Qh5 34.e6 Bc6 35.Qe5 Qg6 36.Rg1 Qh7 37.Rxg8+ Qxg8 38.Bxe7 Kxe7 39.Nh4 Qxe6 40.Nxf5+ Kd7 41.Qg7+ Kd8 42.Nxh6 ½-½ Baglan, E-Soysal,S/Konya TUR 2011/ ½-½ Baglan,E-Soysal,S/Konya TUR 2011/]

12.Re1 Na5?!

[12...Rd8? 13.dxc5 *(13.Qd2 Na5 14.Qe3 Nf5 15.Qf4 Ne7 16.Qg4 Bb7 17.Bc1! Kf8 18.Qh5±)* 13...bxc5 14.Bxc5 Nxe5 15.Bxe7 Nxf3+ 16.Qxf3 Qxe7 17.c4 Bb7 18.Qf5 g6 19.Qf4 Kg7 20.cxd5 Bxd5 21.a5 ½-½ Bergamini,L-Dijksman,L/corr ICCF 2000/ ½-½ Bergamini,L-Dijksman,L/corr ICCF 2000/]

[12...a5 13.Rb1 Nb8! 14.Nh4 Ba6 15.f4! Bxd3 16.cxd3 Nd7 17.Qg4 Rfe8 18.f5 exf5 19.Nxf5 Nxf5 20.Qxf5 Nf8 21.Rf1 Ne6 22.Qf2⩲]

[12...c4 13.Be2 Qd7 14.Nh4 Re8 15.Qc1 Bb7 16.Bh5 Nf5 17.Nxf5 exf5 18.Qe3⩲]

[12...Re8? 13.g4! *(13.dxc5 bxc5 14.Bxc5 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 Qxc5 16.c4 Nc6 17.cxd5 exd5 18.Nxc6 Qxc6 19.Bb5 Rxe1+ 20.Qxe1 Qe6=)* 13...Na5 14.g5! c4! 15.Bf1 Nf5 16.gxh6 Nxh6 17.Bh3 Nc6 18.Bc1 Nf5 19.Bxf5 exf5 20.Ng5! f4 21.Bxf4 Qb7□ 22.Qf3±]

[12...Nb8 13.Rb1 *(13.c4 dxc4 14.Bxc4 Ba6 15.Bb5 Bxb5 16.axb5 Rd8 17.Qd3 a6 18.Bc1 Qb7 19.Qe4 Qxe4 20.Rxe4 cxd4 21.Rxd4 Rxd4 22.Nxd4 a5 23.Ba3⩲)* 13...Rd8 14.g4 Qd7 15.g5 c4 16.Bf1 Nf5 17.gxh6

Nxh6 18.a5 bxa5 19.Bc1 Nf5 20.Ng5 Nc6 21.Qh5 Nh6 22.Nf3 Nf5 23.Bh3 Nce7 24.Ba3⩲]

13.Nh4!

[13.h4! Re8 *(13...Bd7 14.Qd2 Rfd8 15.h5 Nc4 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.dxc5 Nd5 18.Re4 Bxa4 19.Rxc4 Bc6 20.Qe1⩱)* 14.h5 Bd7 15.g4 *(15.Bc1 Bc6 16.Ra2 Qd7 17.Bf4 cxd4 18.cxd4 Bxa4 19.Qe2 Nc4∓; 15.Qc1 Bxa4 16.Bxc5 bxc5 17.Rxa4 c4 18.Bf1 Reb8 19.g4 Nac6 20.Bh3 Kf8 21.g5!⩱)* 15...Nc4 16.Bc1! *(16.Qc1 Nxa3 17.Rxa3 Bc6 18.g5 c4 19.Bf1 hxg5 20.Qxg5 Nf5 21.Bh3 Nh6 22.Kf1⩱)*

A) 16...Bc6? 17.g5 hxg5 18.Bxg5 Nb2 19.Qd2 Nxd3 20.cxd3 Kh7 21.h6 gxh6 22.Bxh6 Rg8+ 23.Kf1 Rg6 24.Bg5 Nf5 25.Ke2 Kg7 26.Bf6+ Kf8 27.Rh1 Ke8 28.Rh7+-;

B) 16...a6? 17.Nh4! cxd4 *(17...b5 18.g5 Qa5 19.gxh6 Qxc3 20.Qg4+-)* 18.cxd4 Rf8 19.g5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 Nf5 21.Qg4 Kh8 22.Nxf5 exf5 23.Bxf5 Bxf5 24.Qxf5 Qc8 25.Qxc8 Raxc8 26.Kg2±;

C) 16...f5? 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Bxh6 Nb2 19.Qd2 Nxd3 20.cxd3 cxd4 21.cxd4 Rac8 22.Bg5+-;

D) 16...cxd4?! 17.cxd4 Rf8 *(17...b5 18.axb5 Bxb5 19.c3 a5 20.Bb1! Kf8 21.Qc2 Ng8 22.Qh7 a4 23.Qh8 Qa5 24.Ba3+ Nxa3 25.Rxa3+-; 17...Qc6 18.Nh4! Rac8 19.Bxh6 gxh6 20.Qf3 Rf8 21.Qf6 Nf5 22.gxf5 exf5 23.e6 fxe6 24.Qg6++-)* 18.g5 hxg5 19.Nxg5 f6 20.Nh7 fxe5 21.Qg4 e4 22.h6 Nf5 23.Nxf8 Rxf8 24.Bf4 Ncd6 25.Be2 Rf6 26.hxg7 Be8 27.Qh3 Qxg7+ 28.Kh1 Qh7 29.Rg1+ Rg6 30.Qxh7+ Kxh7 31.c3+-;

E) 16...b5? 17.axb5 Bxb5 18.g5 hxg5 19.Nxg5 Nf5 20.h6 gxh6 21.Qg4 hxg5 22.Bxf5+-;

F) 16...Qc6!? 17.Nh4! cxd4 18.cxd4 Rec8 *(18...Rf8 19.g5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 Nf5 21.Qg4 Kh7□ 22.Nxf5 exf5 23.Bxf5+ Bxf5 24.Qxf5+ Kg8 25.h6 Qg6 26.Qxg6 fxg6 27.hxg7 Kxg7 28.Re2 Rae8 29.Rae1+-)* 19.g5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 Nf5 21.Qg4! Kh7 22.Nxf5 exf5 23.Bxf5+ Bxf5 24.Qxf5+ Kg8 25.e6 fxe6 26.Rxe6 Qd7 27.h6 Rf8 28.Qg6 Qf7±;

G) 16...Bc8?! 17.g5 hxg5 18.Nxg5 Nf5 19.Bxf5 exf5 20.h6 Qe7 21.Bf4 Be6 22.Qh5 g6 23.h7+ Kg7 24.Qh4 Kh8 25.Qh2! Rac8 26.Nf3 f6□ 27.exf6 Qxf6 28.Ne5+-;

H) 16...Rf8 17.g5 hxg5 *(17...cxd4 18.gxh6 dxc3 19.hxg7 Kxg7 20.Bg5 Ng8 21.Nh4 f5 22.exf6+ Nxf6 23.h6++-; 17...Nf5 18.gxh6 Nxh6 19.Bxh6 gxh6 20.Qc1 Kg7 21.Qf4+-)*

H1) 18.Nxg5 f5 *(18...cxd4 19.h6 Nxe5 20.hxg7 Kxg7 21.Bf4 f6 22.Qh5 Rh8 23.Bh7+-; 18...Nf5 19.h6 g6 20.Qg4 cxd4 21.h7+ Kh8 22.cxd4 Qc6 23.Bxf5 exf5 24.Qg2 f4 25.Bxf4 f6 26.exf6 Qxf6 27.Be5 Nxe5 28.dxe5 Qf4 29.e6 Be8 30.a5+-)* 19.Qf3! Qd8 *(19...cxd4 20.cxd4 Nc6 21.Qf4 Nd8 22.Qg3 Nf7 23.Nh3 Kh8 24.Qg6 Rae8 25.Ng5 Nxg5 26.Bxg5 Bc8 27.h6 Qf7 28.hxg7+ Qxg7 29.Qh5++-)* 20.Qh1! f4!? 21.h6

Nf5 22.Qh5 Be8 23.h7+ Kh8 24.Qg4 Qe7±;

H2) 18.h6

H2a) 18...g6?? 19.Bxg5! Nf5 20.Bxf5 gxf5 21.Bf6 Kh7 22.Ng5+ Kg6 23.Kg2 cxd4 24.cxd4 Bxa4 25.Rxa4 Nb2 26.Qf3+-;

H2b) 18...gxh6?

H2b1) ≤19.Nxg5 f5□ 20.Nh3 *(20.exf6? Rxf6 21.Qg4 Kh8 22.Bxc4 hxg5 23.Bd3 Rh6⇄)* 20...Rf7 *(20...Ng6 21.Qh5 Be8 22.Bxh6+-)* 21.Kh2 Rh7 22.Qh5 Kh8 23.Qh4 Ng8 24.Rg1 Rf8 25.Nf4 Ne7 26.Be2!+-;

H2b2) 19.Bxg5! Nb2 *(19...f5 20.Bxe7! Rf7 21.Bf6 Bc6 22.Nh4 Raf8 23.Qh5+-)* 20.Qd2 Nxd3 *(20...hxg5 21.Qxg5+ Ng6 22.Bxg6 Rfd8 23.Bh5++-)* 21.Bxe7! f5 22.Qxh6 Rf7 23.Bf6 Rxf6 24.exf6+-;

H2c) 18...f5 19.Bxg5! *(19.h7+ Kh8 20.Nxg5 Qd8 21.Qh5 Qe8 22.Qh2 Qg6 23.Kf1 Nc6 24.Bf4 Be8 25.dxc5 N4xe5 26.cxb6 axb6 27.Qg3 Nxd3 28.cxd3 e5 29.Bxe5 Nxe5 30.Rxe5 f4⇄)*

H2c1) 19...Rf7 20.Qc1 Ng6 21.hxg7 Rxg7 22.Kf1 Rh7 23.Ke2 Ncxe5 24.dxe5 c4 25.Bf6 cxd3+ 26.cxd3+-;

H2c2) 19...Ng6 20.hxg7 Kxg7 21.Bxc4 dxc4 22.Qd2 Rg8 *(22...Kf7 23.Bf6 Rg8 24.Ng5+ Kf8 25.d5! exd5 26.Kf1! Qc6 27.e6+-)* 23.Bf6+ Kf7 24.Ng5+ Ke8 25.d5! Qb7 26.dxe6 Bxe6 27.Rad1 Qd7 28.Qe3+-;

H2c3) 19...Be8 20.hxg7 Kxg7 21.Bf6+ Rxf6 22.exf6+ Kxf6 23.Qc1+-;

H2c4) 19...Nb2 20.Qc1 Nxd3 21.cxd3 Rf7 22.hxg7 Rxg7 23.Kf1 Kf7 *(23...Ng6 24.Bf6 Rh7 25.Kg2! cxd4 26.Qg5 Be8 27.Rh1 Rg7 28.Bxg7 Qxg7 29.cxd4+-)* 24.Bf6 Rg6 25.Ke2! 1-0 Vrkoc,D-Myers,D/corr Wch22 2007/ *(25.Nh4 Rg4 26.Qh6 Rag8 27.Qh7+ R8g7 28.Bxg7 Rxg7 29.Qh5+ Kg8 30.Rec1 Rh7 31.Qg5+ Rg7 32.Qf6 Rf7 33.Qh6 Rh7 34.Qe3 c4 35.Ke2+-; 25.Ke2 Rf8 26.Rg1 Rg4 27.Qh6 Ke8 28.Rxg4 fxg4 29.Nh4 Bc8 30.Bxe7 Qxe7 31.Ng6+-)*]

13...Nc4?!N

[13...Bd7 14.Qg4! *(14.Qh5 f5 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.Re2 Raf8 17.Rae1 Qc8 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.c4 Bxa4 20.Bb2 Be8 21.Qg4 d4 22.c3 Nb3 23.cxd4 Nxd4 24.Bxd4 cxd4 25.Qxd4 Qd7 26.Nf3 Nc6 27.Qxd7 Bxd7 28.c5 Rc8 29.Bc4 Na5 30.Rc2 Nxc4 31.Rxc4 Bc6 32.Ne5 Bd5 33.Rc3 Rf4 34.g3 Rb4 35.Ra1 a5 36.f3 a4 37.Kf2 Rb3 38.Rc2 a3 39.h4 Bxf3 40.Ng6 Kh7 41.Nf4 e5 42.Ng2 Rf8 43.Ke1 Be4 44.Re2 Rb1+* 0-1 Chudinovskih,A-Kobalia,M/ Moscow RUS 1996/*)* 14...Rac8 15.Re3! f5 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Rg3 Rf7 18.Ng6 *(18.Bc1!? e5! 19.Qh5 e4 20.Bxh6 exd3 21.Bxg7 Rxg7*

22.Rxg7+ Kxg7 23.Qg5+=) 18...Nac6 *(18...e5 19.Qh5 e4 20.Nxe7+ Rxe7 21.Qxd5+ Kh8 22.Ba6±)* 19.dxc5 bxc5 20.Bxc5 e5 21.Qd1 Be8 22.Ba3 Rd8 23.Nxe7+ Nxe7 24.Qd2⩲]

14.Bc1!

[14.Bxc4 dxc4 15.Qg4 *(15.dxc5 Rd8 16.Qg4 bxc5 17.Qxc4 Rd5 18.f4 Bb7 19.Rad1 Rad8 20.Rxd5 Rxd5 21.Rb1 Nc8=)* 15...Bd7 16.dxc5 Bxa4 17.Qxc4 *(17.cxb6 axb6 18.Bd6 Qb7 19.Qxc4 Bxc2 20.Qe2 Bh7=)* 17...Bxc2 18.c6 Rfc8 19.Ra2 Bh7 20.Bxe7 Qxe7 21.Nf3 Qc5!?=]

14...Bd7

[14...cxd4 15.cxd4 f5 16.g4! Qd8 17.gxf5 exf5 18.Kh1 Kh7 19.Rg1⩲]

[14...f5 15.Qf3 *(15.Qh5 Bd7 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Ng6 Rf7 18.a5 b5 19.Nxe7+ Rxe7 20.Ba3 b4 21.cxb4 cxd4 22.Qd1⩲; 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.Qh5 Bd7 17.Nf3 Raf8 18.dxc5 Qxc5 19.Bg5 Rxf3!⇄)* 15...Ba6 *(15...Na5 16.g4 g5 17.gxf5 exf5 18.Ng2 Qc6 19.h4 c4 20.Bf1⩲; 15...cxd4 16.cxd4 Bd7 17.g4 fxg4 18.Qxg4 Rf7 19.Kh1 Kf8 20.Ng6+⩲; 15...Bb7 16.g4 Qc8 17.gxf5 Nxf5 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.Qg2 Kh7 20.Kh1!⩲; 15...Bd7 16.g4 Na5 17.gxf5 c4 18.Be2 exf5 19.Qg3 Kh7 20.e6 Qxg3+ 21.hxg3 Bxe6 22.Ba3⩲)* 16.g4! Qc8 17.gxf5 exf5 18.e6 Rf6 19.a5 Nd6 20.Bf4 Ne4 21.Qg2 c4 22.Bxe4 dxe4 23.axb6 axb6 24.Be5 Qxe6 25.Bxf6 Qxf6 26.Qh3⩲]

15.Qf3

[15.Qg4 f5 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Bxc4 dxc4 18.a5 *(18.Nf3 Raf8 19.Ne5 Be8 20.Re2 Ng6=)* 18...bxa5 19.Ba3 Nd5 20.Bxc5 Rb8 21.Qe2⩲]

15...f5

[15...Rfe8? 16.Qh5! *(16.Qg4 Kf8 17.Bxc4 dxc4 18.Re3 Nf5 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.Qh5 Qc6 21.Rg3 Qe6 22.Be3⩲; 16.Bxh6 gxh6 17.Qf6 cxd4 18.Qxh6 Nf5 19.Bxf5 exf5 20.Qg5+ Kh8 21.Qh6+ Kg8 22.Qg5+=)* 16...Nf5 17.g4 *(17.Nxf5 exf5 18.Bxf5 Bxf5 19.Qxf5 Re6 20.f4 cxd4 21.cxd4 Na5 22.Qg4 Qc3 23.Be3□ Nc4 24.Bf2 Qxc2 25.f5! Ree8 26.Rac1⩲)* 17...Nxh4 18.Qxh4 Bc6 19.Bxh6 *(19.g5 Qe7 20.Qg3 h5 21.Qf3 Rec8 22.Qxh5 g6 23.Qh6 cxd4 24.cxd4 Qb4 25.Be3 Be8 26.h4 Nb2 27.h5 Nxd3 28.hxg6 fxg6 29.cxd3 Qf8 30.Kg2⩲)* 19...gxh6 20.Qxh6 cxd4 21.cxd4 f5 22.exf6 e5 23.Bg6 Rf8 24.dxe5 Nd2 25.Re3+-]

[15...Rad8? 16.Qg3 *(16.Bxh6 gxh6 17.Qf6 Nf5 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.Qxh6 cxd4 20.cxd4 Rfe8 21.Qg5+ Kf8 22.Bxc4+-)* 16...Kh8 17.Qh3! f5 18.exf6 Rxf6 19.g4! Rf7 20.Ng6+ Nxg6 21.Bxg6 Rdf8 22.Bxf7 Rxf7 23.g5 e5 24.Qh4+-]

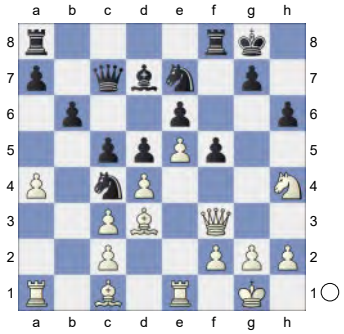
[15...Rfd8? 16.Qh5! cxd4 17.cxd4 Rac8 18.Bxh6 gxh6 19.Qxh6 Nf5 20.Nxf5 exf5 21.Bxc4 Qxc4 22.e6! Qxd4 23.exd7 Rxd7 24.Ra3!+-]

[15...Nf5? 16.Nxf5 exf5 17.g4! cxd4 18.cxd4 fxg4 19.Qxd5 Rfc8 20.Qe4 g6 21.Bxh6+-]

[15...Rfc8?! 16.Qh5 cxd4 17.cxd4 *(17.Bxh6 gxh6 18.Qxh6 Nf5 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.cxd4 Be6 21.c3 Qd8=)* 17...Be8 *(17...Qb7 18.Bxh6 gxh6 19.Qxh6 Nf5□ 20.Nxf5! exf5 21.e6 Bxe6 22.Bxc4 dxc4 23.Ra3 c3 24.Re3+-; 17...Qd8 18.Bxh6 gxh6 19.Qxh6 Nf5□ 20.Bxf5 exf5 21.e6 Bxe6 22.Rxe6 fxe6 23.Qxe6++-)*

18.Bxh6 gxh6 19.Qxh6 Ng6□ 20.Nf3! Nb2 21.Ng5 Nxd3 22.Nh7 f5□ 23.Nf6+ Kf7 24.cxd3 *(24.Nxe8 Kxe8 25.Qxg6+ Qf7 26.Qxf7+ Kxf7 27.cxd3±)* 24...Ke7 25.Nxe8 Kxe8 26.Qxg6+ Qf7 27.Qxf7+ Kxf7 28.Rec1+-]

[15...Rac8? 16.Bxh6 gxh6 17.Qf6 Nf5 *(17...Be8 18.Qxh6 Ng6 19.Bxc4! dxc4 20.Re3+-)* 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.Bxc4 dxc4 20.Qxh6 cxd4 21.cxd4 Rfe8 22.Qg5+ Kf8 23.d5!+-]



16.g4! Na5

[16...Bc6 17.Kh1 Rae8 18.gxf5 Nxf5 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.Bxh6 Re6 21.Bxg7 Kxg7 22.Qh5+-]

[16...f4 17.g5! cxd4 18.cxd4 hxg5 19.Qh5 Nf5 20.Nxf5 exf5 21.Qxg5 Rae8 22.Kh1!+-]

[16...fxg4 17.Qxg4 cxd4 18.cxd4 Rf7 19.Bxh6 Nb2 20.Bg5 Nxd3 21.cxd3 Nf5 *(21...Qc2 22.Bxe7 Qxf2+ 23.Kh1 Rxe7 24.Rf1 Qd2 25.Ng6 Rf7 26.Rxf7 Kxf7 27.Rf1+ Kg8 28.Qf3+-)* 22.Ng6 Qc3 23.Qh5 Rff8□ 24.Rec1 Qxd4 25.Be3 Qb2 26.Rab1 Qa3 27.Rc7 Qxa4 28.Nxf8 Rxf8 29.Rbc1±]

[16...Qc6 17.gxf5 cxd4 18.Bxh6! gxh6 19.f6 Rf7□ 20.Qg4+ Kf8 21.Qh5 Ke8 22.Ng6 Nxg6 23.Bxg6+-]

[16...cxd4 17.cxd4 Qc6 18.gxf5 Nxf5 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.e6 Rae8 21.Bxc4 Qxc4 22.Ba3! Bxe6 23.Bxf8 Kxf8 24.c3±]

[16...Rae8 17.gxf5 exf5 18.a5 b5 19.Bxc4 bxc4 20.e6 Bc8 21.Qh5 cxd4 22.Bxh6!+-]

17.gxf5

[17.Kh1 c4 18.Be2 f4 19.Ba3! Bxa4!? 20.Bd1 Rf7 21.Qg2 g5 22.Bxe7 Qxe7 23.Nf5 exf5 24.e6→]

[17.Qg3 c4 18.Be2 f4 19.Qg2 g5 20.Nf3 Rf7 21.h4 Rg7 22.Ba3 Be8±]

17...c4

[17...exf5 18.e6 *(18.Qg3 Kh8 19.e6 Qxg3+ 20.hxg3 Be8 21.dxc5 bxc5 22.Ba6 g5 23.Ng2+-)* 18...Be8 19.Bf4 Qc6 20.Qg3 Rf6 21.Bb5 Qc8 22.Bd7 Bxd7 23.Be5 f4 24.Qg2 Kh7 25.Bxf6+-]

18.f6

[18.Bf1 Nxf5 19.Nxf5 Rxf5 20.Qg3 Kh7 21.Bh3 Rf7 22.f4 g6±]

18...cxd3 19.Bxh6 d2

[19...Qxc3 20.Bxg7 Rf7 21.Kh1 Be8 22.Qh3 Rxg7 23.fxg7 Bf7 24.Rg1+-]

[19...Rf7 20.Bxg7 Rxg7+ 21.Kh1 Be8 22.Rg1 Bg6 23.Qh3 Nf5 24.Rxg6+-]

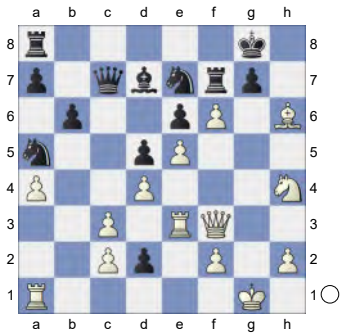
20.Re3

[20.Red1 Rac8 21.Qh5 Rf7 22.Bxg7 Rxg7+ 23.fxg7 Qxc3 24.Nf3 Kxg7 25.Ng5 Qxc2 26.Qf7+ Kh6 27.Qxe7 Qg6 28.f4 Nb3 29.Qxd7 Rc1 30.Qd8 Kh5 31.Qh8+ Qh6 32.Qxh6+ Kxh6 33.Raxc1 dxc1Q 34.Rxc1 Nxc1 35.Nxe6+-]

20...Rf7

[20...Bxa4 21.Qg2 Rf7 22.Rg3 Nec6 23.Bxg7+-]

(Diagram)



21.Qg2

[21.Bxg7 Rxg7+ *(21...Nc4 22.Qf4 Nxe3 23.Qh6 Rxf6 24.Bxf6 N3f5 25.Qh8++-)* 22.fxg7 Nc4 23.Rd3 Nb2 24.Rxd2 Nxa4 25.Qh5 Qxc3 26.Qh8+ Kf7 27.Qxa8 Qxa1+ 28.Kg2 Kxg7 29.Qd8 Kf7 30.Qxd7+-]

21...Bxa4

[21...Kf8 22.Bxg7+ Ke8 23.fxe7 Nc6 24.Ng6 Nxe7 25.Nxe7 Rxe7 26.Bf6+-]

[21...Nf5 22.Nxf5 exf5 23.Rg3 Bc8 24.f4 Kf8 25.Rxg7 Rxg7 26.fxg7++-]

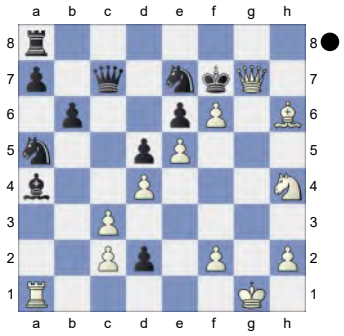
22.Rg3

[22.Bxg7 Bxc2 23.Rh3 Bh7 *(23...Be4 24.Qg5 Bh7 25.Qh6 Nec6 26.Nf5+-)* 24.Bh6+ Kh8 25.fxe7 Qxe7 26.Ng6+ Bxg6 27.Bf8+ Bh7 28.Bxe7 Rxe7 29.Kf1!?+-]

22...Kf8

[22...Nf5 23.Nxf5 exf5 24.Bxg7+-]

23.Rxg7 Ke8 24.Rxf7 Kxf7 25.Qg7+



1-0

182 **C15**

□ **Wagner,De** **2616**

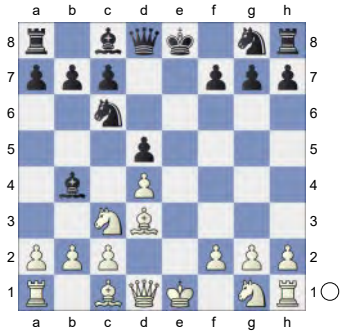
■ **Vasquez Schroeder,R.** **2446**

Titled Tue 3rd Jun Early blitz (4) 3.6.25

[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nc6



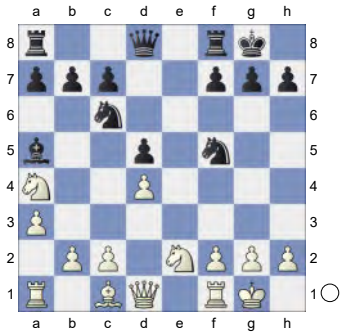
6.a3 Ba5 7.Nge2 Nge7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Na4N

[9.Ng3 Nxd4 *(9...f5 10.Nce2 Ng6 11.f4 Nce7 12.Kh1 c6 13.Ng1 Bc7 14.Be3 Nh8 15.Nf3 Nf7 16.Ne5 Nd6 17.Qe1 Kh8 18.b3 Ne4 19.c4 Be6 20.c5 Ng8 21.b4 a6 22.a4 Qh4 23.Ne2 Qh6 24.Rf3* Ilyin Zhenevsky, A-Sorokin,N Moscow 1931 1-0 (58)*)* 10.Bxh7+ Kxh7 11.Qxd4 c6 12.Re1 Nf5 13.Qd3 Qf6 14.Nh5 Qd4 15.Qf3 Nh4 16.Qf4 Qxf4 17.Bxf4 Bf5 18.Be5 f6 19.Bd4 Bg6 20.Nf4 Bxc2 21.Rac1 Rfe8 22.f3 Nf5 23.Bf2 Bb3 Alekseev,E (2616)-Akobian,V (2647) Riadh 2017 [John Watson] 0-1 24.Nfe2 Bc4 25.b4 Bb6 26.g4 Nh4 1-0 (26) Alekseev,E (2563)-Csonka,B (2497) Chess.com INT 2023]

[9.Bg5 f6 10.Be3 Bf5 11.Nf4 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Qd7 13.c4 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 Rad8 15.Rab1 b6 16.Rb5 dxc4 17.Qxc4+ Rf7 18.Rd1 Na5 19.Qd3 c6 20.Rbb1 Qf5 21.a4 g5 22.Nh5

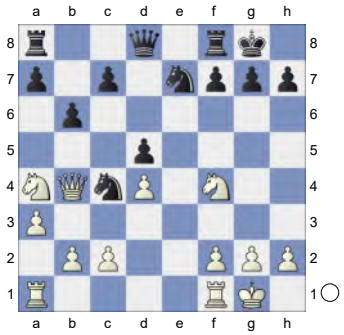
Qxd3 23.Rxd3 Nd5 Sanjuan Garcia, M (2680)-Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2804) Beer-Sheva (rapid) 92/(476) 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Adly,Ahmed] 0-1 (50)]

9...Bf5 10.Bxf5 Nxf5



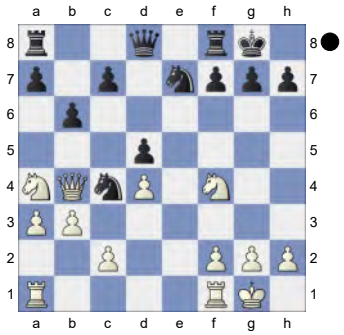
11.Qd3 The position is equal. **11...Nd6 12.Nf4 Ne7! 13.Bd2 Bxd2 14.Qxd2 Nc4 15.Qb4 b6** 0.02/21

[⌓15...a5 -0.30/18 16.Qc3 *(16.Qxb7? Qd6-+)* 16...Qd6]



16.b3 -0.38/20

[16.Nxd5!= 0.02/21 Qxd5 17.Qxe7]



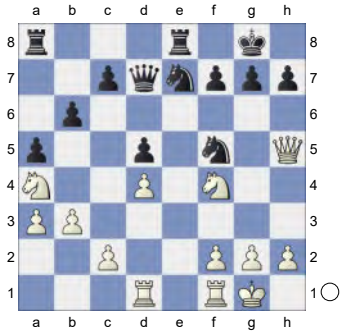
16...a5! 17.Qe1 Nd6 18.Qe5 Re8

19.Qh5 -0.55/17

[19.Nxd5= 0.01/20 Nef5 20.Qf4]

19...Ndf5 20.Rad1 Qd7

[20...Qd6!? 21.g3 Rad8∓]



21.Nc3 c6 22.Rd3 Ng6 23.Nce2 -1.06/20

[23.Nfe2∓ -0.50/19]

23...Re4 24.Rh3 -1.55/21 **Nh6** -1.09/19 Active counter play!

[24...Nxf4 25.Qxh7+ Kf8 26.Nxf4±]

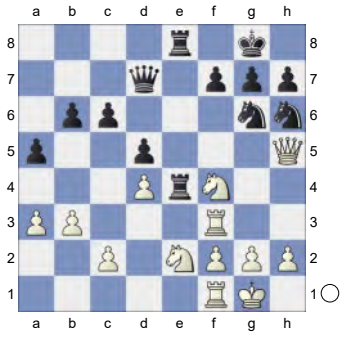
[24...Rxf4 25.Nxf4 Nxf4 26.Qxh7+ Kf8 27.Qh8+ Ke7 28.Qxa8±]

[⌓24...h6 -1.55/21 25.Nd3 Rae8]

25.Rf3 -2.14/20

[25.Qf3∓ -1.09/19]

25...Rae8



26.g3 Rxe2 -1.00/20

[⌓26...Nxf4 -1.52/19 27.Nxf4 Rxd4]

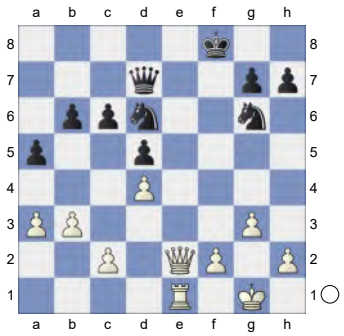
27.Nxe2∓ Rxe2 28.Rxf7! Nxf7

[28...Qxf7?! 29.Qxe2 Nf5 30.c3∓]

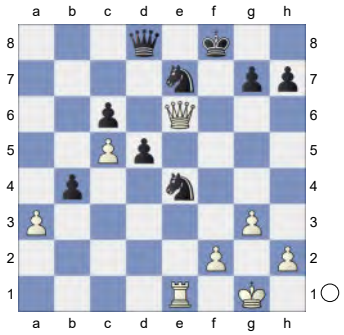
29.Qxe2 Nd6 30.Re1 Kf8 0.01/19

[30...Nf8∓ -0.68/20]

(Diagram)

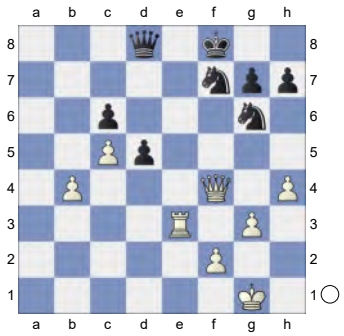


31.Qe6= Qd8 1.03/22
[31...Qxe6!= -0.01/22 remains equal. 32.Rxe6 Nb5 33.Rxc6 Nxa3]
32.c4 0.01/23
[32.Re3± 1.03/22 Threatens to win with Rf3+. Ne4 33.Rf3+ *(33.Qxc6 Kf7±)* 33...Nf6 34.Qxc6]
32...Ne7 33.c5 -0.38/23
[33.Re5= 0.01/19]
33...bxc5∓ 34.dxc5 Ne4 35.b4 axb4

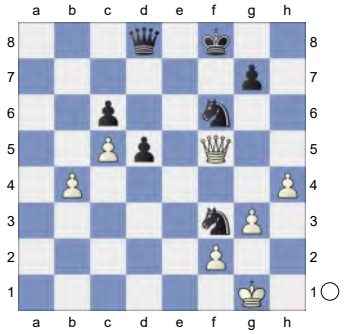


36.axb4 Ng5 0.01/21
[36...Qb8∓ -0.46/20]
37.Qd6 Qe8 White must now prevent ... Nf3+. **38.Re3** Prevents Nf3+. White has compensation. **38...Nf7** 0.38/22
[38...Ne4= 0.01/21 39.Rf3+ Nf6]
39.Qf4 Qd8 40.h4 Ng6 0.78/23
[40...Qc8± 0.36/22 is more appropriate.]

(Diagram)

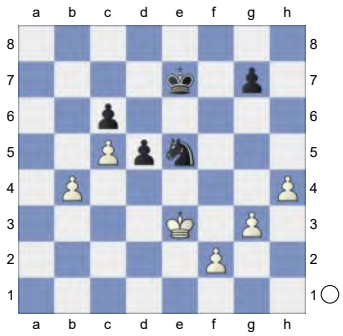


41.Qf5± Ne7 0.76/23
[41...d4!= 0.01/23 keeps the balance. 42.Rf3 Qe8]
42.Qxh7 Ng8 1.50/21
[42...d4± 0.70/21 43.Ra3 *(43.Rf3 Qd5=)* 43...Qd5]
43.Rf3 1.07/22
[⌓43.Qf5 1.50/21]
43...Nf6 1.38/20
[⌓43...Qc8 1.07/22]
44.Qg6? -1.85/22
[44.Qf5!± 1.38/20]
44...Ne5-+ Black converts the advantage convincingly. **45.Qf5 Nxf3+**

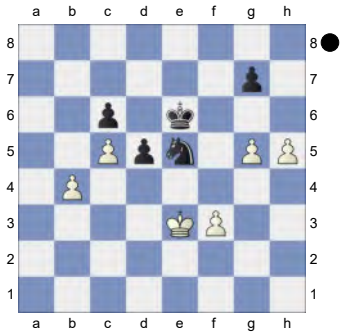


46.Qxf3 Qd7 47.Kg2 -3.75/21
[47.Qa3 -2.57/20 was necessary.]
47...Qg4 48.Qxg4 Nxg4 Endgame KN-KP **49.Kf3 Ne5+ 50.Ke3 Ke7**

(Diagram)



51.f3 Ke6 52.g4 Ng6 53.h5 Ne5 54.g5



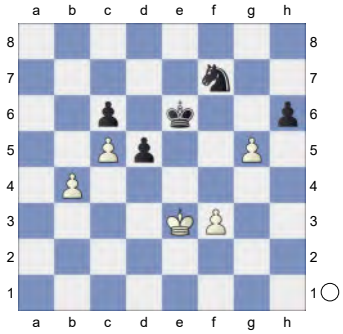
Nf7 -1.14/21

[54...d4+!-+ -2.80/22 has better winning chances. 55.Ke2 d3+ 56.Ke3 d2]

55.h6? -12.38/24

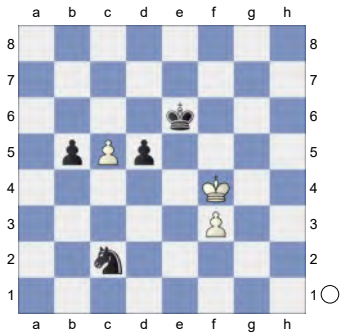
[55.f4∓ -1.14/21]

55...gxh6



56.gxh6 Nxh6 KN-K3P **57.Kf4 Nf5 58.Kg4 Nd4 59.Kf4 Nc2 60.b5 cxb5**

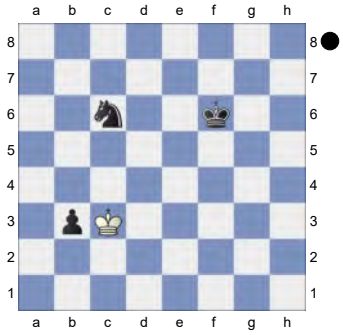
(Diagram)



KN-KPP **61.c6 Nd4 62.c7 Kd7** (-> ...b4) **63.Ke5 Ne6** -15.29/22

[Inferior is 63...Nxf3+ 64.Kxd5 Nh4 65.Kc5=]

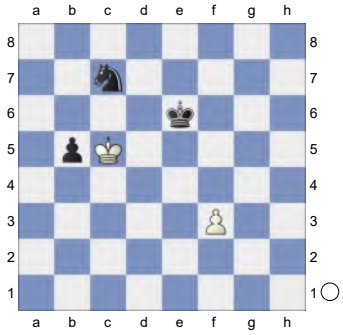
[⌓63...Nc6+ -#22/25 64.Kxd5 b4 65.Ke4 Kxc7 66.f4 Kd6 67.Ke3 Kd5 68.f5 b3 69.f6 Ke6 70.f7 Kxf7 71.Kd2 Kf6 72.Kc3



Nd4! 73.Kb2 Ke5 74.Kc1 Ke4 75.Kb2 Kd3 76.Kc1 Kc3 77.Kd1 b2 78.Ke1 b1Q+ 79.Kf2 Qg6 80.Ke3 Qf7 81.Ke4 Qf5+ 82.Ke3 Qf3#]

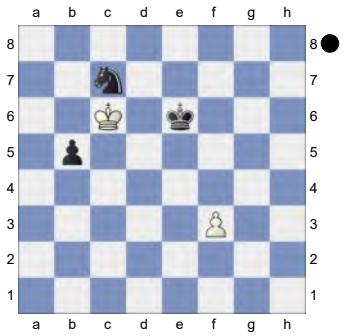
64.Kxd5 Nxc7+ KN-KP. Black mates.

65.Kc5 Ke6

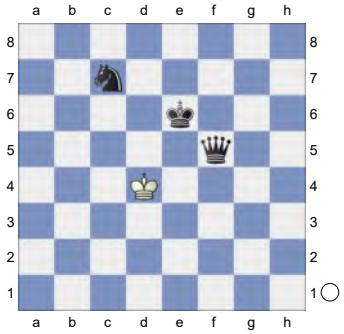


66.Kc6

(Diagram)



b4! 67.Kc5
[67.Kxc7 b3]
67...b3 68.Kd4 b2 69.f4 b1Q 70.f5+ Qxf5

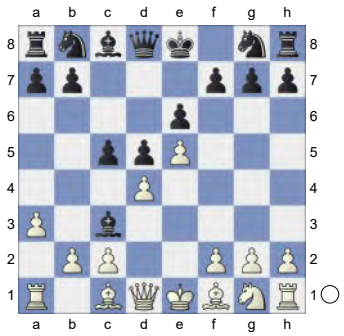


Weighted Error Value: White=0.59/ Black=0.29 (precise)
0-1

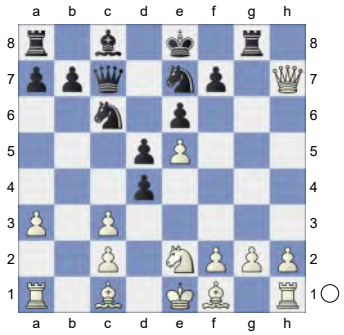
183 **C18**
□ **Morgado,Juan Sebastian** **2616**
■ **Rodriguez,Guillermo** **2438**
corrAmici Sumus 04.10.1998
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Chapter **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

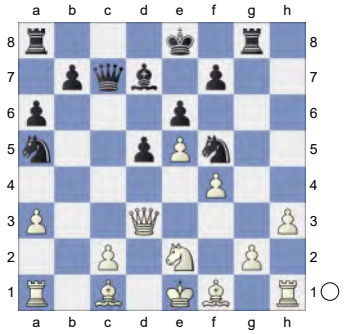
(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Ne2 Nbc6

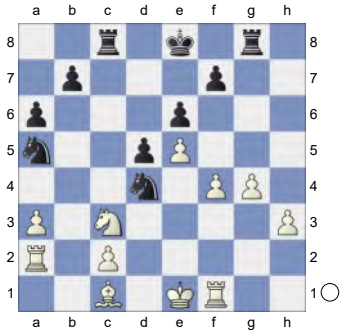


11.f4 Bd7 12.Qd3 dxc3 13.Nxc3 a6 14.Ne2 Nf5 15.h3 Na5



Strongly threatening ...Bb5. **16.g4 Bb5 17.Qc3** The position is equal.
17...Qxc3+ 18.Nxc3 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 Nd4 20.Ra2 Rc8

(Diagram)



21.Ne2 Rc4

[21...Rxc2 22.Rxc2 Nxc2+ 23.Kd1 Na1 24.Rf3 N1b3 25.Rc3 Kd7 26.Be3 Rc8 27.Rxc8 Kxc8 28.h4 *(28.Kc2 Nc4 29.Bg1 Nbd2 30.h4 Nf3 31.h5 Nxa3+ 32.Kb3 Nc4 33.Bf2 Ncd2+ 34.Kb4 Ne4 35.h6* Chapter 13 (35)*)* 28...Nc4 29.Bg1 Kd7 30.h5 Ke8 31.Kc2 Na1+ 32.Kc3 Kf8 33.Nd4 b5 34.Bh2 a5 35.Nxb5 a4 36.Nd4 Duhm,H (2540)-Cadosch,J (2555) Mar del Plata ARG 1994 ZUS C73 [CC INF2] 1-0 (45)]

22.Bd2N

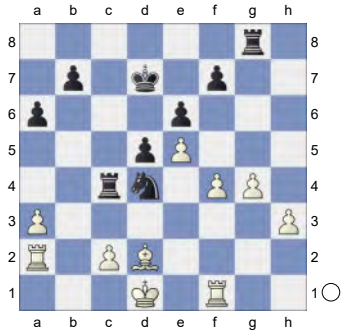
[22.Nxd4 Rxd4 23.Rh1 Nc4 24.Kf2 Kf8 25.Kf3 Kg7 26.h4 Rc8 27.h5 Na5 28.h6+ Kh7 29.g5 Rc3+ 30.Kg4 Nc4 31.Bb2 Rxc2 32.Bxd4 Rxa2 33.f5 Rg2+ 34.Kf4 exf5 35.Kxf5 Rg3 36.Kf4 Rg2 Kunzmann, H (2452)-Rodriguez,G (2374) corr CAPA 1998 1-0 (46) 37.Re1 Kg6 38.e6 Rxg5 39.e7 Rf5+ 40.Kg3 Rg5+ 41.Kf2 Rf5+ 42.Ke2 Nd6 43.Rg1+ Kxh6 44.Rg8 Kh5 45.Kd3 Rf3+ 46.Kc2 1-0 (46) Riumin,N (2452)-Young,N (2374) Istanbul 1998 Telechess CBM 108 [Dragan Solak]]

22...Nac6 23.Nxd4 Nxd4 24.Kd1 0.35/20

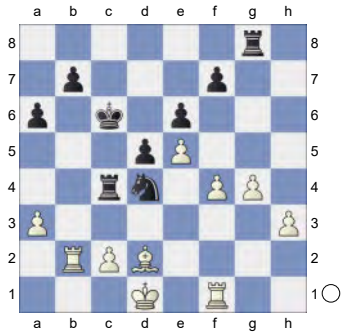
[⌓24.c3 0.67/20 Nb5 25.Rb2]

24...Kd7 0.72/21

[24...b5± 0.35/20]



25.Rb2!± White now steadily converts the win. **25...Kc6**

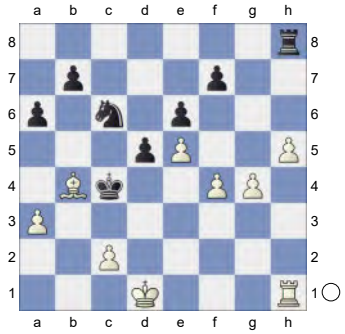


26.Rb4 Rxb4 27.Bxb4 Endgame KRB-KRN **27...Rh8** 1.68/21

[27...Kb5± 0.99/20 was called for.]

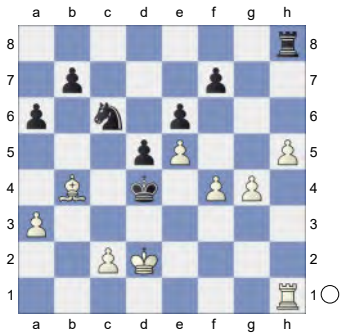
28.Rh1+- Kb5 29.h4 Nc6 30.h5 Kc4

[30...Nxb4 31.axb4 Kc4 32.Kd2]

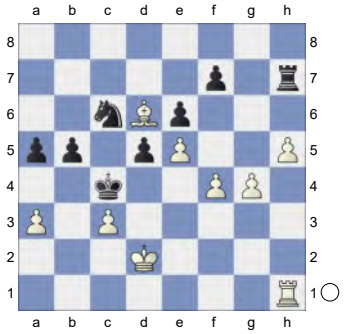


31.Kd2 Kd4

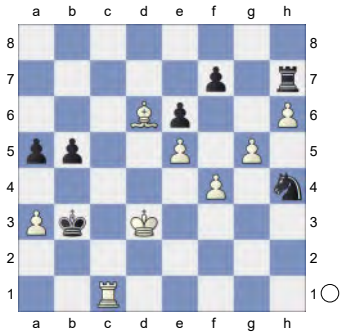
(Diagram)



32.Re1 b5 33.c3+ Kc4 34.Bd6 a5 35.Rh1 Rh7 3.91/22
[⌓35...Na7 2.45/20 36.h6 d4]

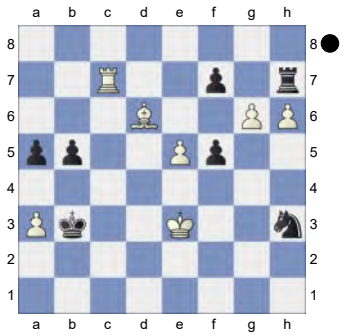


36.h6 d4 37.cxd4 Nxd4? 5.87/22
[37...Kxd4 3.49/22 38.Rc1 Rxh6]
38.Rc1+ White is clearly winning.
38...Kb3 39.Kd3 Nf3 40.g5 Nh4



41.Rc7 Ng2 42.f5 Nf4+ 43.Ke4 Nh3 44.g6 exf5+ 45.Ke3

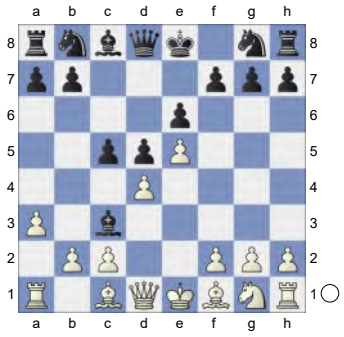
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.41
1-0

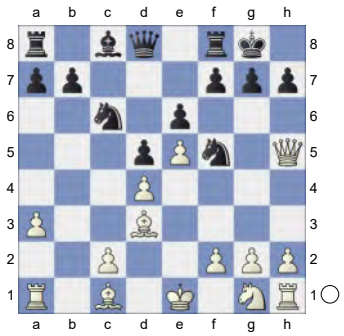
184 **C18**
□ **Dolmatov,Sergey** **2615**
■ **Kovacevic,Slobodan** **2415**
Ubeda op 5th (5) 23.01.2000
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 cxd4 9.cxd4 Nbc6 10.Qh5 &Bianco is much more active. The black rooks are badly placed. **10...Nf5**

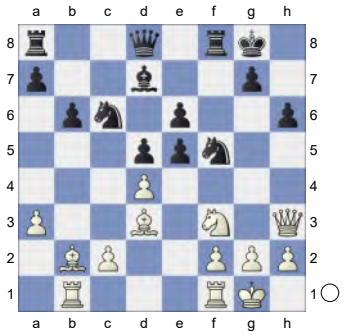
(Diagram)



White is slightly better. **11.Nf3 f6 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Rb1 b6 14.Qh3N** aiming for g4. White attacks.

[14.Re1 fxe5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Rxe5 Rc8 17.Bd2 Qf6 18.c3 Be8 19.Qe2 Bg6 20.f3 Nh4 21.Re1 Morozevich,A (2385)-Ivanov,S (2470) Russia 1992 CI1-130 [Ivanov, Sergey]]

14...h6 15.Bb2 fxe5



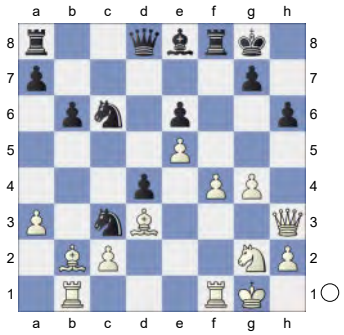
White leaves nothing to chance now.

16.dxe5 Be8 1.14/19

[16...Qe8± 0.69/17 is more appropriate.]

17.g4± Nfe7 18.Nh4 Prevents Ng6.

18...d4 19.f4 Nd5 20.Ng2 Nc3



21.Rbe1 1.00/17

[⌓21.Bxc3 1.31/19 dxc3 22.g5]

21...Qd5 1.84/18

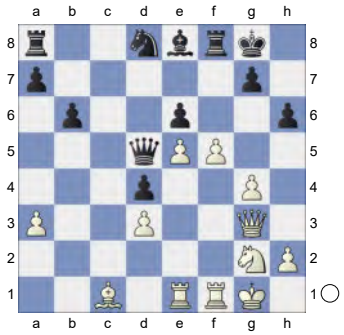
[21...Na4± 1.00/17]

22.Qg3 Na4 23.Bc1 A strong pair of Bishops.

[Don't play 23.Be4?! Qb5 24.Ba1 Nc5=]

23...Nc5 24.f5 Nxd3 25.cxd3 Hoping for Nf4. **25...Nd8** 2.88/21

[⌓25...exf5 1.86/20 26.gxf5 Kh7]



26.f6+- Black must now prevent Bxh6!

26...g5? 3.95/20

[26...Rc8 2.43/19 might work better. 27.g5 g6]

27.h4 Bc6 4.09/22

[⌓27...Nf7 2.87/18 28.hxg5 Nxg5]

28.Re2

[Weaker is 28.hxg5 Qxg2+ 29.Qxg2 Bxg2 30.Kxg2 hxg5 31.Bxg5 Rc8+-]

28...Nf7 5.42/20

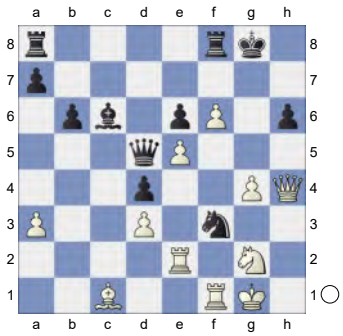
[⌓28...Kf7 3.63/17 29.hxg5 hxg5 30.Bxg5 Rh8]

29.hxg5 Nxg5 7.92/24

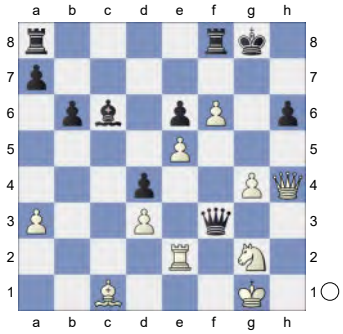
[⌓29...hxg5 4.60/17 30.Qh3 Nxe5]

30.Qh4 Nf3+

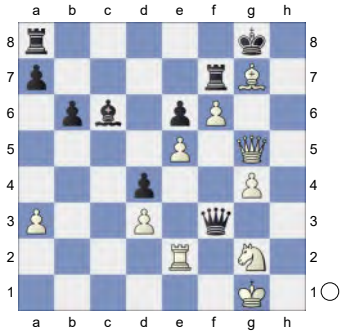
(Diagram)



31.Rxf3! Qxf3

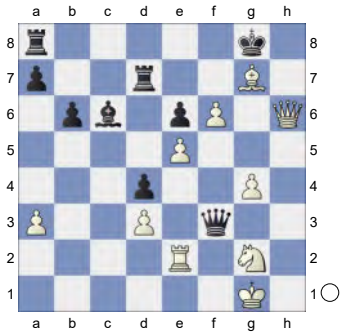


32.Bxh6! White wants to mate with Qg5+. **32...Rf7 33.Qg5+ Kh8 34.Bg7+ Kg8**

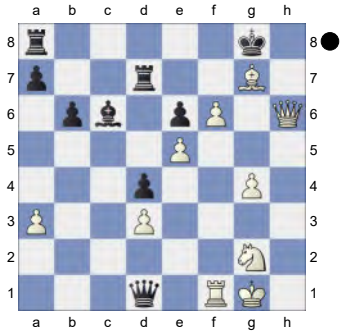


35.Qh6! Rd7

[35...Rc7 36.Rf2]



36.Rf2 Qd1+ 37.Rf1



Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.95

1-0

185 **C18**

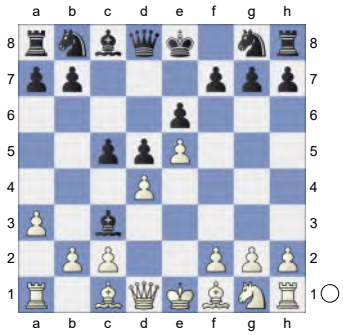
□ **Morgado,Juan Sebastian** **2615**

■ **Rittner,Horst Robert** **2600**

Lewkowitz mem-B corr9498 1994

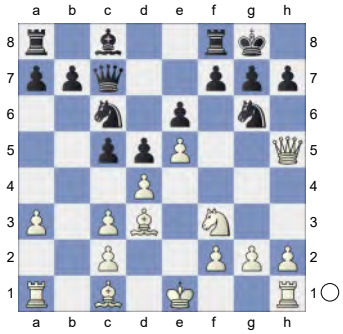
[Myers]

1.e4 Myers **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

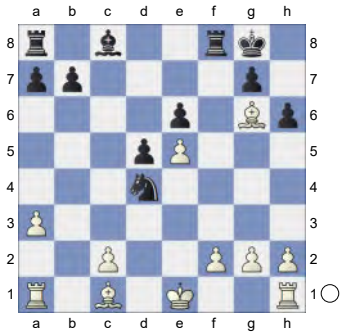


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7

(Diagram)



11.Ng5 h6 12.Nxf7 Qxf7 13.Qxg6 Qxg6 14.Bxg6 cxd4 15.cxd4 Nxd4



16.Be3 Nc6 17.f4 b6 18.Bd3 Bb7

[18...Bd7 19.0-0 Rac8 *(19...Na5 20.Rf2 h5 21.h3 h4 22.Bd2 Nb7 23.Be1 Nc5 24.Rf3 Nxd3 25.cxd3 Rac8 26.Bxh4 Rc2 27.Re1 d4 28.f5 Rxf5 29.Rxf5 exf5 30.e6 Bc6 31.Bf2 Kf8 32.g4 fxg4 33.hxg4 Rc3 34.Bxd4 Rxd3 35.Be5 Ke7 36.Bf4 Rd4 37.Bg5+ Ke8 38.Re5 Rxg4+ 39.Kh2 Re4* ½-½ Ruefenacht,M-Gouw,C/corr ARG 2001*)* 20.c4 *(20.Rae1 Ne7 21.g4 h5 22.h3 hxg4 23.hxg4 g6 24.Rf2 Kf7 25.Rh2 Rh8 26.Ree2 Nc6 27.Ref2 Na5 28.Bd4 Nc4 29.Rxh8* ½-½ Libiszewski,F-Apicella,M/France FRA 2003*)* 20...d4 *(20...Ne7 21.Rfc1 Bc6 22.g3 Bb7 23.cxd5 Nxd5 24.Bd2 Rxc1+ 25.Rxc1 Rc8 26.Rxc8+ Bxc8 27.h4 Nc7 28.Bb4 Bd7 29.h5 Bb5 30.Be4 Be2 31.Bg6 Nd5 32.Bd6 a5 33.Kf2 Bc4 34.Kf3 b5 35.f5 exf5 36.e6 Nf6 37.Bf7+ Kh8 38.Kf4 b4 39.axb4 axb4 40.Kxf5 b3 41.Ba3 Nd5 42.Ke5 Ne3 43.Bg6 Bb5 44.Bb4 b2 45.Bc3 Ba4 46.e7 Nd1 47.Bd4 Kg8 48.Kd6 Bb5 49.Kc7* 1-0 Sievers,S-Uhlmann,W/Bundesliga GER 1992*/)* 21.Bd2 Ne7 22.a4 Be8 23.Bb4 Rf7 24.Bxe7 Rxe7 25.a5 bxa5 26.Rxa5 Bc6 27.Rfa1 Rcc7 28.Rc5 Be8 29.Rxc7 Rxc7 30.Ra6 Kf7 31.g4 Ke7 32.Kf2 h5 33.h3 h4 34.Kf3 Bc6+ 35.Be4 Be8 36.f5 exf5 37.gxf5 Bh5+ 38.Kf4 Be2 39.f6+ Kf8 40.Bg6 Bxc4 41.Rd6 Rc8 42.Bf5 Re8 43.Rxd4 Bb3 44.Bg6 Rc8 45.Kg5 gxf6+ 46.exf6 a5 47.Rd7 a4 48.Rh7 Bg8 49.Ra7 Bb3 50.Kxh4 Rd8 51.Kg5 Rd5+ 52.Kh6 Rd8 53.h4 Rb8 54.h5 Rc8 55.Rh7 Bg8 56.Rh8 1-0 Deuker,H-Kahl,K/corr ICCF 2000/]

[18...Nb8 19.a4 Ba6 20.a5 *(20.Bb5 d4 21.Bc1 Rc8 22.Kd2 Bb7 23.Rg1 Be4 24.Bd3 Bxd3 25.Kxd3 Rc3+ 26.Kxd4 Rxc2 27.Kd3 Rc6 28.Ba3 Na6 29.Rgc1 Rac8 30.Rxc6 Rxc6 31.Rb1 h5 32.g3 Kf7 33.h3 Nc7 34.Rc1 Rxc1 35.Bxc1 Ke8 36.g4 hxg4 37.hxg4 g6 38.Ke4 Nd5 39.Bd2 Ne7 40.Bb4 Nc6 41.Bc3 a6 42.f5 gxf5+ 43.gxf5 exf5+ 44.Kxf5 b5 45.axb5* ½-½ Savanovic,A-Atalik,S/Neum BIH 2005*/)* 20...bxa5 21.Bxa6 Nxa6 22.0-0 Nb4 23.Rxa5 Rfc8 24.f5 exf5 25.Rxf5 Rxc2 26.Rxa7 Rxa7 27.Bxa7 Nc6 28.Bb6 Re2 29.Bc7 Nd4 30.Rf2 Re1+ 31.Rf1 Rxf1+ 32.Kxf1 Kf7 33.Kf2 Ke6 34.Ke3 Nc6 35.Kf4 Nxe5 36.h4 Ng6+ 37.Kg4 d4 38.g3 Ne7 39.Bb6 Ke5 40.Kf3 Nf5 41.Bc7+ Kd5 42.Bf4 h5 43.Bd2 Nh6 44.Kf4 Ng4 45.Kf5 Kc4 46.Ba5 Kd3 47.Bb6 Nf6 48.Ba7 Kc3 49.Kg6 d3 50.Be3 d2

51.Bxd2+ Kxd2 52.Kxg7 Ne4 0-1 Gritsaenko,V-Khlusevich,S/corr RUS 1993/]

[18...Na5 19.Rf1 Nc4 20.Bd4 g5 21.fxg5 hxg5 22.Rxf8+ Kxf8 23.Kf2 Bb7 24.Kg3 Kg7 25.Rf1 Rh8 26.Bxc4 dxc4 27.Be3 Rh5 28.h3 Be4 29.Rf2 Bf5 30.Rd2 Kg6 31.Rd4 Rh4 32.Rxh4 gxh4+ 33.Kxh4 Bxc2 34.g4 Be4 35.Bd2 a5 36.Kg3 a4 37.h4 b5 38.h5+ Kg7 39.g5 Bf5 40.g6 Kg8 41.Kh4 Be4 42.Kg5 Bf3 43.h6 Be4 44.Kf6 1-0 Qwint,A-Carlsson,G/corr SWE 1992/]

19.0-0

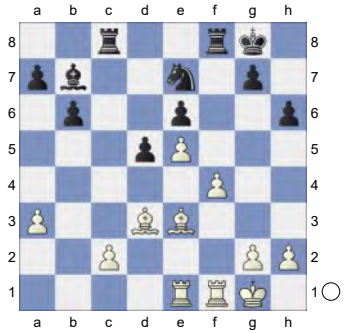
[19.Rf1 Rac8 20.Bd2 Rf7 21.0-0-0 Nb8 22.f5 Ba6 23.fxe6 Rxf1 24.Bxf1 Bxf1 25.Rxf1 Nc6 26.Bb4 Re8 27.Rd1 Rxe6 28.Rxd5 Rxe5 29.Rxe5 Nxe5 30.Kb2 Kf7 31.Kc3 h5 32.Bd6 Ke6 33.Bc7 g5 34.Kb4 Nc6+ 35.Kb5 Kd7 36.Bg3 Nd4+ 37.Ka6 Nxc2 38.a4 Kc6 39.Bf2 Na3 40.Kxa7 b5 41.axb5+ Nxb5+ 42.Ka6 Nc3 43.g4 ½-½ Bildat,J-Strack,A/corr GER 1991/]

19...Rac8 20.Rae1

[20.g4 Nb8 *(20...Kf7 21.h3 g6 22.Kh2 Ne7 23.a4 Nc6 24.a5 d4 25.Bd2 bxa5 26.Bxa5 Kg7 27.Bd2 Rc7* ½-½ Hueser,A-Arounopoulos,S/corr ICCF 2004/*)* 21.f5 Ba6 22.fxe6 Rfe8 23.g5 Bxd3 24.cxd3 hxg5 25.Rac1 Rc6 26.d4 Rexe6 27.Kf2 Rxc1 28.Rxc1 Rc6 29.Bxg5 Rxc1 30.Bxc1 Nc6 31.Ke3 b5 32.h4 Kh7 33.Kd3 Kg6 34.Bg5 Kf5 35.Bd2 g6 36.Bb4 Nd8 37.Bd6 Ne6 38.Ke3 a5 39.Be7 Kg4 40.Kd3 b4 41.a4 Kf5 42.Bd6 b3 43.Kc3 Nxd4 44.Bc7 Ne6 45.Bxa5 Nc5 46.Bb4 Nxa4+ 47.Kxb3 Nb6 48.Kc3 Kxe5 49.Kd3 Na4 50.Bf8 Nb2+ 51.Ke3 Nc4+ 52.Kf3 Kf5 53.Bg7 Nd6 ½-½ Caressa,M-Agomeri,A/corr ICCF 2005/]

[20.Rab1 Na5 21.Bd2 Nc4 22.Bb4 Rf7 23.Bg6 Rfc7 24.Rbe1 Bc6 25.Bd6 Rb7 26.Bd3 Nd2 27.Rf2 Ne4 28.Bxe4 dxe4 29.c4 Rf7 30.g4 Bb7 31.f5 Rxc4 32.fxe6 Rf3 33.e7 Kf7 34.h4 Ke8 35.g5 h5 36.Ref1 Rcc3 37.Bb4 Rcd3 38.Bd6 Bc8 39.Rc1 Rg3+ 40.Kh1 Rh3+ 41.Kg1 Rdg3+ 42.Rg2 Bf5 43.Rc7 Rc3 44.Rxc3 Rxc3 45.Rf2 g6 46.Kf1 Rc4 47.Re2 e3 48.Rxe3 Rxh4 49.Rc3 Rc4 50.Rxc4 Bd3+ 51.Kf2 Bxc4 52.Kg3 Kd7 53.Bb8 a6 54.Bd6 Bd5 55.Bb4 Bc6 56.Kf4 Ke6 57.Bd6 Kd5 58.Bc7 b5 59.Ba5 Kc4 60.Bb4 Kb3 61.Ke3 a5 62.Kd4 axb4 0-1 Looschelders,W-Heim,F/corr GER 1997/]

20...Ne7



21.Bc1?

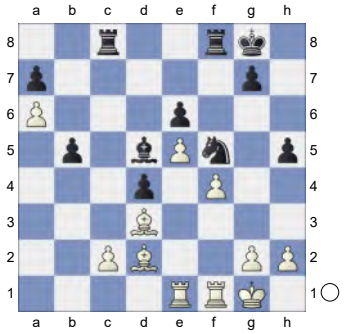
[21.g4!? Nc6 22.Bd2 Rfe8 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Rc7 25.e6 Nd4 26.c3 Nxf5 27.gxf5 Rc4 28.Rf3± Myers]

21...h5!? 22.Bd2 Nf5 23.a4 d4 24.a5

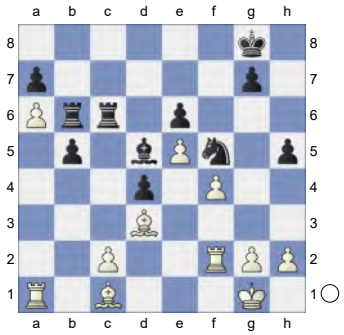
[24.Rb1!?]

24...b5! 25.a6 Bd5!

(Diagram)



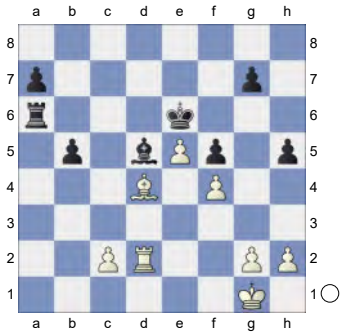
26.Rf2 Rc6 27.Ra1 Bc4 28.Be4 Bd5 29.Bd3 Rb8! 30.Bc1 Rbb6



31.Bb2?

[31.Ba3!?]

31...Rxa6 32.Rxa6 Rxa6 33.Bxf5 exf5 34.Bxd4 Kf7 35.Rd2 Ke6

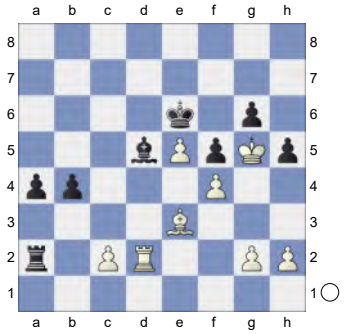


36.Kf2 Ra2 37.Kg3

[37.Ke3 a5 38.g3 g6 39.Bc5 Ra4 40.Bd4 Rc4 41.c3 Rc6 42.Rb2 Bc4 43.Rb1 a4 44.Ra1 Kd5 45.h4 Re6∓ Myers]

37...b4 38.Be3 a5 39.Kh4 g6 40.Kg5 a4!

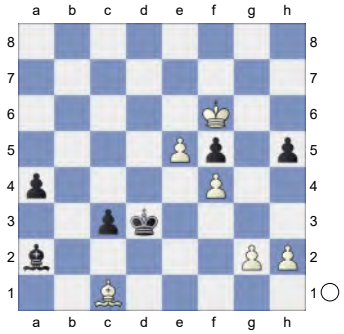
(Diagram)



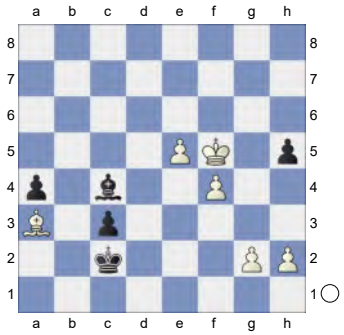
41.c4 bxc3 42.Rxa2 Bxa2 43.Kxg6 Kd5 44.Kf6

[44.g3 Bc4 45.Bc1 Ke4 46.Kf6 Kd3 47.e6 Kc2 48.Ba3 Kb3-+ Myers]

44...Ke4 45.Bc1 Kd3



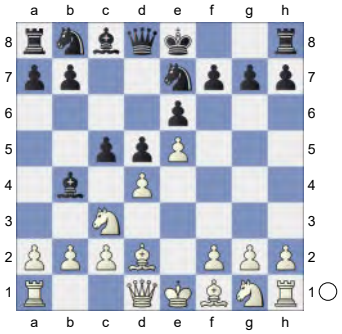
46.Ba3 Kc2 47.Kxf5 Bc4



0-1

186 **C17**
□ **Richardson,Keith B** **2615**
■ **Hyldkrog,Lars** **2325**
CAN jub60 corr8185 01.04.1981
[Wright]

Myers: This game was played in the 60th Anniversary Tournament of the Canadian Correspondence Chess Association, which was founded in 1921. The event began on 01.04.81 and concluded on 31.05.85. English GM Keith Richardson was born 02.04.42. He is by profession a banker. He had notable success OTB as a junior. IMC 1968, GMC 1975. Lars Hyldkrog was born 09.05.49 and lives in Copenhagen. He works as a teacher for children with behaviour difficulties. **1.e4** Myers Richardson Wright **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.Bd2 c5**



6.dxc5 Nbc6 7.Qg4 0-0 8.0-0-0 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bd3 Bxc5

[10...h6 11.Qh5 *(11.Nh3 e5 12.Qh5 Bxc5 13.f3 Bf5 14.Bxf5 Rxf5 15.Qg4 Rf6 16.Qh5 a6 17.Rhf1 b5 18.Nf2 b4 19.Ne2 a5 20.Ng4 Rf5 21.Qh4 a4 22.Ng3 Rf8 23.Bxh6 gxh6 24.Nxh6+ Kg7 25.Qg5+ Kh8 26.Nhf5 Nxf5 27.Qh5+ Kg8 28.Nxf5* 1-0 Frank,M-Terreaux,G/corr ICCF 1997/*)* 11...Bd7 12.Nf3 *(12.g4 Qe8 13.Qh4 Ng6 14.Qg3 Nge5 15.Be2 Qg6 16.f4 Nc4 17.Bd3 Qe8 18.g5 hxg5 19.fxg5 Rf8 20.Qh4 g6 21.Bxc4 dxc4 22.Ne4* 1-0 Ericson,A-Stoltze,K/corr EUR 1964/ *)* 12...Qf8 13.Ne2 Be8 14.Qh4 Ng6 15.Qg3 Qxc5 16.Bxh6 gxh6 17.Nf4 Qd6 18.Nh5 Rf8 19.Qg4 Nce7 20.c3 Rc8 21.Rhe1 Nf5 22.Nd4 Rxc3+ 23.bxc3 Bxc3 24.Nc2 Qb6 25.Rd2 Qb2+ 26.Kd1 Nd4 0-1 Bengtsson,B-Renman,N/Linkoping 1984/]

[10...Qa5? 11.Qh5 *(11.a3!? e5 12.Qh5 e4 13.Nxe4 Bxd2+ 14.Nxd2±* Myers *)* 11...g6 12.Qh4 Rf7 13.Nf3 Qxc5 14.Rhe1 e5 *(14...Nf5 15.Bxf5 Rxf5 16.Ng5±* Myers *)* 15.Nxe5 Qxf2 16.g3 Nxe5 17.Rxe5 Bd6 18.Nxd5! Nxd5 19.Qd8+ Bf8 20.Qxd5 1-0 Bloch-Leroy/corr 1969/]

[10...e5!?

A) 11.Bxh7+ Kxh7 12.Qh5+ Kg8 13.Nf3 Qf8 14.a3 Bxc5 15.Bg5 Rxf3 16.gxf3 Be6 17.Rhg1 Nd4 18.Bh6 Ndf5 19.Bxg7 Nxg7 20.Qxe5 Bf7 21.h4 Ng6 22.Qg3 Bd6 23.Qg4 Nf4 24.Rg3 Be6 25.Qg5 Nd3+ 26.Kb1 Nxf2 27.Nxd5 Bxg3 28.Nf6+ Kf7 0-1 Sutton-Hawkes/corr GBR 1987/;

B) 11.Qh5 g6 *(11...h6 12.g4 Bxc3 13.Bxc3 Be6 14.g5 Bf7 15.Qh3 hxg5 16.Nf3 Rh6 17.Qg3 Bh5 18.Nxe5 Bxd1 19.Rxd1 Qf8 20.Qxg5 Qf6 21.Qg3 Nxe5 22.Bxe5 Qf7 23.Rg1 g6 24.f4 Kh7 25.Qg5 Rg8 26.Bf6 Nf5 27.Bxf5 gxf5 28.Qxf5+ Rgg6 29.Rxg6 Qxg6 30.Qd7+ Kg8 31.Bd4 Qf7 32.Qd8+ Kh7 33.Be5 Rh5 34.b3 Kg6 35.Kb2 a6 36.Qb6+ Kf5 37.c6 bxc6 38.Qxa6*

Qe8 39.Qd3+ Ke6 40.Qe3 Qg6 41.a4 Qe4 42.Qc5 Rxh2 43.Qxc6+ Ke7 44.Qc7+ Ke8 45.a5 d4 46.Qc4 Qf5 47.a6 d3 48.a7 1-0 Frolyanov,D-Ivanov,S/ Togliatti 2003/*)* 12.Qh4 Rf8 *(12...Rf7 13.Nf3 Bxc3 14.Bxc3 Qc7 15.Qg3 Rxf3 16.gxf3 Be6 17.h4 d4 18.Bd2 Nf5 19.Qg5 Qe7 20.Qxe7 Nfxe7 21.f4 Rf8 22.fxe5 Nxe5 23.Be4 Bd5 24.Bxd5+ Nxd5 25.Bh6* 1-0 Demuth,M-Raffalt,M/Austria 1999/ *)* 13.Nf3 Bxc5 14.Ng5 h5 15.Bxg6 Nxg6 16.Qxh5 Rf6 17.Qh7+ Kf8 18.Nge4 Nf4 19.Qh8+ Kf7 20.Qxd8 Nxd8 21.Nxc5 Nxg2 22.Nxd5 Rc6 23.Nd3 Ke6 24.N3b4 Rc5 25.Be3 Nxe3 26.Nxe3 Bd7 27.Rhg1 Be8 28.Rg8 Nc6 29.Nxc6 Rxc6 30.Rh8 Rac8 31.Rh6+ Ke7 32.Nf5+ Kf7 33.Nd6+ Kg7 34.Nxc8 Kxh6 35.Rd6+ 1-0 Strenzwilk,D-Bradford,J/USA op 1990/;

C) 11.Qh4

C1) 11...e4? 12.Bxe4!? *(12.Nxe4! dxe4 13.Bc4+ Kh8 14.Bxb4 Qf8 15.Bc3 Ng6 16.Qg3 Rxf2 17.Nh3 Bxh3 18.gxh3 Rd8 19.Rxd8 Nxd8 20.Rd1 Nc6 21.Rd7 Nce7 22.h4 Rf3 23.Qd6 Nf5 24.Qxf8+ Nxf8 25.Rf7 h6 26.Rxf8+ Kh7 27.h5 Ne7 28.Rxf3 exf3 29.Bd3+ Kh8 30.Bd4 Nd5 31.Be4* 1-0 Luukkonen,T-Laakso,H/ Kuopio 1995/*)* 12...dxe4 13.Nxe4 Ng6 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Qxf6 Bxd2+ 16.Rxd2 gxf6 17.Ne2 Be6 18.a3 Kf7 19.f4 h5 20.g3 Re8 21.Nd4 Nxd4 22.Rxd4 Bg4 23.Rf1 Re2 24.Rd2 Re7 25.b4 a6 26.Rff2 Nf8 27.Rd6 Re3 28.Kb2 Bf3 29.Rd3 Rxd3 30.cxd3 Bc6 31.f5 Nd7 32.d4 Be4 33.Kc3 Nb8 34.Rf4 Bd5 35.Rh4 Bf3 36.Kd3 Nc6 37.Rf4 Bg4 38.Ke4 Ke7 39.Rf2 Kd7 40.d5 Ne5 41.b5 1-0 Ziegler,C-Myers,D/ USA corr 1981/;

C2) 11...Bf5? 12.Bg5 Bxc3 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Bxf5 *(14.bxc3! e4 15.Bc4! Qa5 16.Bb3 Qxc5 17.Qxf6+-* Myers *)* 14...Nxf5 15.Qg4+ Ng7 16.bxc3 b6 17.Qa4 Ne7 18.cxb6 axb6 19.Qb3 Ne6 20.f3 Nc5 21.Qb1 Nc6 22.Ne2 Na5 23.h4 Nc4 24.Rh3 Ra7 25.Rg3+ Kf7 26.Rg4 Ne3 27.Rb4 Qa8 28.Rg1 Rxa2 29.Kd2 Nc4+ 30.Rxc4 dxc4 31.Rd1 Nb3+ 32.Ke1 Ra1 33.Qb2 Ra2 34.Qb1 Ra1 35.Qb2 Ra2 36.Qa1 ½-½ Fehrig,A-Berlin,D/ GER BL2 1981/;

C3) 11...Ng6?! 12.Bxg6! Rxg6 13.Qxd8+ Nxd8 14.Nxd5 Bxc5 15.Be3 Bd6 16.Nf3± Myers;

C4) 11...h6!? 12.f3 *(⌓12.g4!* Wright *e4 13.Nxe4 dxe4 14.Bc4+ Nd5 15.Bxb4 Ncxb4 16.a3+-* Myers*; 12.Ne4? Bxd2+! 13.Nxd2 Qa5∓* Myers *)* 12...Bf5 13.Ne4 *(13.Bxf5 Nxf5 14.Qf2 Nfd4 15.Nge2 Bxc5 16.Nxd4 Bxd4 17.Qe2 Qa5 18.Kb1 Qb4* ½-½ Schulz,M-Koppe,F/corr DDR 1983/ *)* 13...Bxd2+ 14.Rxd2 Bxe4 15.fxe4 Qa5 16.exd5 Rf4 17.Qe1 Qxa2 18.c3 Nxd5 19.Bb1 Qc4 20.Nh3 Rd4

21.Bc2 Rxd2 22.Qxd2 Nf6 23.Qd3 Qxc5 24.Qf5 Qc4 25.Rg1 Qg4 26.Qf1 Rd8 27.Bd1 Qd7 28.Bc2 Qg4 29.Bd1 Qd7 30.Bc2 Qg4 ½-½ Kolosov,A-Bittner,A/corr ICCF 1994/;

C5) 11...Nf5?! 12.Bxf5 Bxf5 13.Bg5 *(13.Nge2 d4 14.Bg5 Qa5 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Nd5 Qxa2 17.Nxb4 Nxb4 18.Qxf6 Bxc2 19.Nxd4 exd4 20.Rxd4 Bg6 21.Rd8+ Rxd8 22.Qxd8+ Kf7 23.Qc7+ Kf6 24.Qf4+ Kg7 25.Qe5+ Kf7* ½-½ Vovk,Y-Korobov,A/Illichevsk Sunny Pawn 2006/*)* 13...Bxc3 14.Bxf6 Bxb2+ 15.Kxb2 gxf6 16.f4 *(16.Qa4 Na5 17.Ne2 Rc8 18.Nc1 Rxc5 19.Nd3 Bd7 20.Qh4 Rc4 21.Qg3+ Rg4 22.Qf3 e4 23.Qe2 exd3 24.Qxd3 Be6 25.Rhe1 Bf7 26.Qb5 Rc4 27.Kc1 Qc7 28.Rd2 Nc6 29.Qb2 Qf4 30.Re3 Nb4 31.Kd1 Bh5+ 32.Ke1 Qxh2* 1-0 McMillan-Newhouse/corr GBR 1988/*)* 16...Qa5 17.Qg3+ Kh8 18.fxe5 Nxe5 19.Qb3 Nc4+ 20.Ka1 Re8 21.c3 Bc2 22.Qxc2 Ne3 23.Qd2 Nxd1 24.Ne2 Ne3 25.Nd4 Nc4 26.Nb3 Qxc5 27.Nxc5 Nxd2 28.Nd3 Ne4 29.Kb2 Rc8 30.Rc1 Kg8 31.Nf4 Rc5 32.Re1 Kf7 33.Re3 f5 34.Rh3 Nf6 35.Re3 Rc4 36.g3 Re4 37.Rf3 b6 38.Kb3 Ke7 39.Nd3 Ke6 40.Nb4 Ng4 41.Rd3 Re3 42.Rd2 Nf6 43.Kb2 h5 44.Nc2 Ne4 45.Rxd5 Re2 46.Rd8 Rxh2 47.Re8+ Kd5 48.Rd8+ Kc4 49.Rd4+ Kc5 50.Kb3 Nd2+ 51.Kb2 a5 52.a4 Nc4+ 53.Kb3 Nd2+ 54.Kb2 Ne4 55.Rd3 Rg2 56.Rf3 Nxg3 57.Kb3 h4 58.Ne3 h3 59.Nxf5 h2 60.Nxg3 Rxg3 61.Rf5+ Kd6 62.Rh5 Rg2 63.Kc4 Ke6 64.Rh6+ Kf5 65.Kb5 Rb2+ 66.Ka6 Kg4 67.c4 Kg3 68.Rg6+ Kf4 69.Rh6 Ke4 70.Rh4+ Ke5 71.Kb7 Kd6 72.Rh5 Ke6 73.Kc6 Kf6 74.Kb7 Kg6 75.Rh8 Kf5 76.Rh4 Kg5 77.Rh8 Kf4 78.Ka6 Kg3 79.Rg8+ Kf2 80.Rh8 Kg1 81.Rg8+ Rg2 82.Rh8 Rg6 83.c5 bxc5+ 84.Kxa5 h1Q 85.Rxh1+ Kxh1 86.Kb5 Rg5 0-1 Votava,J-Kindermann,S/GER BL 1999/]

[10...Ng6? 11.Bg5! Bxc3 12.bxc3 e5 13.Qg3 Qe7 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Bxg6 hxg6 16.Rxd5 Be6 17.Rd6 Ne7 18.Nf3 Nf5 19.Qxe5 Nxd6 20.cxd6 Rd8 21.Rd1 Bg4 22.Qd5+ Kf8 23.Ng5 1-0 Schulz,M-Laube,B/corr DDR 1979/]

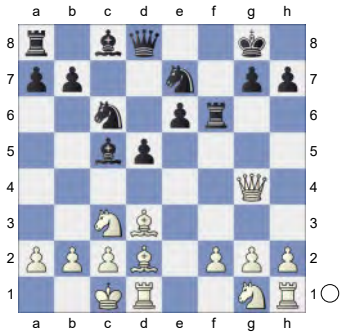
[10...Bxc3 11.Bxc3 e5 12.Qe2 *(12.Qh5 Bf5 13.Nh3 Bxd3 14.Rxd3 d4 15.Ng5 h6 16.Ne4 Rf4 17.f3 Qd5 18.b3 a5 19.Bd2 Rf5 20.Qg4 h5 21.Qh4 a4 22.Kb1 Ng6 23.Qh3 Nce7 24.c4 Qc6 25.b4 b5 26.Nd6 bxc4 27.Nxf5 cxd3 28.Qxh5 Qe6 29.Nd6 Nd5 30.Qg4 Nc3+ 31.Bxc3 Qxg4 32.fxg4 dxc3 33.g3 a3 34.c6 Ne7 35.c7 Ra4 36.Kc1 Rxb4 37.Rd1 e4 38.Nxe4 Rxe4 39.Rxd3 Rc4 40.Kc2 Rxc7 41.Rxc3 Ra7 42.Kb3 Kf7 43.Rc4 Nd5 44.Ra4 Rb7+ 45.Kxa3 Ke6 46.g5 Kd6 47.Rc4 Ke5 48.h4 Ne3 49.Rf4 Kd5 50.Ka4 Kc5 51.g6 Nd5 52.Rf7 Nc3+ 53.Ka3 Nb1+ 54.Ka4 Nc3+*

½-½ Najer,E-Kosyrev,V/Moscow 2000/) 12...Qc7 13.Bb5 *(⌓13.Re1! e4 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Bxe4 Qf4+ 16.Kb1 Qxe4 17.Qxe4 dxe4 18.Rxe4±* Myers *)* 13...Be6 *(13...d4 14.Bc4+ Kh8 15.Bd2 b6 16.h4 Bf5 17.Bg5 Rff8 18.Nf3±; 13...Nd4 14.Bxd4 exd4 15.Rxd4 Qxc5 16.Nf3 Re6 17.Qd3 Rb6 18.Ba4 Bf5 19.Qd2 h6 20.Ne5 Re6 21.f4 h5 22.Rd1 b5 23.b4 Qc7 24.Bb3 Rd6 25.Kb2 Rc8 26.h3 h4 27.Nf3 Rc6 28.Rc1 Kf8 29.Nxh4 Be4 30.c3 a5 31.bxa5 Ra6 32.f5 Qxa5 33.Ng6+ Nxg6 34.Rxe4! dxe4 35.Qd5 Rc4 36.fxg6 Qa3+ 37.Kb1 Rxg6 38.Qxb5 Rcc6 39.Qd5 Rge6 40.Rf1+ Ke8 41.Qb5 Qe7 42.Qb8+ Kd7 43.Ba4 Red6 44.Rf8 Ke6 45.Bxc6* 1-0 Heemsoth,H-Rittner,H/Freedman-mem corr 1985/*; 13...Ng6! 14.f3 Be6 15.Nh3 Bxh3 16.gxh3 Nf4∓* Myers *)* 14.Nf3 d4 15.Bd2 h6 16.Bc4 Qd7 17.Rhe1 e4 18.c3 *(18.Bxe6+ Rxe6 19.Qc4 Qd5 20.Qxd5 Nxd5 21.c4 Nf6! 22.Bf4 Rd8 23.a3 Ng4! 24.Bg3 Ree8! 25.h3 exf3 26.Rxe8+ Rxe8 27.hxg4 fxg2 28.Rg1 d3! 29.Rxg2 Nd4 30.f3?! Nxf3* 0-1 Van der Ween, J-Anton,V/corr Bergraser 1990/*)* 18...Kh8 19.Bxe6 Rxe6 20.Qc4 Nd5 21.Nxd4 Ne5 22.Qf1 Nd3+ 23.Kb1 Ree8 24.Re2 Nxc5 25.Be3 Rad8 26.f3 Qa4 27.Bc1 e3 28.Nc2 Rd6 29.Qe1 Qa6 30.Nxe3 Nf4 31.Rxd6 Qxd6 32.Rc2 Nfd3 33.Qd1 Qe5 34.Ng4 Qe1 35.Nf2 Nxf2 36.Qxe1 Rxe1 37.Rxf2 Nd3 38.Rc2 Rh1 39.c4 Nxc1 40.Rxc1 Rxh2 41.Rg1 Kg8 42.Kc2 Kf7 43.Kd3 Ke6 44.b4 b6 45.a4 Kd6 46.f4 a5 47.c5+ bxc5 48.bxa5 Kc6 49.a6 Kb6 50.Kc4 Kxa6 51.Kxc5 Rh4 52.g4 h5 53.gxh5 Rxh5+ 54.Rg5 Rh4 55.f5 Re4 56.Kd6 1-0 Prizant,M-Rittner,H/corr 1996/]

[10...Qf8 11.Nf3 e5 12.Qh4 h6 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Qxb4 Nxd3+ 15.cxd3 Nc6 16.Qb3 Be6 17.Rhe1 Bf7 18.Qa3 b6 19.cxb6 Qb8 20.b7 Qxb7 21.Na4 Rxf2 22.Be3 Rxg2 23.Rg1 Rxg1 24.Rxg1 Kh7 25.Qd6 Qe7 26.Qxe7 Nxe7 27.Rf1 Bg6 28.Bc5 Nc6 29.d4 Kg8 30.Nc3 a5 31.Nxd5 Rd8 32.Nc3 Nb4 33.Kd2 Nd3 34.Bb6 Rd6 35.Ba7 Nxb2 36.Nb5 Rd7 37.Rf3 Nc4+ 38.Kc3 Na3 39.Nxa3 Rxa7 40.Nc4 Bf7 41.Rf5 a4 42.d5 a3 43.Kd4 Rd7 44.Re5 g5 45.Nb6 Rb7 46.Kc5 Rc7+ 47.Kb4 Rc2 48.Kxa3 Rd2 49.Kb3 Rxh2 50.a4 g4 51.a5 g3 52.Re1 Rf2 53.Rg1 g2 54.Kb4 Kf8 55.d6 Be6 56.a6 Rb2+ 57.Kc5 Ra2 58.Kc6 Rxa6 59.Rxg2 Ra1 60.Nd7+ Kf7 61.Rf2+ Kg7 62.Rg2+ Kf7 63.Rf2+ Kg6 64.Nc5 Rc1 65.Re2 Bf5 66.Kd5 Kf6 67.Nb3 Rd1+ 68.Nd4 Bd7 69.Rf2+ Kg6 70.Rg2+ Kf6 71.Rf2+ Kg6 72.Re2 h5 73.Re7 Bh3 74.d7 Bxd7 75.Rxd7 h4 76.Rd6+ Kh5 77.Ke4 h3 78.Rd8 Kg6 79.Rh8 Rh1 80.Nf3 Kg7 81.Rh4 Kf6 82.Kf4 Kg6 83.Kg3 Kf5 84.Rf4+ Ke6 85.Nh2 Ke5 86.Rf8 Ke4 87.Kxh3 Rg1 88.Ng4 Kd4 89.Kh4 Ke4 90.Kg5 Kd4 91.Rf4+ Kd5 92.Kf5 Re1 93.Rf2 Kd4 94.Rd2+ Kc3 95.Rd7 Re2 96.Kf4 Re8 97.Ne5 Rh8 98.Rd3+ Kc2 99.Ke4 Rh4+ 100.Kd5 Ra4 101.Rh3 Rf4 102.Nd3 Rf8 103.Nc5 Rg8 104.Kd4 Rd8+ 105.Kc4 Kd2 106.Nb3+ Ke2 107.Nd4+ Kf2 108.Kd3 Re8 109.Rh6 Re3+ 110.Kd2 Re8 111.Rf6+ Kg3

112.Ne6 Kg4 113.Ke3 Ra8 114.Ke4 ½-½ Sutovsky,E-Hansen,C/Essen 2000/]

[10...b6 11.a3 Bxc3 12.Bxc3 e5 13.Qg3 Bf5 14.f4 Rg6 15.Qf2 Bxd3 16.Rxd3 d4 17.fxe5 bxc5 18.Nf3 Qd5 19.b3 a5 20.a4 Nf5 21.Rf1 h5 22.Bb2 Nb4 23.Rd2 Ne3 24.Rg1 Nexc2 25.Rxc2 Nd3+ 26.Kb1 Nxf2 27.Rxf2 Qxb3 0-1 Al Modiahki,M-Barsov,A/Calcutta 2001/]



11.Bg5

[11.Nf3 e5 12.Qh5 Bf5 13.Bg5 Bxd3 14.Rxd3 Rd6 15.Bxe7 Qxe7 16.Nxd5 Qd7 17.Ng5 Qf5 18.Rf3 Qg6 19.Qxg6 Rxg6 20.Ne4 Rd8 21.c4 Bd4 22.Rg3 Rxg3 23.hxg3 h6 24.Kc2 Na5 25.b3 b5 26.Kd3 bxc4+ 27.bxc4 Rb8 28.Rc1 Rb2 29.c5 Nc6 30.Rc2 Rb1 31.f3 Kf7 32.Ndc3 Nb4+ 33.Kc4 Nxc2 34.Nxb1 Ke6 35.Kb5 Kd7 36.Nbd2 a6+ 37.Kb6 Nb4 38.Kb7 a5 39.Nc4 Nd5 40.Nb6+ Nxb6 41.Kxb6 Kc8 42.Kxa5 Kc7 43.Kb5 1-0 Rosen,W-Kamp,C/BL2-W 1988/]

11...Rf7

[11...Ne5 12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Qh5+ Kg8 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Ne4 Bd6 16.Nxf6+ Kg7 17.Ne8+ Kf8 18.Nf3 Nxf3 19.Nxd6 Qxd6 20.Qxf3+ Kg7 21.Qg4+ Ng6 22.Qd4+ Qe5 23.f4 Qxd4 24.Rxd4 Bd7 25.f5 exf5 26.Rxd5 Be6 27.Rd6 Kf6 28.Re1 Ne5 29.b3 Re8 30.Rd2 Re7 31.Rd6 Rd7 32.Rxd7 Bxd7 33.Rf1 Bc6 34.g3 Be4 35.c4 Kg5 36.Kd1 Kg4 37.Rf4+ Kh3 38.Ke2 Ng4 39.b4 Nxh2 40.b5 b6 41.a4 Kxg3 42.Rf1 f4 0-1 Bengtsson,B-Renman,N/SWE-ch 1979/]

12.Nf3 Qf8

[12...e5 13.Qh4 h6 14.Nxd5! hxg5 *(14...Qxd5 15.Bc4+-* Wright *)* 15.Nxe7+ Nxe7 16.Nxg5+- Berry]

13.Be3 Nf5

[13...Bxe3+? Wright: In this position, taking on e3 works to White's advantage: the f-file opens and e3-e4 further endangers Black's centre. 14.fxe3 h6 *(14...e5 15.Bxh7+ Kxh7 16.Ng5+! Kg8 17.Qh4 g6 18.g4±* Myers *)* 15.e4 Nb4 16.Qg3 Nec6 17.exd5 Nxd3+ 18.Rxd3 exd5 19.Rxd5 Bf5 20.a3 Bh7 21.Re1 Re7 22.Rxe7 Nxe7 23.Rd2 Rc8 24.Qe5 Kh8 25.Nd4 Ng6 26.Qf5 Qe8 27.Re2 Qd8 28.Ne6 Qb6 29.Qf7 Rg8 30.g3 Qg1+ 31.Nd1 Qb6 32.Qf2 Qc6 33.Qxa7 Ne5 34.Qc5 Qxe6 35.Rxe5 Qg4 36.Qf2 1-0 Short,N-Antonsen,M/Copenhagen DEN 2006/]

14.Bxc5

[14.Ng5!?]

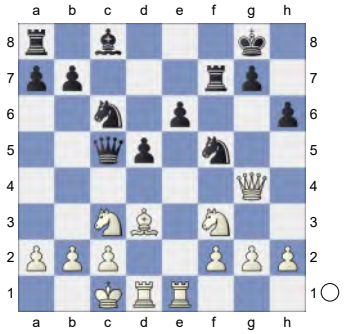
14...Qxc5 15.Rhe1

[15.Ng5!?]

15...h6

[15...Qxf2 16.Nxd5 exd5 17.Re8+ Rf8 18.Rxf8+ Kxf8 19.Bxf5± Wright]

(Diagram)



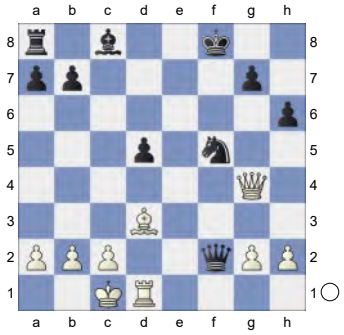
16.Ne5

[16.Kb1!?]

16...Nxe5 17.Rxe5 Qxf2 18.Nxd5! exd5 19.Re8+ Rf8

[19...Kh7? 20.Rf1 Qc5?? 21.Rxf5+- Wright]

20.Rxf8+ Kxf8



21.Rf1 Qe3+

[21...Qc5!? 22.Bxf5 Kg8 23.h4 Bxf5 24.Qxf5 Rf8 25.Qe6+ Kh8 26.Rxf8+ Qxf8 27.Qxd5± Myers]

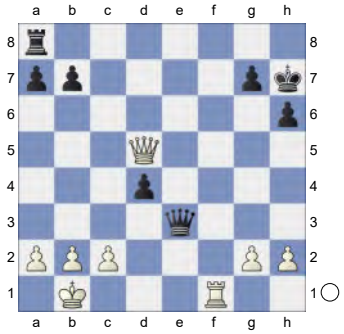
22.Kb1 Kg8 23.Bxf5 Bxf5 24.Qxf5 d4

[24...Qc5? 25.Qf7+ Kh8 26.Qxb7± Wright]

[24...Qe4!? 25.Qf7+ Kh7 26.Qxb7 Re8 27.Rc1 Re7± Myers]

25.Qd5+ Kh7

(Diagram)



26.a3 Re8

[26...Qe2!?]

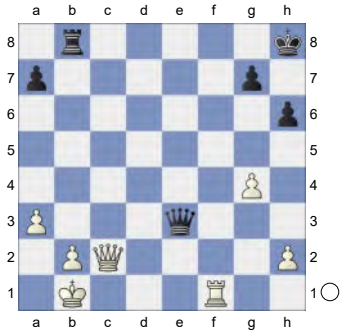
27.Qxb7

[27.Rf7!± Myers]

27...d3! 28.Qb3! dxc2+ 29.Qxc2+ Kh8 30.g4

[30.Rf7!?]

30...Rb8



31.Ka1 Qd4

[31...a5!?]

32.Qf2

[32.g5!?]

32...Qxg4?

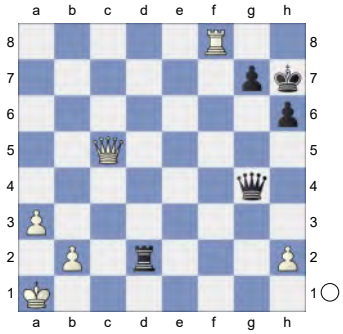
[⌓32...Qe5!?± Myers]

33.Qxa7 Rd8 34.Qc5 Rd2 35.Rf8+

[35.Qe3!?]

35...Kh7

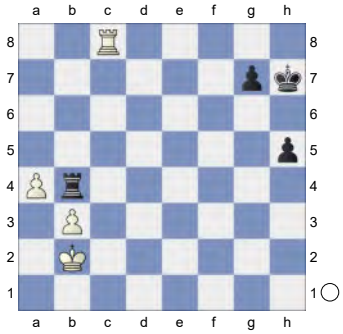
(Diagram)



36.Qc8 Qxc8 37.Rxc8 Rxh2 38.a4 Rh4

[38...Rf2!?]

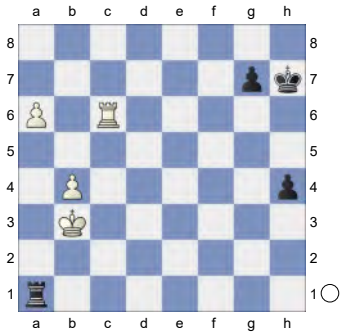
39.b3 Rb4 40.Kb2 h5



41.a5 Rb5

[41...Rb7!?]

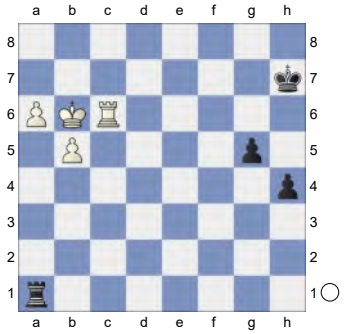
42.a6! Ra5 43.Rc6 h4 44.b4 Ra4 45.Kb3 Ra1



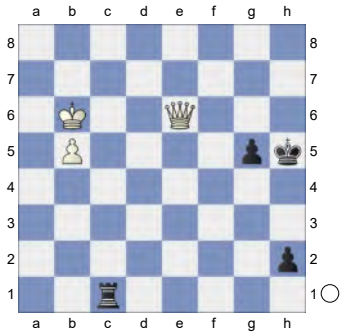
46.b5 Rb1+ 47.Ka4 Ra1+ 48.Kb4 Rb1+ 49.Ka5 Ra1+ 50.Kb6 g5

[50...h3 51.Rc3! h2 52.Rh3+ Kg6 53.a7!+- Myers]

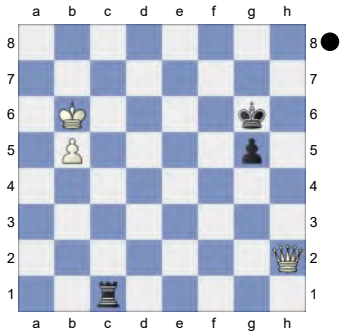
(Diagram)



51.a7 h3 52.Rc1! Rxc1 53.a8Q h2 54.Qe4+ Kh6 55.Qe6+ Kh5



56.Qh3+ Kg6 57.Qxh2



1-0

187 **C18**

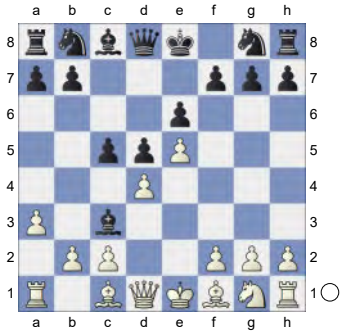
□ **Bartel,Mateusz** **2614**

■ **Donchenko,Alexander** **2668**

FIDE World Cup (2.4) 04.08.2023

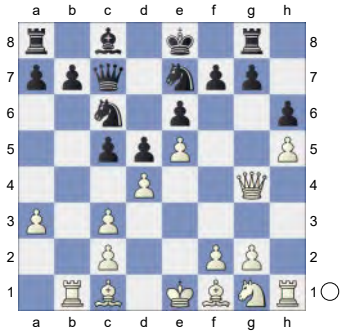
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7 is cutting edge theory. ist die Avantgarde der Theorie. **8.h5 h6 9.Rb1 Nbc6 10.Qg4** White is slightly better. **10...Rg8!**

[10...Nf5 11.Bd3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Ncxd4 13.Bb2 Qa5+ 14.Kf1 Qc5 15.Bxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxg7 Qf8 17.Qf6 Rg8 18.Rh4 Nc6 19.Nf3 b6 20.Rf4 Bd7 21.Re1 Ne7 22.Nd4 Qg7 23.g3 Qxf6 24.Rxf6 Rh8 25.Re3 1-0 Leko,P (2707)-Goganov,A (2603) FIDE World Cup 2015 (1.1)]



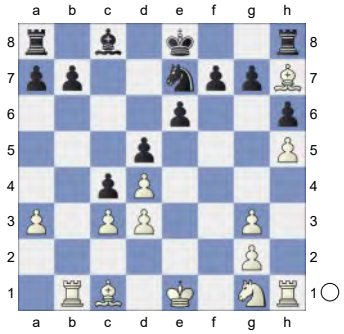
11.Bd3 And now Bd3-h7 would win. **11...c4 12.Bh7N**

[12.Bf1 Bd7 13.Ne2 Na5 14.g3 0-0-0 15.Bg2 Ba4 16.Rb2 Rdf8 17.Qh3 a6 18.g4 Kb8 19.f4 Ka7 20.Be3 f6 21.Kd2 Ka8 22.Rhb1 Bd7 23.Bf2 g5 24.hxg6 f5 25.Qxh6 fxg4 26.Ng3 Qd8 1-0 Bulmaga,I (2422)-Toma,I (1823) Bucharest Grand Prix rapid 2023 (4)]

12...Nxe5! 13.Qg3 Pin

[13.dxe5 Qxe5+ 14.Ne2 Rh8∓]

13...Nd3+! 14.cxd3 Qxg3N 15.fxg3 Hoping for d3xc4. **15...Rh8**



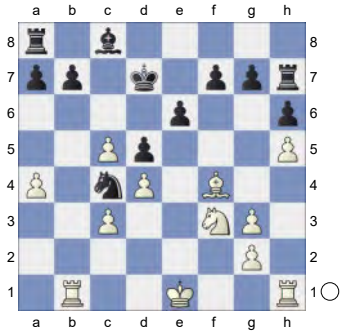
16.dxc4! Rxh7 17.c5 Nc6 Black is weak on the dark squares **18.Bf4**

[18.Nf3 1-0 Saric,I (2687)-Alekseenko, K (2702) Chess.com Rapid Wk6 Swiss 2022 (5) Na5 19.g4 Nc4 20.g5 b6 21.g6 fxg6 22.hxg6 Rh8 23.Bf4 Bd7 24.Ne5 Rf8 25.0-0 bxc5 26.Nxc4 dxc4 27.Be5 cxd4 28.Bxd4 Ke7 29.Bc5+]

18...Na5 19.Nf3 Nc4 0.48/24

[19...Rh8= 0.04/21]

20.a4!± Kd7

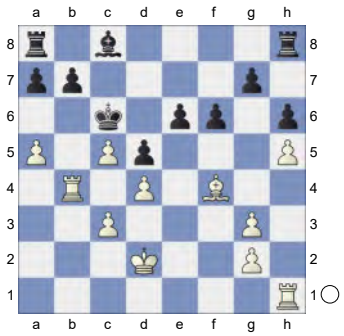


21.Nd2 Nxd2! 22.Kxd2 Kc6 1.38/23

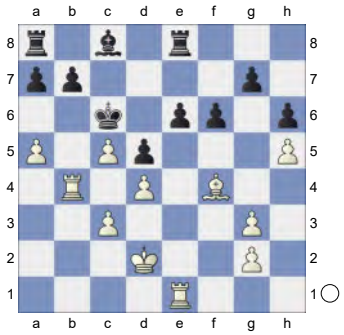
[Black should play 22...b6!± 0.56/23]

23.a5± Rh8 24.Rb4 f6

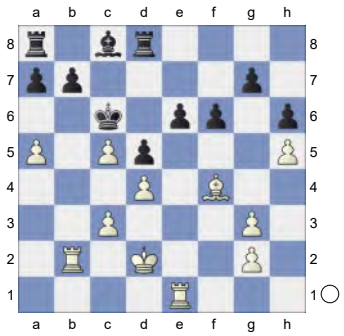
(Diagram)



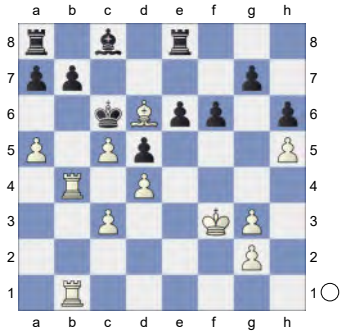
25.Re1 0.86/24
[⌓25.Bd6! 1.38/26]
25...Re8



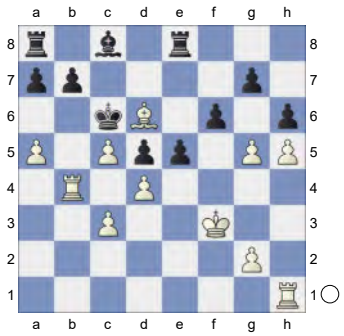
26.Bd6 Rd8 1.38/29
[⌓26...e5 0.86/24]
27.Reb1 Re8 28.Re1 Rd8 29.Bf4 0.44/23
[29.g4± 1.38/24]
29...Re8!± 30.Rb2 Rd8 1.21/22
[30...e5= 0.18/23 remains equal.]



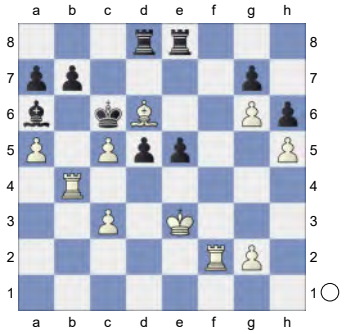
31.Ke3 0.25/23
[31.Bd6± 1.21/22]
31...Re8 32.Kf3 Rd8 1.27/23
[32...e5= 0.14/22]
33.Rb4 White is much more active.
33...Re8 34.Bd6!± 1.21/23 **Rd8 35.Reb1 Re8**



36.Kf4 0.58/22 **Rd8** 1.38/21
[36...e5+± 0.58/22 37.dxe5 fxe5+ 38.Ke3 *(38.Bxe5 Rf8+ 39.Ke3 Re8+-)* 38...d4+ *(38...Bf5 39.R1b2±)* 39.cxd4 exd4+ 40.Kf3 *(40.Kxd4 Re2±)* 40...Bf5]
37.Kf3 Re8 38.Rh1
[38.R1b2 seems wilder. e5 39.dxe5 fxe5 40.g4]
38...Rd8 1.38/23
[⌓38...e5 0.73/21]
39.g4± Re8 40.g5 e5 1.81/19
[40...hxg5± 1.23/22 was worth a try. 41.h6 g4+ Decoy 42.Kxg4 e5+ 43.Kg3 exd4]



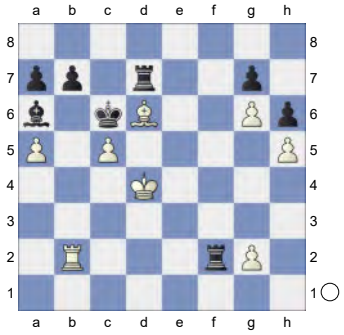
41.dxe5+- fxe5 42.g6 Bf5 43.Rf1 1.14/21
[White should try 43.Re1+- 1.63/22]
43...Bd3± 44.Rf2 Rad8? 2.87/20
[44...Rac8± 1.19/21]
45.Ke3+- Ba6 4.46/21
[⌓45...Bc4 2.81/23 46.Kd2 Rd7]



46.Rf7 Rd7 47.Rb2 Black must now prevent Rf7xd7. **47...d4+ 48.cxd4 exd4+ 49.Kxd4** Rf7xd7 is the strong threat. **49...Re2 50.Rf2**

[50.Rxe2?! Bxe2 51.Rf5 Bd1±]

50...Rxf2



51.Rxf2± Endgame. KRB-KRB **51...b6 52.Kc3**

[52.axb6?! axb6 53.Ke3 Bc4±]

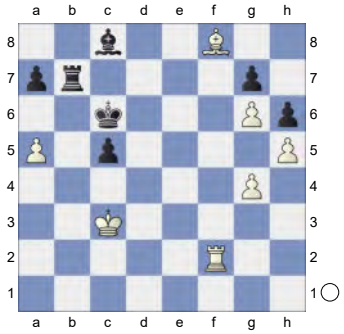
Vorgänger: **52...bxc5 53.Bf8** Bf8xg7! would now be deadly. **53...Bc8** 2.06/18

[53...Rd3+± 0.95/19 54.Kb2 Rd7]

54.g4+- Strongly threatening Bf8xg7! **54...Rb7** 6.20/21

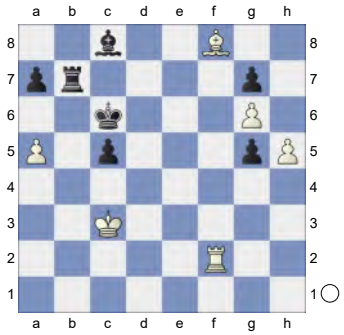
[54...Kb5 2.75/19 55.g5 Rd5 56.gxh6 *(56.Bxg7 Rxg5 57.Rh2 Rg3+ 58.Kb2 Kxa5±)* 56...gxh6]

(Diagram)



55.g5! hxg5

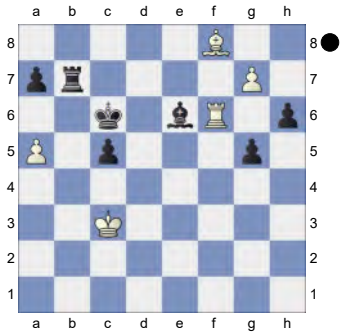
[55...c4 56.Bxg7]



56.h6 gxh6 57.g7

[57.Bxh6 Be6 58.Rf6 *(58.Bxg5 Rb3+ 59.Kd2 Rg3=)* 58...Kd7±]

57...Be6 58.Rf6!

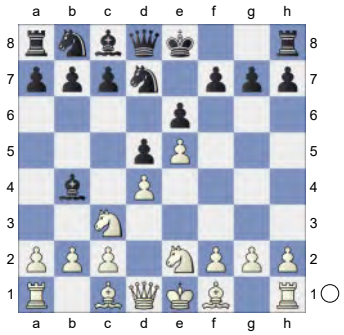


Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.30

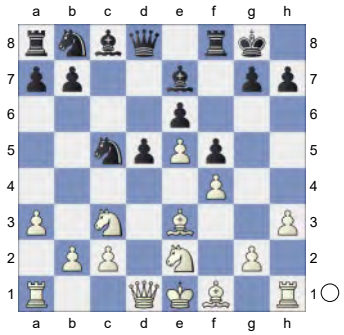
1-0

188 **C15**
□ **Macieja,Bartlomiej** **2613**
■ **Kotronias,Vasilios** **2599**
Olympiad-36 Mallorca (4) 18.10.2004
[Gofshtein,Leonid D]

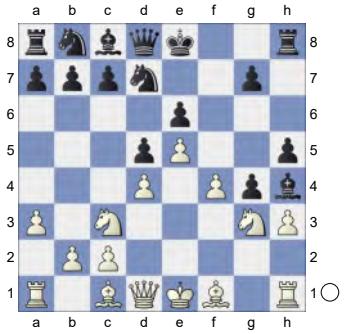
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6
[4...dxe4]
5.e5 Nfd7



6.f4 f5 This way black avoids the Velimirovich attack.
[6...b6± ½-½ Bjarnason,S-Vidarsson, J/ISL 1994/EXT 97 (23) 7.g3 Bb7 8.Bg2 g6 9.Be3 h5 10.Qd2 Be7 11.0-0-0 Nc6 12.h3]
[6...c5 7.a3 Bxc3+ *(7...Ba5 8.b4 cxb4 9.Nb5 0-0 10.axb4 Bxb4+ 11.c3 Be7 12.Ba3 Bxa3 13.Rxa3 Nc6)* 8.Nxc3⩲ ½-½ Macieja,B-Damljanovic,B/Belgrade 1999/CBM 69 (75) cxd4 9.Qxd4 Nc6 10.Qf2 Qb6 11.Qxb6 Nxb6 12.Nb5 0-0 13.Be3 Nd7 14.0-0-0 a6 15.Nd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4⇄ ½-½ Hartman,B-Spraggett, K/Canada 1986/CBM 04 (20)]
[6...0-0∞ ½-½ Sax,G-Tratar,M/ Feldbach 1997/EXT 98 (30) 7.g3 c5 8.Bd2 cxd4 9.Nb5 Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 Qb6± 0-1 Koch,J-Hernandez,G/Tunja 1989/TD (54) 11.Nexd4 a6 12.Nd6 Qxb2 13.Rd1 Nc6 14.c4 Qxd2+⇄ 0-1 Hector,J-Zhang Zhong/Wijk aan Zee 2003/CBM 93/[Hecht] (61) 15.Rxd2!?]
[6...f6 7.Ng3 c5 8.a3± ½-½ Kondenko,A-Slavina,I/St Petersburg 2000/CBM 76 (90) Bxc3+!? 9.bxc3?! 0-0 10.Bd3 cxd4 11.cxd4 Qb6 12.Qh5 f5⩲ 13.Ne2]
[6...g6 7.h4 h5 8.f5 exf5↑ 9.a3 Bxc3+ 10.Nxc3 c6 11.Bg5 Qb6 12.b4 Nf8 13.Na4]
7.a3
[7.exf6 Nxf6 8.Ng3 0-0 9.Bd3 c5 10.a3 Bxc3+⇄ 0-1 Zamostni,J-Martic, Z/Pula 1994/EXT 97 (35) 11.bxc3!? Nc6 12.0-0 Qa5 13.Bd2 c4 14.Be2 Ne7 15.a4]
7...Be7 8.g4
[8.Be3 0-0 9.h3 c5 10.dxc5 Nxc5⇄ 2.25-2.27. ½-½ Mitkov,N-Hernandez, G/Matanzas 1995/CBM 47 ext (51)



(20) 11.Qd2!? Nc6 12.0-0-0 b5 13.g4⇄ b4!? 14.axb4 Nxb4]
8...fxg4
[8...Nb6!?⇄ 1-0 Macieja,B-Vuckovic,B/ Bermuda 2002/CBM 88/[Gofshtein,L] (57) 9.Ng3 Nc6 10.Be3 Bh4 11.Bd3 ½-½ Kristiansen,J-Arnason,J/ Reykjavik 1986/EXT 2000 (20)]
9.Ng3 h5 Of course, taking the pawn with 9...♘xe4 is dangerous in view of 10. ♕f3. **10.h3** Practically forced. White throws back the black queen from an active position **10...Bh4**
(Diagram)



11.Qd3 Nf8

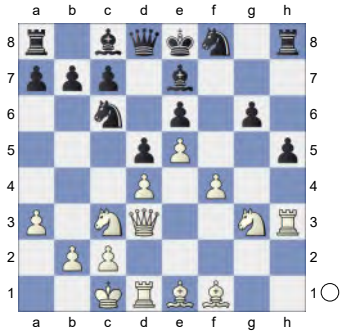
[11...Nc6 12.hxg4 hxg4⇄ *(12...Nxd4 13.Kd1 Bxg3 14.Qxd4* Bringing the knight to an important defencive position. *Nf8 15.g5* Trading the active black knight and aiming to weak point "a6". *h4 16.Ne2)* 13.Qg6+ Kf8 14.Kd1 White tries to destroy black's pawn chain on the queenside.]

12.Bd2 White prepares 13.f4. In case of an immideate 12.f4 black gets a fine counterplay as the tournament practice shows **12...gxh3** Black prepares Nc4. The simple 12...Be7 also deserves attention followed by the exchange on d3, for example: **13.0-0-0** **Nc6?!** 13... ♘d3 deserves attention recieving counterplay. **14.Rxh3!?** White exchanges the black knight and trying to close the c-file, preventing from black any counterplay over that file. Another possible line which was also played by Macieja is 14. ♗c1 and a2-a4 later on. **14...g6** 14...♕c4 deserved attention - exchanging queens and limiting white's attacking possibilities.

15.Be1 Be7

[15...Qe7 16.Nf5 gxf5 17.Bxh4 Qf7 18.Bf6 Rh7± 19.Be2]

(Diagram)

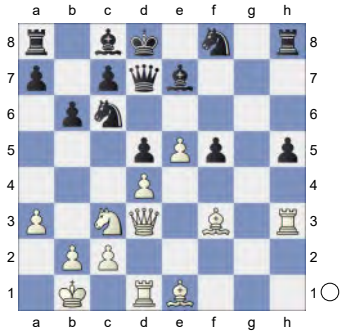


Black plays too slowly, 15...d5 is much more active with counterplay. **16.Be2 Qd7?!** Black plays slowly and gets under attack. **17.Bf3** White is preparing an advance on the kingside and removes the rook from the h1-a8 diagonal in advance. **17...Kd8** Also after 17...d5 18. f5 white's initiative looks threatening.

[17...b6 18.f5 gxf5 19.Nxf5 *(19.Bxh5+ Kd8 20.Be8 Rxh3 21.Bxd7!? Bxd7)* 19...exf5→ 20.Nxd5 Rb8!? 21.Nxe7!? Nxe7!? 22.d5]

18.Kb1 Starting the offense on the kingside. **18...b6** Trying to find some counterplay. In case of a passive defence white's attack can get very dangerous. **19.f5!** **gxf5** The lesser evil in this position was 19...0-0 although also in this case white has the initiative.

20.Nxf5 exf5



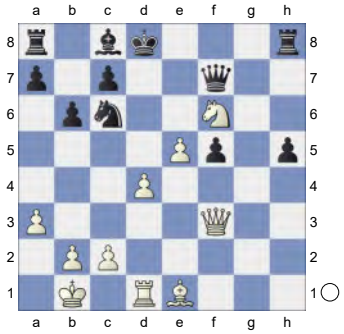
21.Nxd5? 21.♗xg7 led to an immideate win. Now the position is getting less clear. **21...Bg5**

[21...Ng6 22.Rg3 *(22.Bg3 h4 23.Bh2 Bb7+- 24.e6 Qxe6 25.Nxc7*

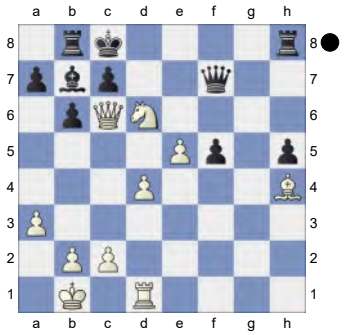
Qd7→ 26.Nxa8 Bxa8 27.Rg1)
22...Qe8 23.Rxg6 Qxg6!? 24.Nxe7 Kxe7 25.Bh4+ Kf8 26.Bf6!?]

22.Rg3 Ne6 23.Rxg5 Nxg5?
After the correct 23... ♘d3 black still had some hopes. **24.Nf6 Nxf3 25.Qxf3↑**
White has a firm control over the initiative, black's king is uncastled and the rook on h8 is not participating in the game.
[25.Nxd7 Nxe1 26.Qxf5 Ne7↑ 27.Qe4!? c6 28.Nf6]

25...Qf7



26.Qxc6 Rb8 Missing white's reply. Anyway, black's position is hopeless.
27.Bh4 Bb7 28.Ne4+ Kc8 29.Nd6#+-



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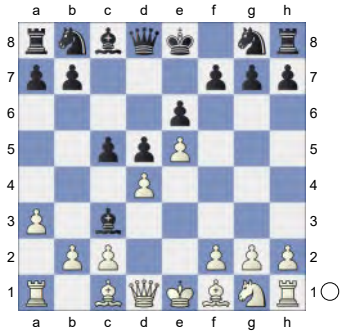
189 **C18**
□ **Paravyan,David** **2612**
■ **Ponkratov,Pavel** **2608**
Dvoretsky Mem Blitz 2023 (8.4) 09.12.23
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



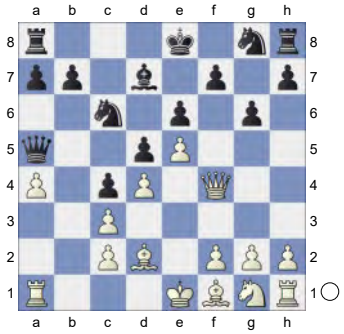
6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.Qf4
[8.dxc5?! Nxe5 9.Qf4 Nc6=]
[8.Nf3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Qa4 10.Ra2 cxd4 11.cxd4 b6 12.h4 h5 13.Qf4 Ba6 14.Ng5 Nh6 15.Bxa6 Qxa6 16.Qf6 Kd7 17.Nxf7 Nxd4 18.Kd1 Ng4 19.Qf4 Qe2+ 20.Kc1 Qc4 21.Kb1 Rhf8 22.f3 Nf2 0-1 5.Bd3 Be7 6. Nc3 d5 (2640)-Zimmermann,R (2523) 30/119 Bagneux 1980 (6)]

8...Qa5N
[8...h6 9.dxc5 Qa5 10.Bd2 Qxc5 11.Nf3 Bd7 12.Nd4 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 Qxd4 14.cxd4 Ne7 15.Rb1 b6 16.Ba6 Nc6 17.Bc3 0-0 18.Kd2 f6 19.exf6 Rxf6 20.f3 g5 21.Rbf1 Raf8 22.Be2 Kg7 23.h4 0-1 Durarbayli,V (2501)-Andreikin,D (2650) Wch U20 49th 2010 (3) Be8 24.Rh3 gxh4 25.Rxh4 Rf4 26.Rxf4 Rxf4 27.Ke3 Rf8 28.Rc1 Bg6 29.Be1 Rc8 30.Ba6 Re8 31.c4 Nb8 32.Bb7 Re7 33.Ba8 dxc4 34.Rxc4 Nd7 35.Rc7 Rf7 36.Rxa7 Nf6 37.Ra6 Rc7

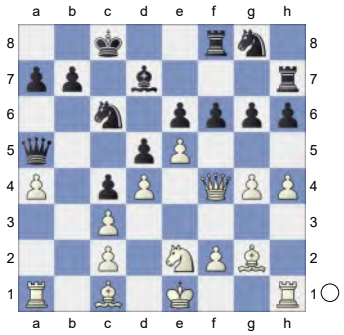
38.Rxb6 1-0 Durarbayli,V (2627)-Druska,J (2496) Dulles Cherry Blossom op 10th 2023 (5) Rc2 39.g4 Ra2 40.Bb4 h5 41.gxh5 Nxh5 42.Rxe6 Ng3 43.Be4 1-0 Furrer,M (2627)-Fernandez Borrego,P (2496) Sautron op 19th 2019 (5)]

9.Bd2 c4 10.a4 White is slightly better.

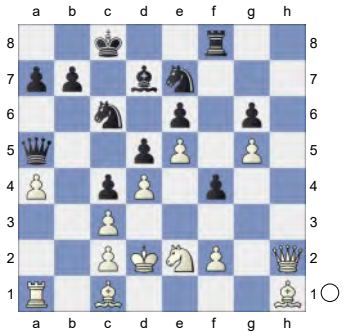
10...Bd7



11.h4 h6 12.Ne2 Rh7 13.g4 0-0-0 14.Bg2 Rf8 15.Bc1 f6!



16.g5 hxg5 17.hxg5 Rxh1+ 18.Bxh1 f5 19.Kd2 Nge7 20.Qh2 Prevents Rf8-h8. **20...f4**



And now ...f4-f3 would win. **21.Ba3 f3**

[21...Qxa4? 22.Bxe7 *(22.Nxf4 Nf5±)* 22...Qxa1 23.Bxf8+-]

22.Ng3 0.06/20

[22.Nf4± 0.59/23]

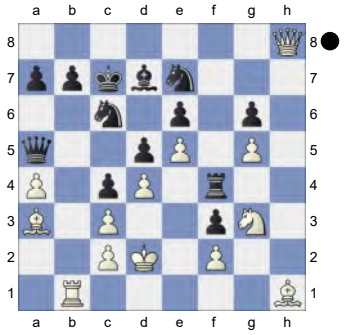
22...Rf4 0.82/19

[22...Qxa4?! 23.Bxe7 Qxa1 24.Bxf8+-]

[22...b6= 0.06/20]

23.Qh8+± Kc7 24.Rb1? -1.81/23

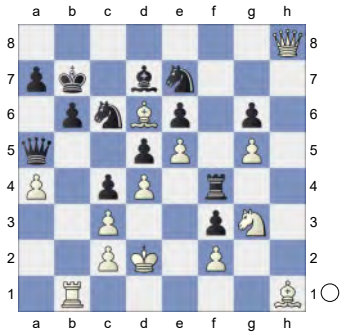
[24.Bd6+± 0.85/22 is necessary to keep the advantage. Kb6 25.Bb4 Nxb4 *(25...Rxd4+? 26.Ke3+-* Double Attack*)* 26.Qd8+ Ka6 27.Qxa5+ Kxa5 28.cxb4+ Kxb4 29.Rb1+ Skewer Ka3 30.Rxb7 Rxd4+ 31.Ke3]



24...b6↑ Black is really pushing.

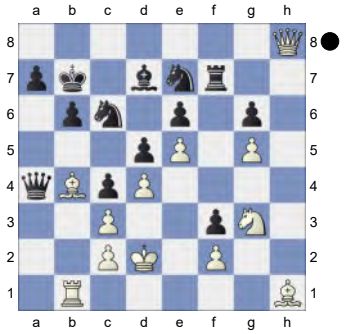
[24...Rxd4+? 25.Kc1 Nc8 *(25...b6 26.cxd4 Qc3 27.Bd6+ Kb7 28.Qf8+-)* 26.Qf8 *(26.cxd4 Nxd4 27.Rb4 Bxa4=)* 26...Nxe5 27.Bb4+- *(27.cxd4 Nd3+ 28.cxd3 Qc3+ 29.Kd1 Bxa4+)*]

25.Bd6+ Kb7

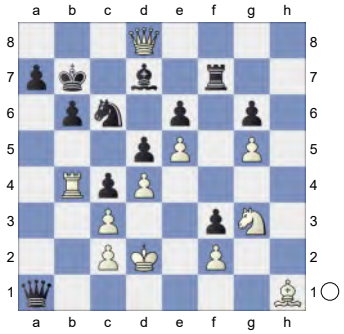


26.Ke3 -3.47/20 Now White is beyond

hope. **26...Rf7**
[26...Qxc3+ 27.Kxf4 Qxc2 28.Rf1+-]
27.Bb4 -3.67/22
[27.Kd2 -2.21/22 was forced. Qxa4 28.Nf1]
27...Qxa4 28.Kd2? -5.73/23
[28.Bxe7 -3.43/22 was the only defense. Qxc2 *(28...Rxe7? 29.Kd2-+)* 29.Bf6 Qxb1 30.Qg8 Rxf6 31.gxf6 Qd3+ 32.Kf4 Qxc3 33.f7 Qxd4+ 34.Kxf3 Nxe5+ 35.Kg2 Nxf7 36.Qxf7]

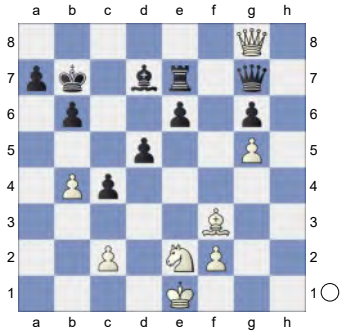


28...Nxb4 29.Rxb4 Qa1 30.Qd8 Nc6

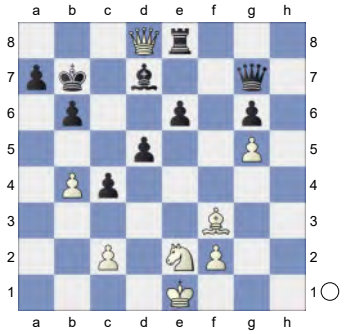


31.Qg8 Re7 32.Bxf3? -5.56/21
[32.Qf8 -3.28/20]
32...Nxb4-+ 33.cxb4 Qxd4+ -6.34/22
[⚠33...c3+ -#3/17 34.Ke3 Qc1+ Skewer, Double Attack 35.Ke2 Bb5#]
34.Ke1 Black is clearly winning.
34...Qxe5+ 35.Ne2 Qg7

(Diagram)



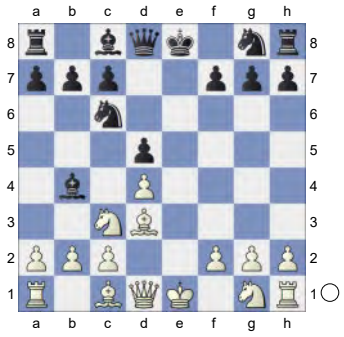
36.Qd8 Re8



Weighted Error Value: White=0.90/ Black=0.49
0-1

190 **C01**
□ **Morgado,Juan Sebastian** **2612**
■ **Ivanovic,Milislav** **0**
corr_160380 1974
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nc6

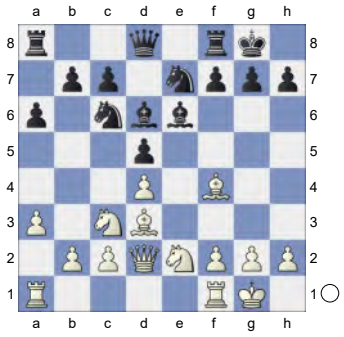


6.Nge2 Nge7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bf4 a6N

[8...Ng6 9.Be3 Nce7 10.Nf4 Bxc3 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.bxc3 Bf5 13.c4 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 dxc4 15.Qxc4 Qd7 16.Qb3 b5 17.a4 a6 18.c4 bxc4 19.Qxc4 Nd5 20.Qd3 Rfe8 21.Rfe1 Re6 22.h3 Rae8 23.a5 Krokhalev,S (2207)-Jackson,M (2582) London ENG 2023 Steinitz/Chigorin [John Watson] 0-1 (66) g5 24.Kf1 f6 25.Bd2 Kf7 26.Rxe6 Rxe6 27.Rb1 Qa4 28.Kg1 Qd7 29.Kf1 Rd6 30.Kg1 Rc6 31.Qh7 Ne7 32.Qh5+ Ng6 33.Qf3 Rd6 34.Be3 Rd5 35.Rb7 Rb5 36.Ra7 Qd6 37.g3 Rxa5 38.Qb7 Ljepic,A (2207)-Markus, R (2582) Senta 2023 0-1 (66)]

[8...Bg4 9.h3 Bh5 10.Qc1 Ba5 11.Qe3 Nb4 12.Ng3 Nxd3 13.Nxh5 Nxb2 14.Bh6 Nc4 15.Qg5 Ng6 16.Nxd5 f6 17.Ndxf6+ Rxf6 18.Bxg7 Rf7 19.Bf6 Qd6 20.Rad1 Raf8 21.Qb5 Qc6 22.Qxc6 bxc6 23.Bg5 Leonhardt,G-Nimzowitsch,A Berlin 1928 Nimzowitsch [Myers] 0-1 (46)]

9.a3 Bd6 10.Qd2 Be6



The position is equal. **11.Nd1 Ng6 12.Bg3 f5 13.f4 Qf6 14.c3** -0.21/18

[⌓14.Bf2 0.12/17]

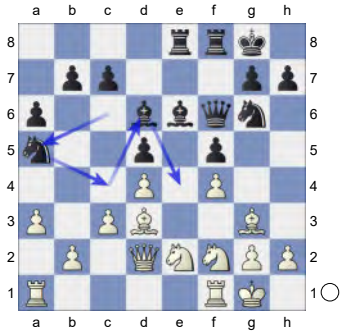
14...Rae8 0.10/17

[14...Na5 -0.21/18 deserves consideration. 15.Qc2 Rae8]

15.Nf2 -0.47/21

[15.b4= 0.10/17]

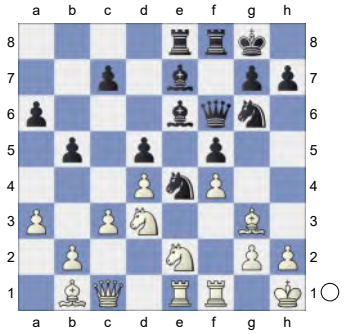
15...Na5∓



16.Rae1 b5 0.01/21

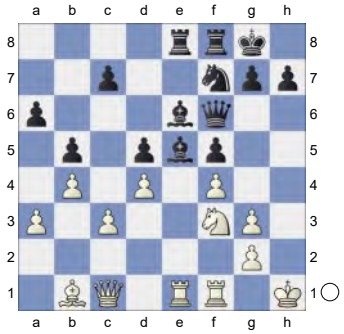
[Black should play 16...Nc4∓ -0.58/19 17.Bxc4 dxc4]

17.Bb1= Nc4 18.Qc1 Be7 19.Nd3 Nd6 20.Kh1 Ne4



21.b4 Bd6 22.Ng1 Nh8 23.Nf3 Nxg3+ 24.hxg3 Nf7 25.Nde5 Bxe5 0.96/22

[25...Be7± 0.51/18]



26.Nxe5 0.48/18

[26.dxe5± 0.96/22 Qg6 27.Nh4 Qxg3 28.Nxf5 Bxf5 29.Bxf5 Qh4+ 30.Kg1]

26...Nd6± 27.Kg1 Kh8 28.Qd1 g5 1.27/21

[Better is 28...Ne4± 0.43/18]

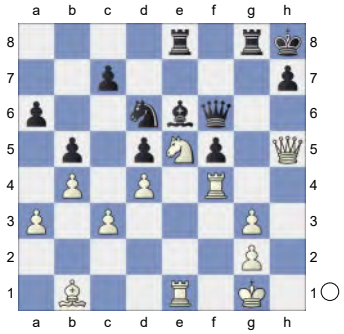
29.Qh5± Strongly threatening g4. &Bianco is more active. **29...gxf4** 2.36/21 A mistake that costs the game.

[29...Rg8± 0.99/22]

30.Rxf4+-

[30.gxf4 Ne4±]

30...Rg8



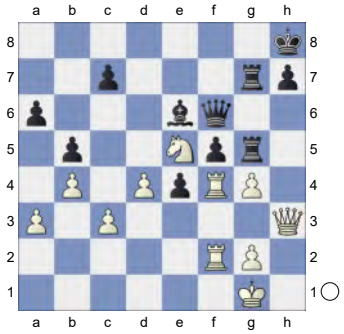
31.g4

[Not 31.Rh4 Qg7±]

31...Rg5 32.Qh3 Reg8 33.Re2 R8g7 2.86/22

[⌓33...Ne4 1.90/19 34.Bxe4 dxe4]

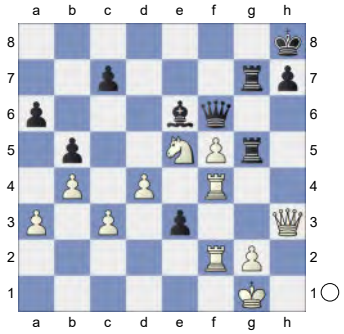
34.Ref2 Ne4 35.Bxe4 dxe4



36.gxf5 e3? 7.37/22

[36...Bc8 3.76/22 37.g4 *(37.Rxe4 Rxf5 38.Ng4 Qf8+-)* 37...Bb7]

(Diagram)



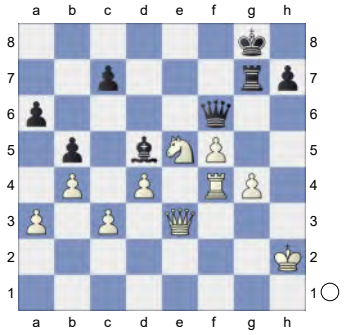
37.Qxe3? 2.02/20

[37.fxe6! 7.37/22 exf2+ 38.Rxf2]

37...Bd5 38.g4 Rh5 39.Rh2 Inhibits Rh1+. **39...Rxh2** 3.16/22

[39...Rxf5 1.98/21 was necessary. 40.Rff2 *(40.Rxf5 Qxf5 41.Re2 Kg8±)* 40...Kg8]

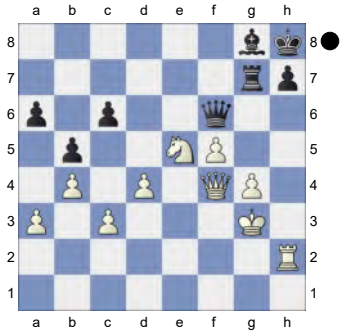
40.Kxh2 Kg8



41.Kg3 c6 42.Rf2 White is clearly winning. **42...Kh8** 7.40/22

[⌓42...Bf7 4.73/20 43.Nxf7 Rxf7]

43.Qf4 Bg8 44.Rh2



Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.33

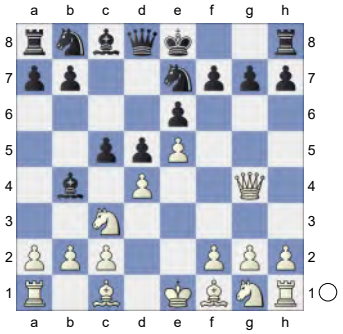
1-0

191 **C17**
□ **Ter Sahakyan,S.** **2611**
■ **Rustemov,A.** **2525**
Chess.com Classic Play-In blitz (5)
[Kitty Kat]

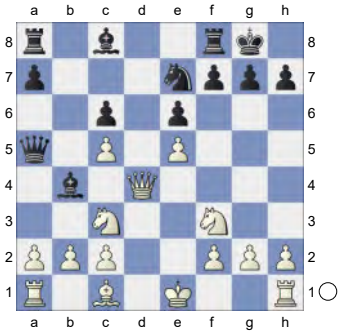
C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]
[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.Qg4 Ne7

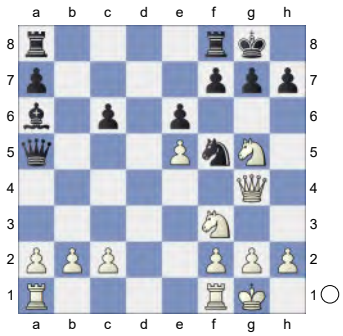


6.dxc5 Nbc6 7.Nf3
[7.Qxg7 Rg8 8.Qh6 *(8.Qxh7 d4∓)* 8...d4∓]
7...d4 Pin **8.Bb5!**
[8.Qxg7? Rg8 9.Qxh7 dxc3-+]
8...0-0 0.72/21
[8...Qa5= 0.00/19 9.Bxc6+ *(9.Qxg7? Rg8-+)* 9...bxc6 10.Qxd4 Nf5]
9.Bxc6±
[Don't go for 9.Bh6? Nf5 10.Bxc6 Nxh6 11.Qxd4 Qxd4 12.Nxd4 bxc6 13.Nxc6 Bxc5-+]
9...bxc6 White is better. **10.Qxd4 Qa5**



11.0-0 0.47/21
[11.a3± 0.78/21 Rb8 12.0-0 *(12.axb4 Qxa1 13.0-0 Nf5±)*]
11...Bxc5 0.87/18
[11...Nf5± 0.47/21 12.Qe4 Ba6]
12.Qg4 Nf5 13.Ne4 Be7 14.Bg5 Bxg5 15.Nexg5 Ba6

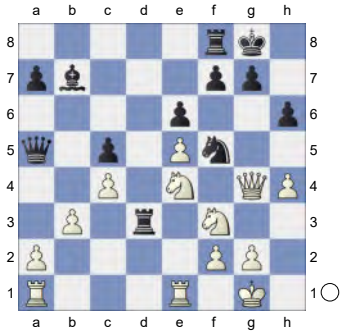
(Diagram)



16.Rfe1 Rad8 17.Ne4 h6 18.b3 c5 19.c4 0.01/21

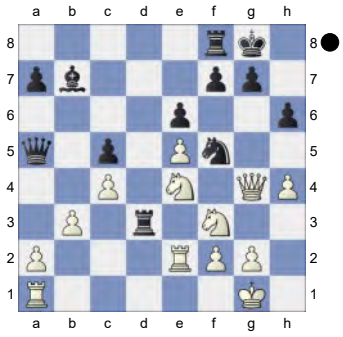
[19.Nh4± 0.94/20]

19...Bb7= 20.h4 Rd3



21.Re2 -0.68/22

[21.Rad1!= 0.01/21 Rfd8 22.Rxd3 Rxd3 23.Re2]



21...Rfd8 -0.10/20

[21...Rxb3!∓ -0.68/22 22.Rf1 *(22.Rd1 Ra3)* 22...Rb4]

22.Rae1 -0.49/21

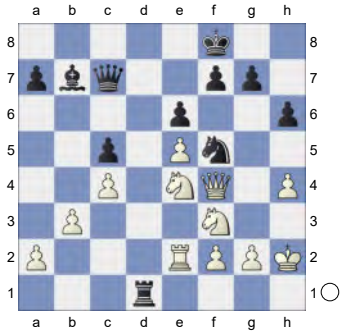
[22.Rb1= -0.10/20]

22...Rd1 -0.01/24

[22...Kf8∓ -0.49/21 was preferrable.]

23.Rxd1! Rxd1+ 24.Kh2 Kf8 25.Qf4 Qc7 1.33/22

[25...Rd3= 0.01/22 remains equal.]

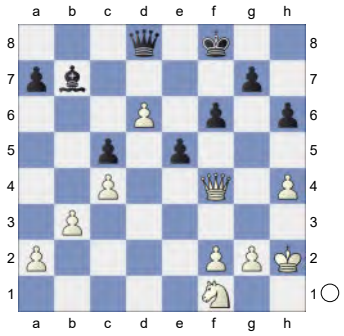


26.Rd2± Rxd2 27.Nfxd2 Qd8 1.68/22

[27...f6± 0.77/21]

28.Nd6 Nxd6 29.exd6 f6 30.Nf1 e5 2.15/22

[30...Bc6± 1.53/20 31.Ng3 Kf7]

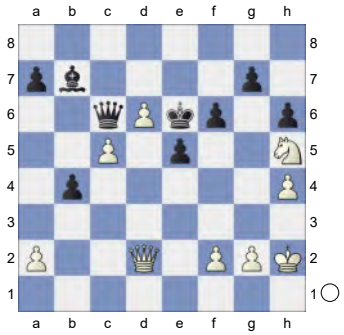


31.Qd2+- Kf7 32.Ng3 Ke6 33.Nh5 Qd7 34.b4 1.12/21

[White should try 34.Qd3 1.47/20]

34...cxb4± 35.c5 Qc6? 3.03/21

[35...a5± 1.17/20 keeps fighting.]



36.f4? 0.47/22

[36.Nxg7+ Kd7 37.f3 Qxc5±]
[36.f3+- 3.03/21 Qd7 37.Qd3]

36...Kd7 1.41/20

[36...Qd5± 0.47/22 37.Qf2 *(37.Nxg7+ Kd7=)* 37...e4 38.Nxg7+ Kd7]

37.Nxg7? -0.42/21

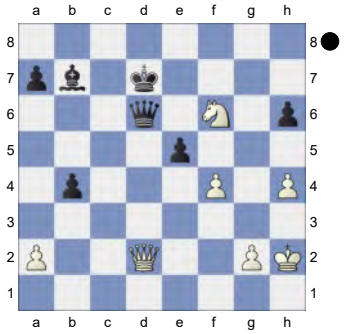
[37.fxe5!± 1.41/20 fxe5 38.Qf2]

37...Qxc5∓ And now ...exf4 would win.

38.Nh5 -1.13/20

[38.Nf5!= -0.20/19 keeps the balance.]

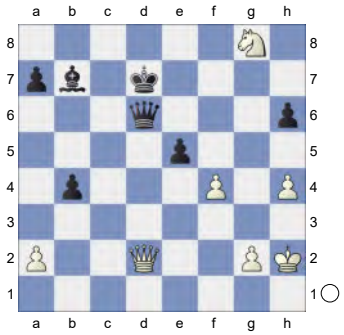
38...Qxd6∓ 39.Nxf6+



Ke7 -0.01/21

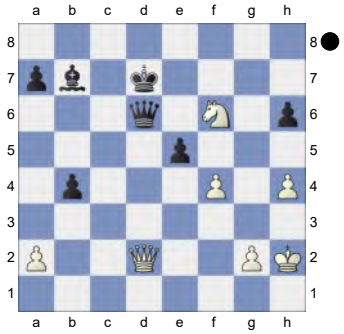
[Black should play 39...Kc6!∓ -1.12/24 40.Qc1+ Kb5 41.Qf1+ Ka4]

40.Ng8+= Kd7



41.Nf6+!

(Diagram)



Kc6! 42.Qxd6+ -3.15/18

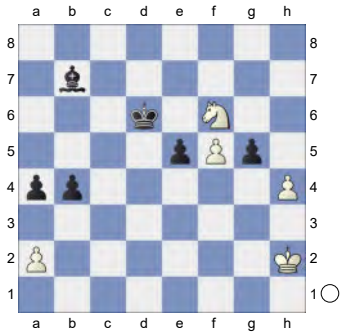
[42.Qc1+∓ -1.28/20 Kb5 43.Qf1+ Ka5 44.fxe5 Qxe5+ 45.Kh1]

42...Kxd6∓ Endgame KB-KN **43.f5** -6.14/21

[⌓43.g4 -3.89/22 exf4 44.Kg1]

43...a5-+ Black is clearly winning. **44.g4 a4** aiming for ...b3. **45.g5 hxg5** -4.35/21

[⌓45...b3 -15.32/22 46.axb3 axb3 47.Ne8+ Ke7 48.gxh6 b2 49.f6+ Ke6 50.Kg3 b1Q 51.Kf2 Qc2+ 52.Ke3 Qc1+ 53.Ke2 Ba6+ 54.Kf2 Qf1+ 55.Kg3 Qf4+ 56.Kg2 Bb7+ 57.Kh3 Qf3+ 58.Kh2 Qg2#]



46.h5 -15.90/25

[⌓46.hxg5 -4.35/21 Ke7 47.Nh7]

46...Ke7 47.h6 Kf7 -5.14/23

[⌓47...Kxf6 -21.10/23 48.h7 Kg7]

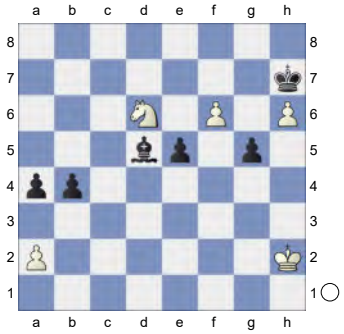
48.Ne8 -8.41/23

[⌓48.Nd7 -5.14/23 Bd5 49.Nxe5+ Kg8 50.Nd3 Bxa2 51.Nxb4]

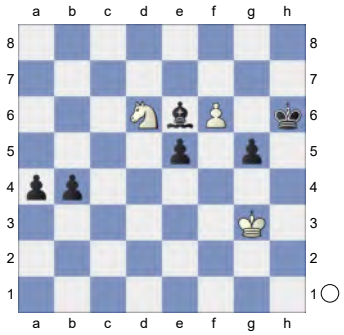
48...Kg8

[Don't take 48...Kxe8 49.h7 Kf7 50.h8Q+-]

49.Nd6 Bd5 50.f6 Kh7



51.Nb5 Kxh6 52.Kg3 Bxa2
Hoping for ...a3. **53.Nd6 Be6**

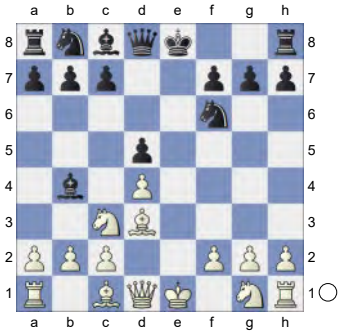


Never resign too early!
Weighted Error Value: White=1.01/ Black=0.64
0-1

192 **C15**
□ **Xu,Xiangyu** **2611**
■ **Abrashkin,B.** **2407**
Titled Tue 7th Jan Late blitz (4) 07.01.25
[Kitty Kat]

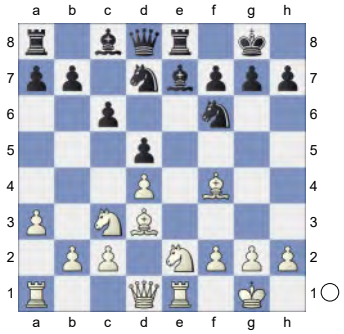
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nf6

(Diagram)



6.Nge2 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.Bf4N
[8.h3 b6 9.Ng3 Ba6 10.Nce2 Re8 11.Nf5 Qd7 12.Neg3 g6 13.Nh6+ Kg7 14.Bxa6 Nxa6 15.c3 Bd6 16.Ng4 Nxg4 17.hxg4 Bxg3 18.fxg3 Re4 19.Bf4 f6 20.g5 f5 21.g4 Rf8 22.gxf5 Rxf5 Harnett,R (2173)-Kracmar,J (1815) Bor 2023 Steinitz/ Chigorin [John Watson] 1-0 (50)]
[8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 Re8 10.f3 Nbd7 11.Qd2 Nf8 12.Rae1 Bd6 13.Bg3 Ng6 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.Bxg6 fxg6 16.Nd1 g5 17.Nc1 Bf5 18.c3 Bg6 19.Nd3 Nd7 20.N1f2 a5 21.Ng4 Bf5 22.Nde5 Nxe5 C 06/30 (2767)-Das,A (2822) Leon 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (39)]
[8.Ng3 Re8 9.h3 Bf8 10.Qf3 Be6 11.Nce2 Nbd7 12.c3 b5 13.Bg5 Qb6 14.Rac1 a5 15.Nh5 Ne4 16.Be3 f5 17.Nhf4 Bf7 18.h4 Ndf6 19.Ng3 g6 20.Bb1 Qd8 21.Nh3 Ng4 22.Bg5 Qc7 Bettalli,F (2237)-Player,E (2202) Legnano Sabbiadoro 2022 0-1 (69)]
[8.a3 Bd6 9.Bf4 Bg4 10.Qd2 Re8 11.Rae1 Bh5 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.Nf4 French 3. Nc3 vs-3... Bb4 Variation 19 3... Bb4]
8...Re8 9.Re1 Nbd7 10.a3
The position is equal. **10...Be7**

(Diagram)

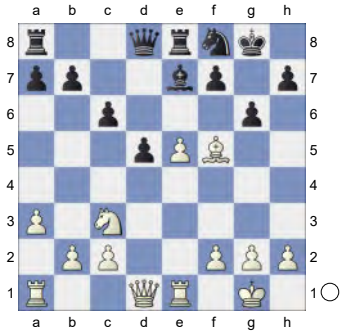


11.Ng3 Nf8 12.Be5 Ng4 13.Nf5 -0.51/20

[13.Bf4= -0.15/19]

13...Bxf5∓ 14.Bxf5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 g6

[15...Bc5 seems wilder. 16.Qd2 Qh4 17.Rad1 g6]



16.Bd3 Ne6 -0.25/17

[16...Bc5∓ -0.65/19 should be considered. 17.Qd2 Nd7]

17.Qg4 -0.67/19

[17.g3= -0.25/17]

17...Qb6 18.Rab1 Qd4 19.Qg3 -1.19/20

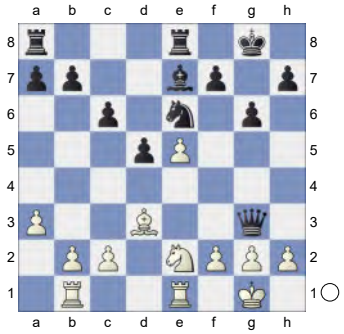
[19.Qxd4∓ -0.33/20 Nxd4 20.Ne2]

19...Qf4 -0.29/20

[19...Bh4!∓ -1.19/20 20.Qe3 Qxe3 21.Rxe3 Bg5]

20.Ne2 Qxg3

(Diagram)



21.hxg3 h5 0.21/18

[21...b5∓ -0.34/19]

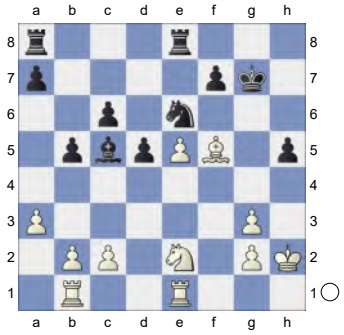
22.f4 -0.21/17

[⌓22.Nf4 0.21/18]

22...b5 23.Kh2 Kg7 0.32/18

[23...Bc5= -0.01/17 is superior.]

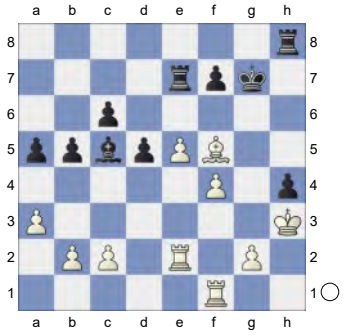
24.f5± gxf5 25.Bxf5 Bc5



26.Nf4 Nxf4 27.gxf4 h4 28.Kh3 0.65/21

[Better is 28.Re2± 0.98/21]

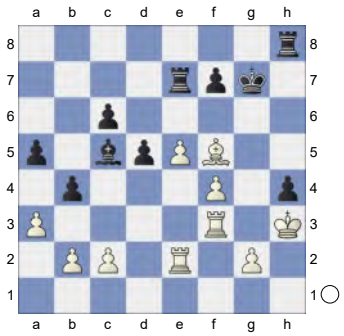
28...Re7 Prevents Bd7. **29.Re2 Rh8 30.Rf1 a5**



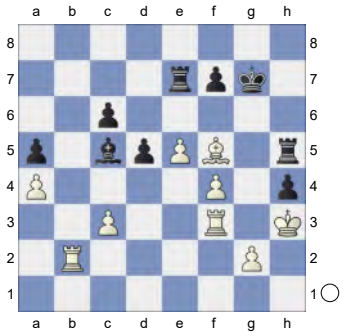
31.Rf3! Strongly threatening Rc3.

31...b4

(Diagram)

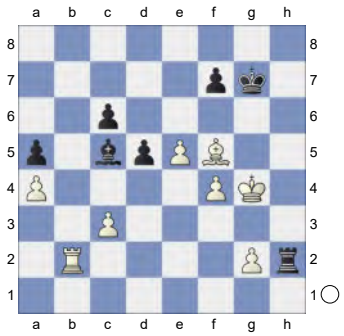


Prevents Rc3. **32.a4** 0.51/20
[32.c4!± 0.88/19]
32...Bd4 1.06/22
[32...f6± 0.51/20]
33.c3± bxc3 1.31/22
[⌓33...Bc5 0.84/19]
34.bxc3 Bc5 35.Rb2 Rh5 1.74/21
[35...f6± 1.35/20 is a better defense.]

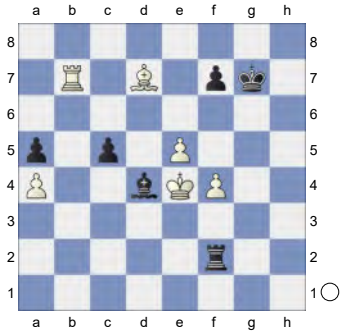


36.Kg4+- h3? 11.95/23
[36...Rh8 1.94/21 37.Rh3 Rc7 38.Rxh4 Rxh4+ 39.Kxh4 d4]
37.Kxh5 White threatens Rb8 and mate.
37...h2 38.Rh3 Rb8 would kill now.
38...Re8 Prevents Rb8. **39.Rxh2?** 3.59/23
[39.Rg3+ 9.20/23 Kh8 40.Rh3]
39...Rh8+ 40.Kg4 Rxh2

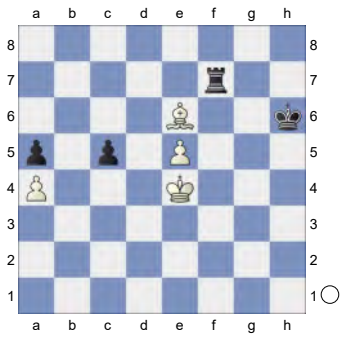
(Diagram)



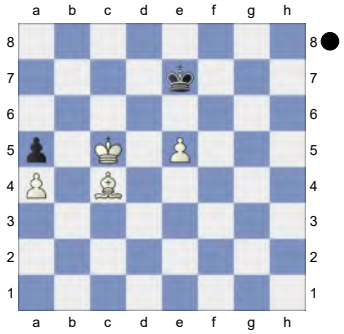
Endgame KRB-KRB **41.Bd7 d4 42.cxd4**
[Not 42.Bxc6 dxc3 43.Rc2 Rh6±]
42...Bxd4 43.Rb7 Rxg2+ 44.Kf3 Rf2+ 45.Ke4 c5 4.11/23
[45...Rb2± 1.33/21 46.Bxc6 Rxb7 47.Bxb7 Bc3]



This costs Black the game. **46.Be6 Re2+?** 7.00/20
[46...Rb2 3.04/20 47.Rxf7+ Kg6 48.Rf6+ Kg7 49.Rf7+ Kg6 50.Rf6+ Kh7 51.Rf7+ Kg6]
47.Kf5 Bxe5 48.Rxf7+ Kh6 49.fxe5 Intending Kf6 and mate. **49...Rf2+ 50.Ke4 Rxf7**



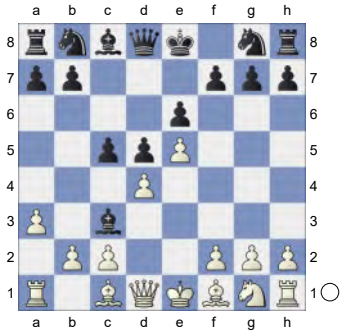
51.Bxf7 White mates. **51...Kg7 52.Bc4 Kf8 53.Kd5 Ke7 54.Kxc5**



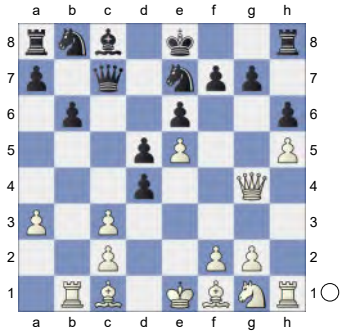
Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.53
1-0

193 **C19**
□ **Sadhwani,Raunak** **2611**
■ **Goryachkina,A.** **2584**
Crocus City Stars Blitz (8.1) 04.10.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

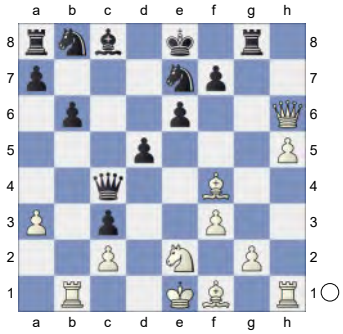


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7 8.h5 -0.01/18
[8.Rb1± 0.33/18 feels stronger.]
8...h6 0.37/16
[8...cxd4= -0.01/18 9.cxd4 Qc3+ 10.Bd2 Qxd4]
9.Rb1± b6 10.Qg4 White is slightly better. **10...cxd4**

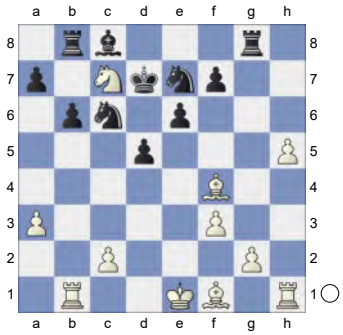


11.Qxg7 Rg8 12.Qxh6
[12.Bb5+ Bd7 13.Qxh6 Bxb5 14.Rxb5 Nf5=]
12...Qxe5+ 13.Ne2 dxc3 14.Bf4
[14.Qf4 Qxf4 15.Bxf4 Nbc6 16.Nxc3 e5 17.Bd2 Bf5 18.f3 Rd8 19.Kf2 f6 20.Bd3 Kf7 21.g4 Bxd3 22.cxd3 Nd4 23.Rhc1 Rc8 24.Ne2 Ne6 25.Nc3 f5 26.Nb5 Rxc1 27.Rxc1 fxg4 28.Rg1 gxf3 Deslandes,P (2835)-Panov Botvinnik Attack (2784) Uppsala 2020 CBM 051 Extra [Nyback/Meyer,CD] (69)]
14...Qe4N
[14...Qf5 15.Nxc3 e5 16.Bg3 Be6 17.Bd3 e4 18.Nb5 Kd7 19.Nd4 Qg5 20.Bb5+ Nbc6 21.Qxg5 Rxg5 22.h6 Rh8 23.Ba4 Rh7 24.Rb3 Rg8 25.Rc3 Rc8 26.Be5 a6 27.Bxc6+ Nxc6 28.Rxc6 Rxc6 29.Nxc6 The Wild Alternative The (2570)-7. ♗g2 00 8. ♗f4 ♕c8 (2508) Moscow 2021 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (42) Kxc6 30.Kd2 Kd7 31.Ke3 Ke7 32.Bg7 f6 33.Kd4 Kf7 34.Rb1 b5 35.a4 bxa4 36.Rb7+ Kg6 37.Rb6 Bc8 38.Rxf6+ Kh5 39.Rc6 Bb7 40.Rc7 a3 41.Rc3 a2 42.Ra3 1-0 (42) Zilka,S (2570)-Petr,M (2508) Zlin 2021 [John Watson]]
15.f3 Qc4 1.58/19
[15...Qxc2± 0.38/21 16.Rc1 Qb2]

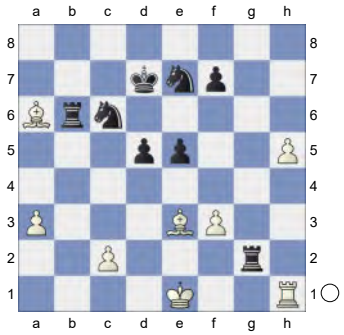
(Diagram)



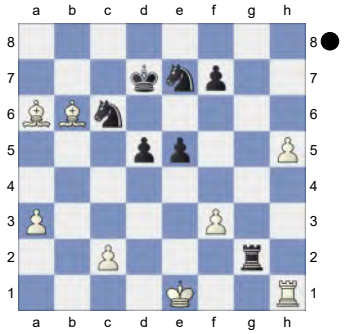
16.Qf6 0.79/20
[Better is 16.Bxb8 1.58/19 Rxb8 17.Qe3]
16...Qc5 1.34/18
[⌓16...Nd7 0.79/20 17.Qxc3 Ba6]
17.Qxc3
[17.Nxc3 Nd7 18.Bb5 Rxg2 19.Qh8+ *(19.Rf1? Ba6-+)* 19...Rg8∓]
17...Qxc3+ 18.Nxc3 Nbc6 1.67/17
[18...Bd7± 1.33/18 19.h6 f6]
19.Nb5+- Kd7 20.Nc7 0.75/20
[20.h6+- 1.93/19 and White stays clearly on top.]
20...Rb8±



21.Bb5 0.39/20
0x0.0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces.
[White should try 21.c4± 0.89/19 And now Nxd5! would win. e5 22.Nxd5 exf4 23.Nf6+ Kc7 24.Nxg8 Nxg8 25.c5 *(25.h6 Bf5±)*]
21...a6 1.83/21
[21...Bb7± 0.39/20]
22.Nxa6 Dancing on a razor blade.
22...Bxa6 23.Bxa6 e5 24.Be3 Kf2 is the strong threat. A strong pair of Bishops. **24...Rxg2** 1.42/20
[⌓24...Nf5 1.11/19]
25.Rxb6 Rxb6

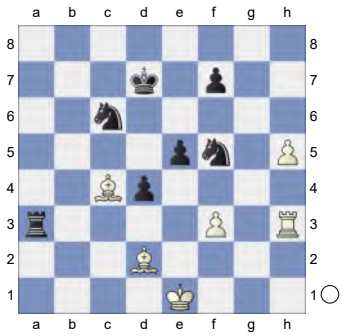


26.Bxb6

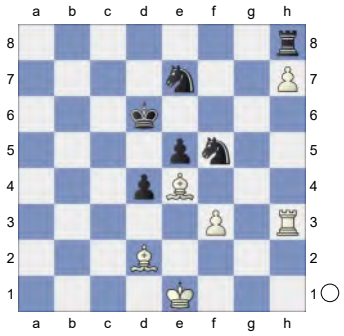


Black must now prevent Bd3. **26...Rxc2** Strongly threatening ...Rc1+. **27.Be3** 0.01/20 Against Rc1+
[White should play 27.Be2± 1.19/20]
27...d4 1.31/20
[27...Rc3= 0.01/20 keeps the balance. 28.Kd2 Rxa3]
28.Bd2 Hoping for Bd3. **28...Ra2 29.Rh3** -0.01/21
[29.Bc1± 1.31/19]
29...Rxa3= 30.Bc4 -1.14/18
[30.Be2= 0.01/20]
30...Nf5? 2.10/20
[30...e4!∓ -1.14/18 and life is bright. Threatens to win with ...e3. 31.h6 e3]

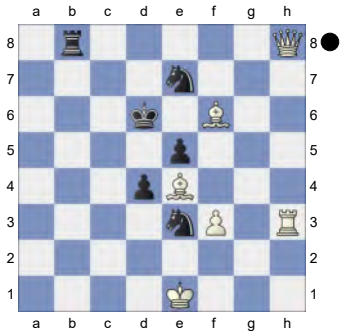
(Diagram)



31.h6+- Ra8? 3.75/19
[31...Ra1+ 2.24/19 32.Ke2 d3+ 33.Kxd3 Ra3+ 34.Ke2 Ncd4+ 35.Kf2 Nxh6]
32.h7 Rh8 33.Bxf7 1.80/20
[⌓33.Bg5 3.91/21]
33...Ke7? 4.04/25
[33...Nd8 1.80/20 was worth a try.]
34.Bd5 Kd6 35.Be4 Nce7



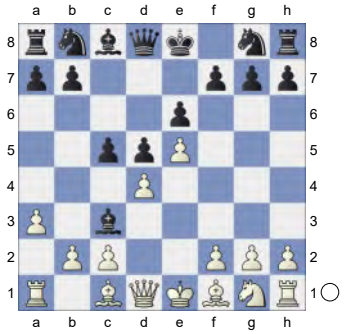
36.Bg5 Ne3? 7.47/25
[36...Ke6 3.01/22 37.Rh5 Kf7 38.Bxe7 Nxe7 39.Rxe5 Rf8]
37.Bf6 Rb8 38.h8Q



Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.77
1-0

194 **C18**
□ **Edouard,Romain** **2611**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2726**
European Online CC GpB (3.2) 27.03.21
[John Emms]

John Emms,MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Berg, Emanuel: 'Argentinian Alan Pichot was World Champion under 16 in 2014 and just won the strong Zicosur Open. Here is one of his victories." **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4!? This is a remarkably creative idea from Vidit. Given that the pawn reaches e5 in two steps rather than one, it's difficult to shake off the feeling that it has no right to work, but it was certainly good enough in this game. **8.Qb1 c4!** Sacrificing a pawn is the only way to justify the previous move. Less energetic moves would leave Black without compensation for his structural weakness. **9.g3** John Emms,MH: 'N'
[9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Be2 Bd7 11.0-0 *(11.Qxb7* 0.00/26 John Emms,MH: '11.h4 0.46' *Rb8 12.Qc7 Rc8 13.Qb7* John Emms,MH: '!' *Rb8)* 11...Nge7 12.Re1 h6 13.Bf1 0-0-0 14.g3 Rde8
A) 15.Qb2 b6 16.Nh4 -0.04/19 *(16.h4⩲* 0.45/19 *)*;

B) 15.h4 b6 16.h5 Rhf8 0.44/19 *(16...Ref8=* 0.04/21 *)* 17.Nh4 John Emms,MH: ' ± ' f6 18.exf6 Rxf6 19.Ng2 *(19.Bf4)* 19...g5 20.hxg6 Nxg6 21.Bxh6 -0.23/24 *(21.Qd1* 0.21/21 John Emms,MH: ' is more appropriate.' *Rh8 22.Be2)* 21...e5 0.38/19 *(21...Nge5; 21...Qa5=* -0.23/24 *)*

B1) 22.Bg5 -0.96/19 John Emms,MH: '22.Bg7 0.30' Rf5 23.Be3 -1.72/21 *(23.Qc1∓* -0.76/20 *)* 23...Rh5 -1.32/19 *(23...e4-+* -1.72/21 *24.Be2 Rh8)*;

B2) 22.Bg7 0.38/19 John Emms, MH: ' ± !' '!' Rf7 *(22...Rfe6 23.dxe5)* 23.Bxe5 Ncxe5 24.dxe5 Nxe5 25.Nh4;

B3) 22.Qd1 -0.59/20 22...Qa5 0.50/24 *(22...e4!∓* -0.59/20 *)* 23.Bg5 0.00/21 *(23.Bg7±* 0.50/24 *Rf7 24.Bxe5)* 23...Rf5 John Emms,MH: '=!' 24.Qh5 Rg8 1.44/19 *(24...Nce7* 0.00/21 John Emms,MH: '=' John Emms, MH: ' remains equal.'*)* 25.Ne3 John Emms,MH: ' ± ' Rf7 26.Bg2 e4 27.Rad1 Kb7 28.f3 exf3 29.Bxf3 Rh8 30.Qxg6 Rxf3 31.Bf4 John Emms,MH: '!' John Emms,MH: ' Qd6 would now be deadly.' Qxc3

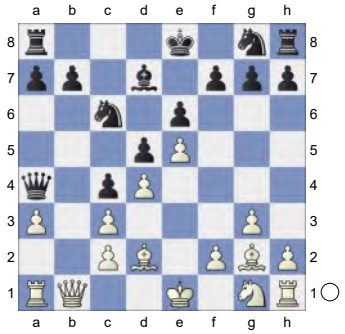
B3a) 32.Nxd5 1.29/21 John Emms,MH: ' ± ' Qxa3 33.c3 0.50/19 *(33.Ra1!±* 1.31/20 *Qb2 34.Rad1; 33.Re4)*;

B3b) 32.Kg2 0.00/29 32...Nxd4 33.Nxd5 -#4/15 John Emms,MH: '?' *(33.Qg7* 0.00/21 John Emms,MH: '=' *Rxf4 34.Qxh8)* 33...Rf2+ John Emms,MH: '!']

[9.Nh3 f6 10.f4 Nc6 11.Nf2 Nge7 12.g3 0-0 13.Bh3 Rb8 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Qd1 f5 16.Bg2 b5 17.h3 Qa5 18.Qe2 Qc7 19.Nd1 a5 20.Ne3 b4 21.axb4 axb4 22.g4 Kh8 23.Be1 Be8 1-0 Lemmers,O (2340)-Chuchelov,V (2525) BEL-chT 9798 1997 (7)]

[9.h4 Nc6 10.h5 h6 11.Ne2 Nge7 12.Rh3 *(12.Ng3 b6 13.Be2 Bd7 14.0-0 0-0-0 15.f4 g6 16.Ra2 Rdg8 17.Qe1 Nf5 18.Nxf5 gxf5 19.Qh4 Rh7 20.Bf3 Nb8 21.Qe7 Nc6 22.Qf6 Nb8 23.Rb1 Na6 24.Qe7 Re8 25.Qf6 Rg8 26.Kf2 Nc7* 1-0 Pichot,A (2638)-Avramidou,A (2321) Titled Tuesday intern op 18th Apr Early blitz 2023 (3)*)* 12...Bd7 13.Rf3 Rf8 14.g4 0-0-0 15.g5 Nf5 16.Bh3 hxg5 17.Bxf5 exf5 18.Bxg5 Rde8 19.Kf1 Nd8 20.Bxd8 Rxd8 21.Nf4 Rh8 22.Ke2 Be6 23.Rg3 Rh7 1-0 Pichot,A (2517)-Cruz,C (2553) Antofagasta 2016]

9...Nc6 10.Bg2?! This allows the pawn to be regained, after which Black is absolutely fine. **10...Bd7**



11.Nh3 John Emms,MH: 'White is slightly better.' **11...0-0-0 12.0-0 f6 13.exf6?** After this move Vidit is able to seize the advantage. **13...Nxf6!** With the d- and c-files both completely open, the white king will never feel

entirely safe. **14.Ng5**

[14.Re1 Rde8 *(14...Rdf8* 0.73/18 John Emms,MH: '14...Rhe8 0.35' *15.Bf4)*

A) 15.Ng5

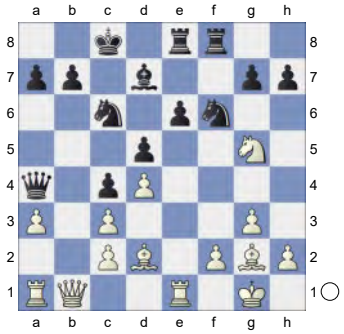
A1) 15...Rhf8 16.Nf3 0.53/21 John Emms,MH: ' ±' b6 *(16...h6)* 17.Bf4 Ne4 John Emms,MH: ' Inhibits Bd6.' 18.Rxe4 dxe4 19.Nd2 e5 20.dxe5 Bf5 John Emms,MH: '!' 21.Nxe4 Bxe4 22.Bxe4 John Emms,MH: ' aiming for Qd1!' Nxe5;

A2) 15...Re7 John Emms,MH: ' Inhibits Nf7.' 16.Nf3 h6 17.h4 *(17.Bf4)* 17...Ne4;

B) 15.Bf4 h6 John Emms,MH: ' Wards off Ng5' 16.Bd6 *(16.Be5 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Nh7)* 16...g5 John Emms,MH: ' Prevents Nf4']

14...Rhf8 John Emms,MH: ' Inhibits Nf7.'

15.Re1 Rde8



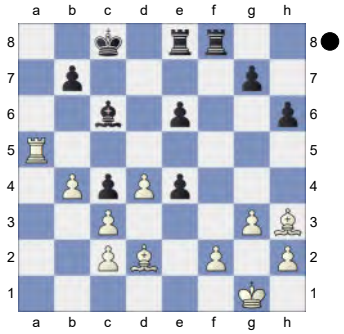
16.Bh3 0.00/23 **Nd8**

[16...e5 17.Bxd7+ Nxd7 18.Nxh7±]

17.Re2

[17.Qb4 Qxb4 John Emms,MH: '!' 18.axb4 h6 19.Nf3 Ne4 20.Rxe4 John Emms,MH: '!' dxe4 21.Ne5 Bb5 John Emms,MH: '!' 22.Rxa7 Nc6 John Emms,MH: ' Dodges Ra5' 23.Nxc6 -0.85/22 *(23.Ra1=* -0.15/21 *)* 23...Bxc6 John Emms,MH: '∓'

A) 24.Ra5 -0.85/30 John Emms, MH: '⩲' '



Threatens to win with Bxe6+!' Kd8 John Emms,MH: '!' 25.Re5 *(25.Bf4)* 25...Bd5;

B) 24.Bf4 -1.44/24 24...Kd7 John Emms,MH: ' ∓' 25.Ra5 Ke7 26.Rc5 -2.25/24 *(26.Re5∓* -1.41/21 *Bd5 27.Bg2)* 26...g5 27.Be5 -3.74/24 John Emms,MH: '?' *(27.Be3* -1.65/18 *)* 27...Ra8 John Emms,MH: '-+' 28.Bg7 -4.93/22 *(28.Ra5* -3.45/20 keeps fighting.*)* 28...Ra1+ John Emms,MH: '-+' 29.Bf1 Rf5 30.Rxf5 exf5 31.Bxh6 g4]

17...e5! This removes a key defender and allows Vidit to reach a double rook ending with reasonable winning chances.

[17...h6 18.Nf3 Nf7]

18.dxe5 John Emms,MH: ' Strongly threatening e6.'

[18.Bxd7+ the chances are level. Qxd7?

A) 19.Rxe5! looks promising for Black. h6! John Emms,MH: '∓' 20.Nf3 transposes to the next note The main line is Ne4 21.Qd1 Nc6 *(21...Rxf3 22.Rxe8 Qxe8 23.Qxf3 Nxd2 24.Qxd5 Qe4; 21...g5 22.Be3 Nxc3 23.Qe1 Ne4)* 22.Rxe8+ Qxe8 23.Be3 Nxc3 as we've seen on a few occasions. 24.Qe1 Ne4;

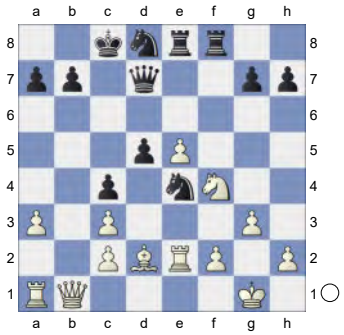
B) 19.dxe5! h6! is critical. 20.Qf1 John Emms,MH: '!?' *(20.Nf3!? Nc6*

21.Qd1 Ne4?) 20...hxg5 21.exf6 Rxe2 A lead in development and an offside knight on a3 certainly provide Black with some compensation here, but it's unclear whether it's enough for a pawn. *(21...gxf6 22.Rae1=)* 22.Qxe2 gxf6!]

18...Bxh3! 19.Nxh3 Qd7 20.Nf4! -0.11/21

[20.Kg2 0.30/23 is even better for Black than the game. John Emms,MH: ' might be stronger.' Ne4 21.f4 or Ne6 22.Nf2 *(22.Qb4 g5* John Emms, MH: '!' *)* 22...Nxf2 0.76/22 *(22...Nxd2=* 0.00/21 *23.Rxd2 Qc6)* 23.Rxf2 John Emms,MH: ' ±' Nc5! is stronger, and after 24.Be3 Ne4 25.Rf3 h5]

20...Ne4



John Emms,MH: '=' **21.Qb4!** -0.60/24 Good defence from Edouard, as now ... b5 would allow White to exchange on of the queenside pawns. John Emms,MH: 'Good defence from Edouard, as now ... b5 would allow White to exchange on of the queenside pawns. Black must now prevent fxg7.'

[Better is 21.f3= -0.09/21 Nxd2 22.Rxd2 Rxe5 23.Qb4]

21...Nxd2 1.93/21 John Emms,MH: '??' John Emms,MH: ' A mistake that costs the game.'

[21...Rf5 -0.08/22 John Emms,MH: '21...Nc6 -0.98']

[21...g5 22.e6 Nxe6 23.Nxe6 Qxe6 24.Bxg5=]

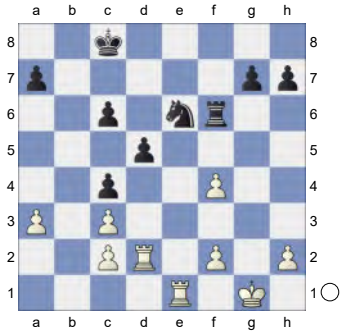
[21...Nc6!∓ -0.60/24 stays ahead. 22.e6 Qd8]

22.Rxd2 John Emms,MH: '+-' **22...Rxf4** 2.40/25

[⌓22...Nc6 1.71/23 23.e6 Deflection Qc7]

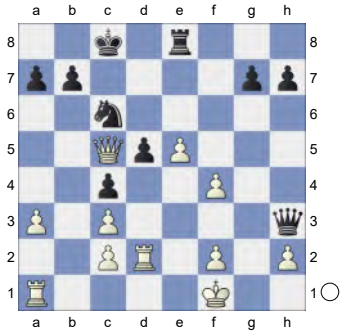
23.gxf4

[23.Qc5+ Qc6! should draw. *(23...Kb8 24.gxf4 Qg4+ 25.Kf1)* 24.Qxc6+! first is more accurate. bxc6 25.gxf4! wins a pawn. Rf8 is met by 26.e6 Nxe6 27.Re1 In contrast Nxf4? *(27...Rf6* John Emms,MH: '



' *28.Rde2* would see Black's initiative fizzle out. John Emms,MH: '!' *Kd7 29.f5!)* 28.Re7! (securing e4 for the knight) John Emms,MH: '(securing e4 for the knight). Inhibits Rf7.']

23...Qg4+ 24.Kf1 Nc6 25.Qc5 Qh3+



26.Ke1 g5 2.76/21

[26...Qxh2 3.27/20 John Emms,MH: '?' John Emms,MH: '26...Qxc3 1.64' 27.Qxd5 Nxe5 John Emms,MH: ' (→

...Nf3+)' 28.Kf1 Qh3+ 29.Qg2 Qxc3 *(29...Qxg2+!* is possible now, as *30.Kxg2 Nc6)* 30.Rad1 Black is absolutely fine after 10 Na3 Qxd5, so 10 Bxf6! is the major test. It will be interesting to see if Vidit's gambit will be repeated. Nc6! 31.Qg4+ Kb8 is much wiser, when a draw is likely. As usual, rook activity is the most important factor. 32.Qg3! intends ... Rf5.]

[⌓26...Qxc3 1.77/21 27.Rb1 d4]

27.Rad1

[27.Rb1 Qg4 John Emms,MH: ' And now ...Qg1+ would win.' *(27...gxf4* 3.73/28 John Emms,MH: '27...Qxh2 2. 60' *28.Rxd5 Qxc3+ 29.Kd1 Qf3+ 30.Kc1)* 28.Rb5 Qxf4 29.Rxd5]

[27.Rxd5? Qxc3+ 28.Ke2 Qxa1-+]

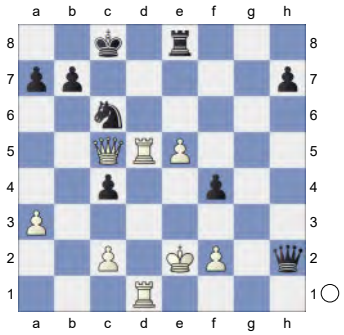
[27.Qxd5 gxf4 28.Qxc4 Qxh2=]

27...gxf4 28.Rxd5

[28.Qxd5? is the wrong capture. Rxe5+ 29.Re2 Rxd5-+]

28...Qxc3+ 29.Kf1 Qh3+ 30.Ke2 Qxh2

[30...Qc3 31.R1d2]



31.Kd2? Defending the e3-pawn, but at a cost of accepting a painfully passive rook.

[31.Qxc4 Qh5+ 32.Kd2 Qg4]

31...f3 32.Kc3

[32.Qxc4 Qxf2+ 33.Kc1 Qe3+ 34.Kb2 f2±]

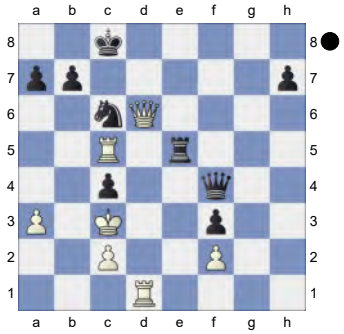
32...Qf4 33.Qd6 There's nothing better to do than to reactivate the rook, but now Black captures the e3-pawn under far more favourable circumstances. John Emms,MH: 'There's nothing better to do than to reactivate the rook, but now Black captures the e3-pawn under far more favourable circumstances. White wants to mate with Qd7+.'

[33.Qxc4 Qxc4+ 34.Kxc4 Nxe5+ 35.Kc3 Ng4+-]

33...Rxe5 8.38/22

[⌓33...Qf7 4.14/19 34.Qf6 *(34.Kxc4 Rxe5 35.Kc3 Re6+-)* 34...Qc7]

34.Rc5



John Emms,MH: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) / Black=0.35. Loss on time!?'

0-1

195 **C18**

□ **Lepikhov,Aleksey Georgievich 2610**

■ **Fedukin,Aleksandr Pavlovich 2335**

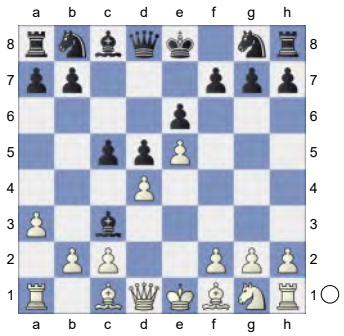
corr World Cup VI Final 15.12.1994

[Kitty Kat]

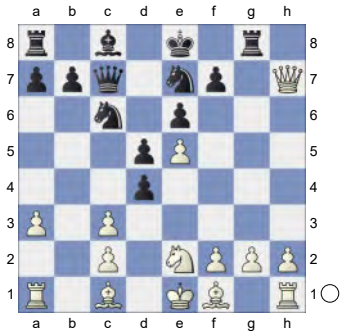
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6



11.f4 Bd7 12.Qd3 dxc3 13.Nxc3 a6 14.Rb1 Nf5 15.g4

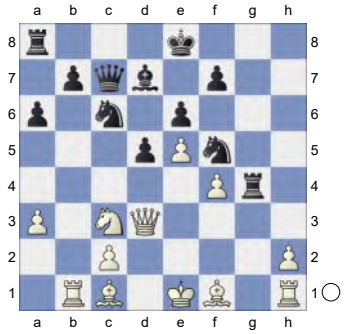
[15.Ne2 Na7 16.Qc3 Bc6 17.Nd4 Nxd4 18.Qxd4 Nb5 19.Qc5 d4 20.Rb3 Qd8 21.Rh3 Rc8 22.Rg1 Nc3 23.Bd3 Be4 24.Qd6 Qxd6 25.exd6 Kd7 26.Bb2 Bxg2 27.Rh7 Rcf8 28.Kf2 Bd5 29.Rxg8 Rxg8 Ehlvest,J (2660)-Miles,A (2630) Biel 1996 CBM 055 [Huebner,Robert] 1-0 (39)]

[15.Rg1 Qa5 16.Bd2 Qc5 17.Rh1 b5 18.Ne2 Rc8 19.h4 Ncd4 20.Nxd4 Nxd4 21.c3 Nf5 22.Rh3 Qg1 23.Qf3 Rc4 24.Rb4 Ke7 25.Qf2 Qxf2+ 26.Kxf2 Rcc8 27.Be2 Nh6 28.f5 Nxf5 29.g4 Ng7 Proskurin,N (2642)-8.Nb5 (2479) Kenilworth 2021 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (47)]

15...Rxg4N

[15...Nh4 16.Rg1 0-0-0 17.Rg3 Na5 18.Qe3 d4 19.Qxd4 Rxg4 20.Qa7 Qc6 21.Nb5 axb5 22.Qa8+ Kc7 23.Qxa5+ b6 24.Qa7+ Kc8 25.Bxb5 Qe4+ 26.Be2 Bc6 27.Qa6+ Bb7 28.Qc4+ Qxc4 29.Bxc4 Nf3+ 30.Ke2 Van der Enden,R-Bengafer,M chess24.com 1999 Telechess CBM 89 [Mrkvicka, Zuechner] (33) Nxe5 31.Rxg4 Nxg4 32.h3 Nf6 33.Rxb6 C 18/53 (33)]

[15...Nxe5 16.fxe5 Qxe5+ 17.Ne2 Rxg4 18.h3 Rc4 19.Rg1 0-0-0 20.Rg4 Bb5 21.Bb2 d4 22.Qe4 Qc7 C 18/53]



16.Bh3! Nxe5 White is better. **17.fxe5 Rd4 18.Qf3 0-0-0?** 2.83/20

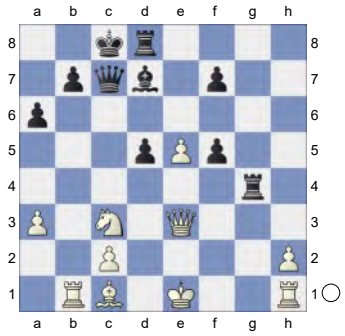
[18...Qxe5+± 1.19/19 19.Qe2 Qc7]

19.Bxf5+- And now Ne2 would win.

19...exf5 20.Qe3

[Not 20.Nxd5 Qxe5+ 21.Kf2 *(21.Ne3? Bc6-+)* 21...Rxd5∓]

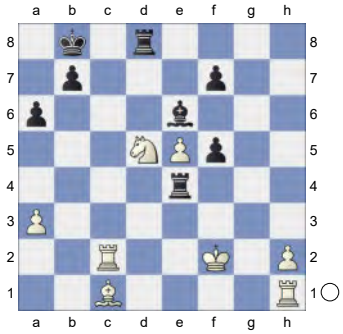
20...Rg4



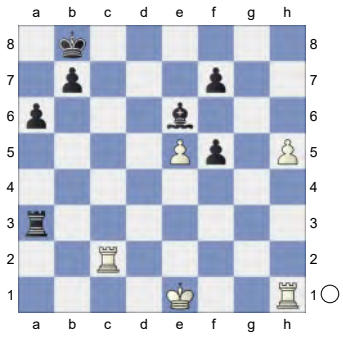
Hoping for ...d4. **21.Nxd5 Qxc2** 4.06/22

[⚆21...Qa5+ 2.73/20 22.Qd2 Qxd2+ 23.Bxd2 Bb5]

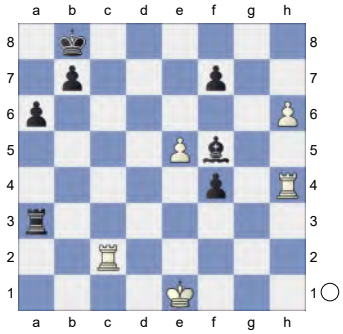
22.Rb2 Qe4 23.Qxe4 Rxe4+ 24.Kf2 Be6 25.Rc2+ Kb8



26.Nf4 Rdd4 27.h4 2.12/21
[⌓27.Kg3 3.73/20]
27...Rxf4+ 28.Bxf4 Rxf4+ Endgame KRR-KRB **29.Ke1 Rf3?** 4.58/22
[29...Re4+ 1.91/20 30.Re2 Rc4]
30.h5 White is clearly winning. **30...Rxa3**

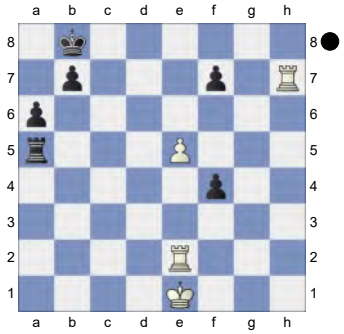


...Ra1+ is the strong threat. **31.Rh4 f4 32.h6** Threatens to win with h7. **32...Bf5**



33.h7! Bxh7 34.Rxh7 Ra5 35.Re2

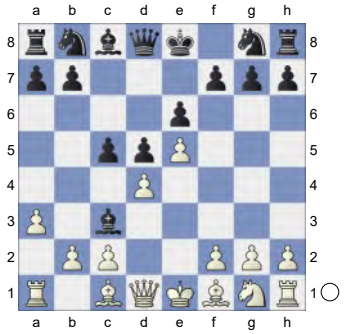
(Diagram)



White took control after the opening.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.57
1-0

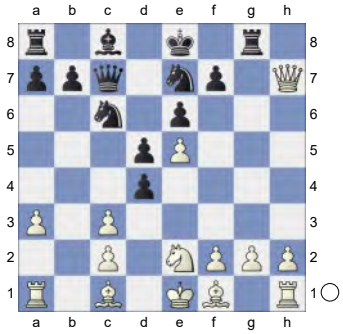
196 **C18**
□ **Lepikhov,Aleksey Georgievich 2610**
■ **Krueger,Thomas 2410**
corr World Cup VI Final 15.12.1994
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
B15: Caro-Kann: 3 Nc3: 3...g6 and 3... dxe4 4 Nxe4 Nf6 5 Nxf6+ exf6 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

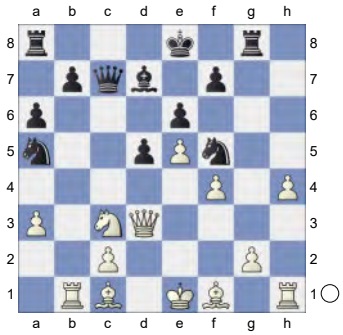


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6

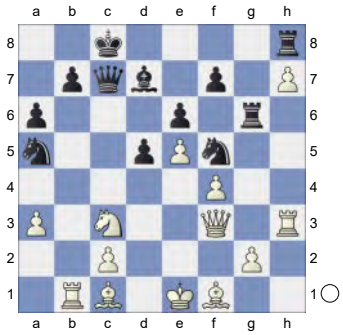
(Diagram)



11.f4 Bd7 12.Qd3 dxc3 13.Nxc3 a6 14.Rb1 Na5 15.h4 Nf5



16.Rh3 0-0-0 17.h5 Rg4 18.Qf3 Rdg8 ...Rg3 is the strong threat. **19.h6** aiming for h7. **19...R4g6** White is better. **20.h7 Rh8**



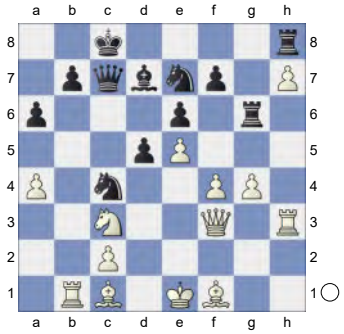
21.g4 Ne7 22.a4 0.30/20 &Bianco is more active.

[22.Bb2± 0.83/17]

22...Nc4 1.31/18

[22...Rg7= 0.30/20]

(Diagram)



23.Bd3!↑ White has strong initiative.

23...Rg7 24.Qf2 0.87/18

[White should try 24.Ne2 1.45/17]

[24.Qe2 Ng6 25.Bxc4 Rgxh7 26.Rxh7 Rxh7 27.Nxd5 Rh1+ 28.Kd2 exd5 29.Bd3 d4 30.Rb3 Qa5+ 31.c3 Bxa4 32.Ra3 Nxf4 33.Qf3 Rh2+ 34.Ke1 Nxd3+ 35.Qxd3 Qxe5+ 36.Kf1 Rh1+ 1-0 (36) Balvanyos,I (2140)-Vadasz,L (2380) Hungary 1998 [ChessCalisthenics]]

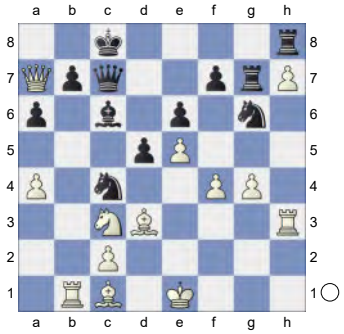
24...Ng6N

[24...Nxe5? 25.fxe5 *(25.Qa7? Nxd3+ 26.Rxd3 Rgxh7-+)* 25...Qxc3+ 26.Kd1+-]

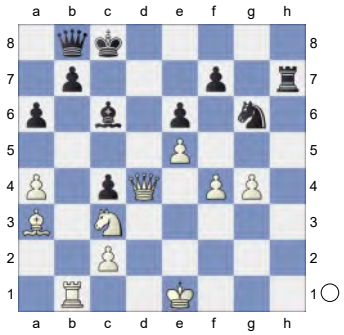
[24...Kb8 25.Qd4 Bc8 26.g5 Qa5 27.Bd2 Nxd2 28.Kxd2 Kc7 29.Qa7 Nc6 30.Qa8 b6 31.Rb3 Nb8 32.Bxa6 Bxa6 33.Qa7+ Bb7 34.Qxa5 bxa5 35.Nb5+ Kd7 36.Nd6 Bc6 37.Rxb8 Rxb8 38.h8Q Rxh8 39.Rxh8 Freitag,R-Parkov,V Essen 1975 ZUS C73 [John Watson] 1-0 (44) Kc7 40.Rf8 Bxa4 41.Rxf7+ Rxf7 42.Nxf7 Kd7 43.Nd6 Ke7 44.Nb7 1-0 (44) Starcke-Egorov,E Plovdiv 1975 Inf 46 [Thipsay,Praveen Mahadeo; Thipsay,B]]

25.Qa7 Bc6 1.94/21

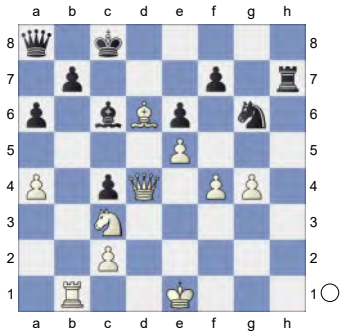
[25...Rgxh7± 0.93/21 was necessary. 26.Rxh7 *(26.Qa8+ Qb8=)* 26...Rxh7]



26.Bxc4+- The board is on fire.
26...dxc4 **27.Ba3** Hoping for Bd6.
27...Qb8 3.76/21
[27...Rhxh7 2.11/22 was worth a try. 28.Bd6 Rxh3]
28.Qd4
[Inferior is 28.Qxb8+ Kxb8 29.Bd6+ Kc8∓]
28...Rgxh7 4.51/21
[⌓28...Nxf4 3.09/21 29.Qxf4 Rhxh7]
29.Rxh7 Rxh7

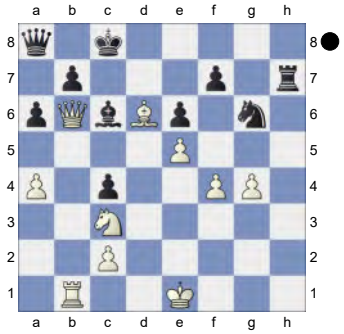


30.Bd6 Inhibits Qc7. **30...Qa8**
[30...Rh1+? 31.Kd2 Rh2+ 32.Ne2]



31.Qb6

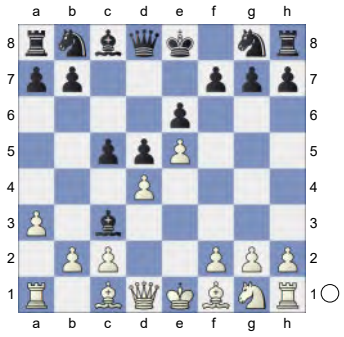
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.42
1-0

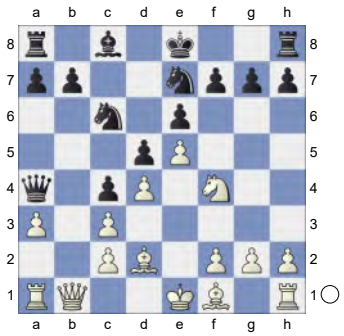
197 **C18**
☐ **Kamsky,Gata** **2609**
■ **Pesotskiy,Mikhail** **2155**
Titled Tue 31st Dec Early blitz (2)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qb1 c4 9.Ne2 Ne7 10.Nf4 Nbc6

(Diagram)



11.Nh5 White is slightly better. **11...Rg8 12.Be2**

[12.g3 Bd7 13.Bh3 0-0-0 14.0-0 Kb8 *(14...Rdf8 15.Re1 Kb8 16.Qb2 Nc8 17.Re3 Nb6 18.Rf1 Qa5 19.Qc1 Be8 20.Nf4* Winawer 6...Qa5-Portisch-Hook & 6...Nc6 ChessPub Guide 2024 French [John Watson]*)* 15.Qb2 Ka8 16.Rae1 Rc8 17.Kh1 h6 18.g4 Nd8 19.f4 g6 20.Nf6 Rh8 21.Rb1 Rc7 22.Bg2 Bc8 23.Qb5 Qxb5 24.Rxb5 Rc6 25.Bc1 Ra6 26.Rf3 Ndc6 Volokitin,A (2659)-Nikolic,P (2669) Murska Sobota SLO 2008 [Neil] 1-0 (37)]

12...Bd7 13.0-0

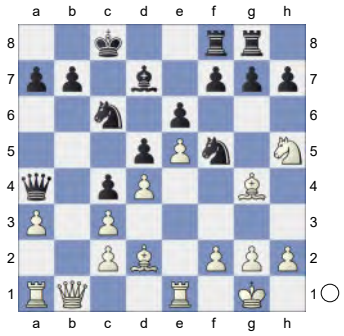
[Wrong is 13.Qxb7? Rb8 14.Qc7 Qxc2-+]

13...0-0-0 14.Re1N

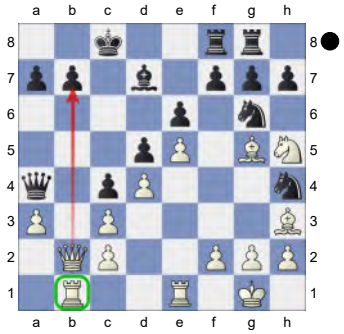
[14.Kh1 Rdf8 15.f4 f5 16.Rf3 Be8 17.Rg3 Bxh5 18.Bxh5 g6 19.Be2 h6 20.Rh3 Rh8 21.Qb2 Rfg8 22.Rb1 b6 23.Rg1 Nd8 24.Bd1 Nf7 25.Qb4 Qxb4 26.cxb4 g5 27.fxg5 hxg5 28.Rxh8 Rxh8 Muehleder,A (2375)-Coelho,L (2335) Elista 2023 CT-2879 [John Watson] 1-0 (56) 29.g3 Kc7 30.Kg2 b5 31.c3 Nc6 32.a4 bxa4 33.Bxa4 a5 34.Bxc6 Kxc6 35.bxa5 Ra8 36.Ra1 g4 37.h3 gxh3+ 38.Kxh3 Nd8 39.a6 Kb6 40.Kh4 Nf7 41.Kh5 Ka7 42.Kg6 Nd8 43.Kf6 Kb6 Sharapov,E (2375)-Levitsky,A (2335) Chess.com INT 2023 1-0 (56)]

[14.g3 Rdf8 15.Bg4 b6 16.Nf4 Ng6 14. Winawer Shulman Mainline-5.a3 (7.Bd2 9.Ne2 10.Ng3)]

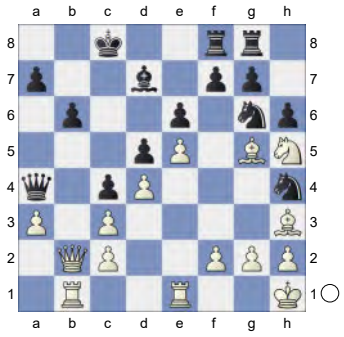
14...Rdf8 15.Bg4 Nf5



16.Bh3 Nce7 17.Qb2 Nh4 18.Bg5 Neg6 19.Rab1

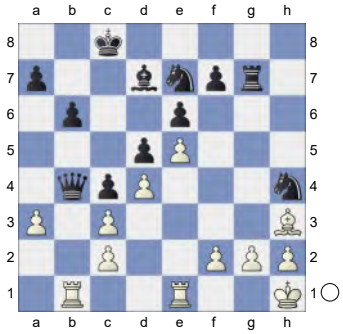


&Bianco is more active. **19...b6 20.Kh1 h6**

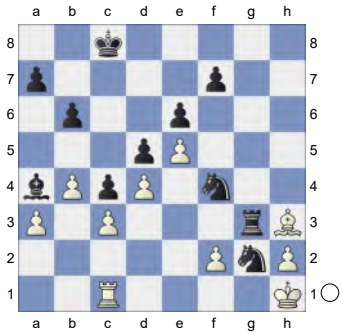


21.Bd2 Ne7 22.Nxg7 -0.18/21 **Rxg7= 23.Bxh6 Rfg8 24.Bxg7 Rxg7 25.Qb4 Qxb4**

(Diagram)

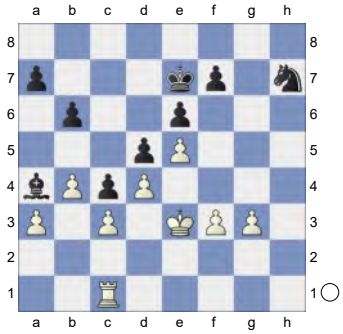


26.cxb4 -0.61/22
[26.axb4= 0.01/22 Kb7 27.Ra1]
26...Ba4 27.Rbc1 Neg6 28.c3? -2.24/23
[28.g3∓ -0.66/25 Nf3 29.Red1]
28...Nf4-+ 29.Re3 Nhxg2 -1.11/26
[29...Rg6-+ -2.00/24 30.Ra1 Bc2]
30.Rg3 -1.75/26
[30.Bxg2∓ -1.11/26 was necessary. Rxg2 31.Rf3]
30...Rxg3

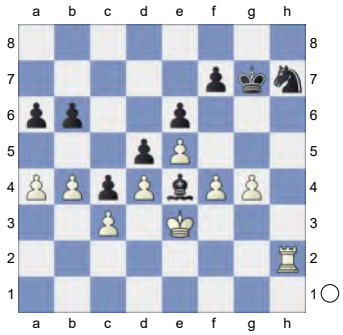


31.hxg3 Nxh3 0.01/26
[31...Nd3∓ -1.53/23 32.Rf1 Nge1]
32.Kxg2= Ng5 33.f3 Kd7 34.Kf2 Ke7 35.Ke3 -0.35/24
[35.Rh1= 0.01/26]
35...Nh7 0.01/26
[35...f6!∓ -0.35/24 should be considered.]

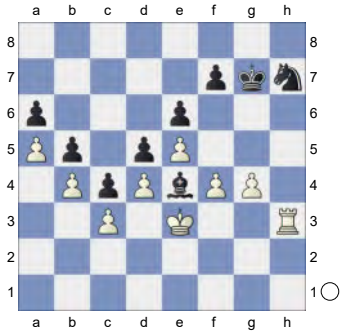
(Diagram)



36.Rh1 Bc2 37.f4 Kf8 38.g4 Kg7 39.Rh2 Be4 40.a4 White has compensation. **40...a6!**

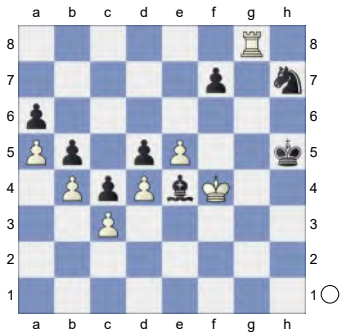


41.a5 b5! 42.Rh5 Bg6 43.Rh2 Be4 44.Rh5 Bg6 45.Rh3 Be4

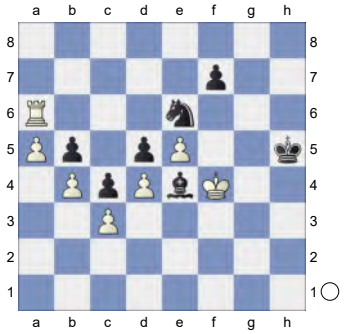


46.Rg3 Kg6 47.f5+ exf5? 3.59/27
[47...Kg5= -0.01/29 and Black is okay.]
48.Kf4 aiming for gxf5+. **48...fxg4** 7.98/29
[48...Nf8 2.78/28 49.gxf5+ Kh7]
49.Rxg4++- Kh6 50.Rg8 Kh5

(Diagram)



51.Ra8 Ng5 52.Rxa6 Ne6+

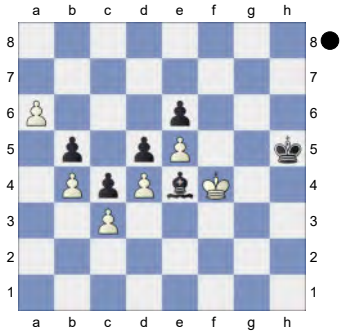


53.Rxe6! Clearance, Promotion

53...fxe6

[53...Bf5 54.Rb6]

54.a6



What a bad dream for Black.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.47

1-0

198 **C18**

□ **Kamsky,Gata** **2609**

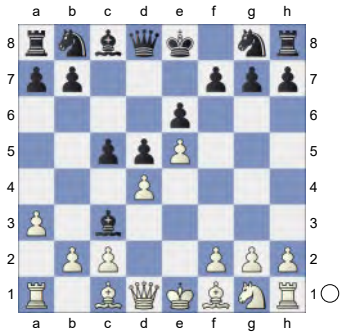
■ **Papasimakopoulos,Alexandros**

Titled Tue 3rd Dec Early (7) 03.12.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



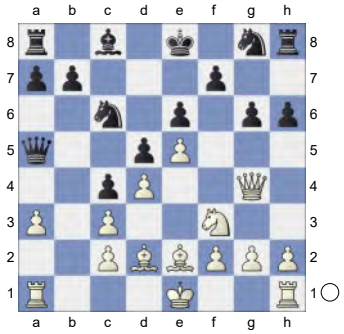
6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.Nf3 Qa5 9.Bd2 c4

[9...Qa4 10.Ra2 Bd7 11.Qf4 h6 12.h4 Na5 13.Bd3 Nc4 14.dxc5 Nxd2 15.Qxd2 Rc8 16.h5 g5 17.Nd4 Qa5 18.f4 Qxc5 19.fxg5 hxg5 20.Qxg5 Qxc3+ 21.Ke2 Ne7 22.Qe3 a6 23.Kf2 Nc6 24.Nf3 Ter Sahakyan,S (2567)-Rapport,R (2605) Athens GRE 2012 [Van Delft & Ris] ½-½ (50)]

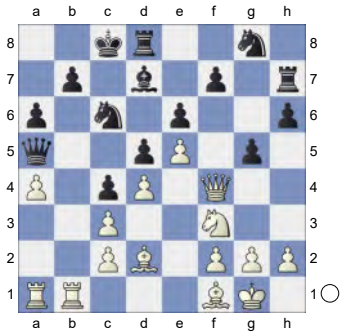
10.Be2 h6N

[10...Bd7 11.h4 h6 12.h5 g5 13.Nh2 0-0-0 14.f4 f5 15.Qg3 g4 16.Nf1 Nge7 17.Ne3 Kb8 18.Qh4 Rdf8 19.Kf2 Nc8 20.Rhd1 Nb6 21.Qh1 Na4 22.Qe1 Ka8 23.Nf1 b5 24.Ke3 Rb8 25.Rdb1 Ohanyan,E (2373)-Sjugirov,S (2680) chess.com INT 2022 [John Watson] 0-1 (44)]

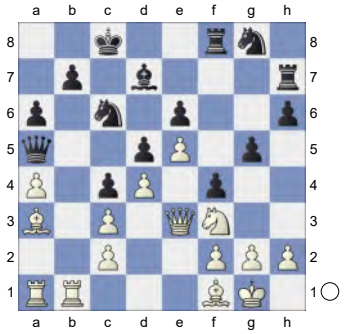
(Diagram)



11.0-0 Bd7 White is better. **12.a4** &Bianco is more active. **12...0-0-0 13.Rfb1 a6 14.Qf4 Rh7 15.Bf1 g5**



16.Qe3 Rf8 17.Bc1 f5 18.Ba3 f4 1.23/20



19.Qd2 0.42/17

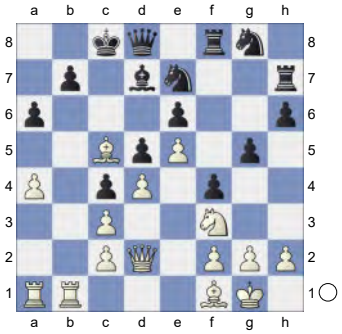
[Better is 19.Qc1!± 1.23/20 Rff7 20.Qb2]

19...Nce7 1.34/20

[19...Rff7!± 0.42/17]

20.Bc5± Hoping for Bb6. **20...Qd8**

(Diagram)



21.Qc1 Bc6 22.Nd2 g4 23.Rb6 g3? 2.35/17

[23...Kb8± 0.72/17]

24.Nf3 1.08/19

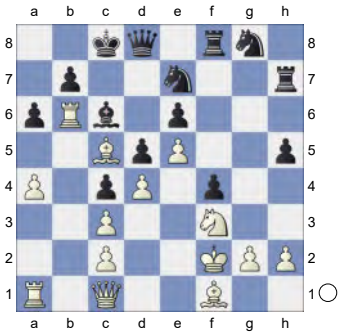
[24.fxg3 fxg3 25.hxg3 Rff7]

[24.hxg3+- 2.35/17 has better winning chances. fxg3 25.fxg3]

24...gxf2+ 25.Kxf2 aiming for Rab1.

25...h5? 3.03/21

[25...Kb8± 1.09/20]



26.Qb2 Nh6? 4.81/20

[26...Ng6 2.34/20 might work better. 27.Rb1 *(27.Bxf8 Nxf8 28.Rb1 Rc7+-)* 27...Rc7]

27.h3? 1.76/19

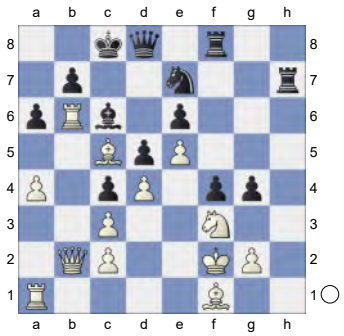
[27.Rb1 4.81/20 Kd7 28.Ng5]

27...Ng4+? 6.49/20

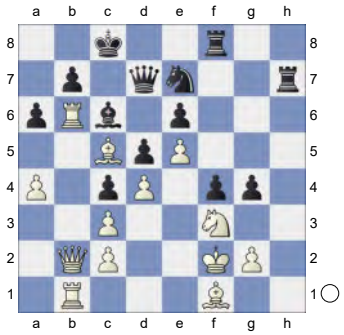
[27...Ng6 1.76/19 28.Rb1 Rc7]

28.hxg4+- hxg4

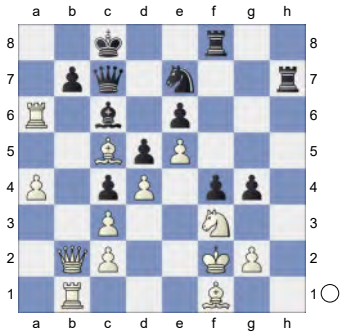
(Diagram)



29.Rb1! Qd7
[29...Nf5 30.Rxc6+]

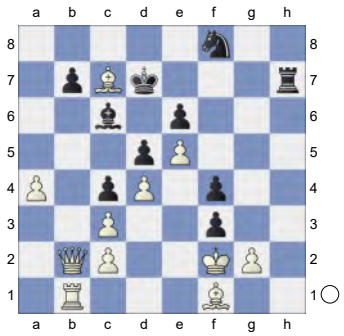


30.Rxa6!! White wants to mate with Ra8+. **30...Qc7**
[30...g3+ 31.Ke2]

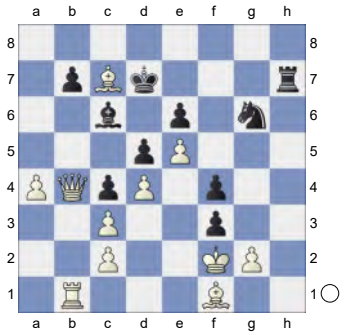


31.Ra8+ Kd7 32.Rxf8 gxf3 33.Bb6 Ng6 34.Bxc7 Threatening mate with Rd8+. **34...Nxf8**

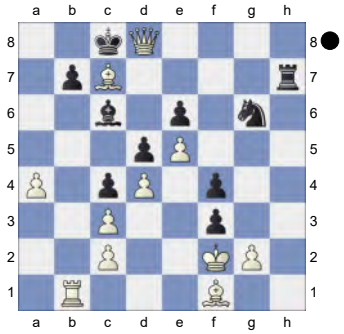
(Diagram)



35.Qb4! Ng6
[35...Ke8 36.Ba5]



36.Qd6+ Kc8 37.Qd8#

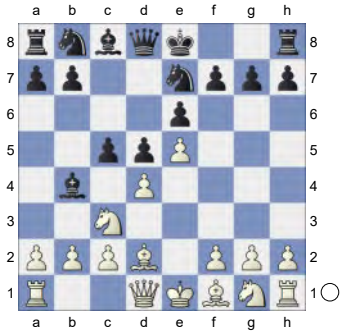


Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/ Black=1.00
1-0

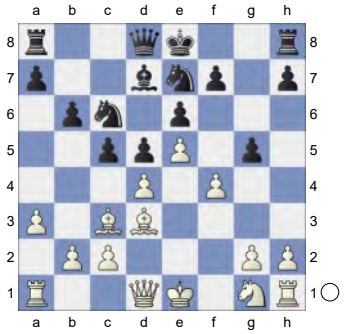
199 **C17**
□ **Bartel,Mateusz** **2609**
■ **Bruedigam,Martin** **2381**
Titled Tuesday intern op 16th May Late b..

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5

5.Bd2 Ne7



6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3!? A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante. **7...b6 8.Bb5+N Bd7 9.Bd3 Nbc6 10.f4 g5**



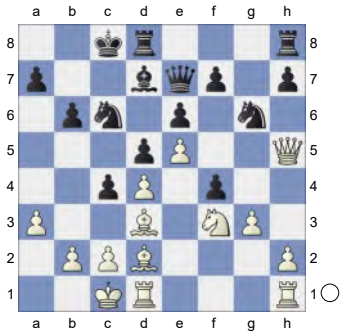
11.Qh5

[11.fxg5 0-1 Kilpela,P (2066)-Ebeling, D (2242) Helsinki We HSK 5th 2012 (2) cxd4 12.Bb4 Nxe5 13.Nf3]

11...Ng6 12.g3

[12.Nh3]

12...gxf4 13.Nf3 Qe7 14.Bd2 0-0-0 15.0-0-0 c4



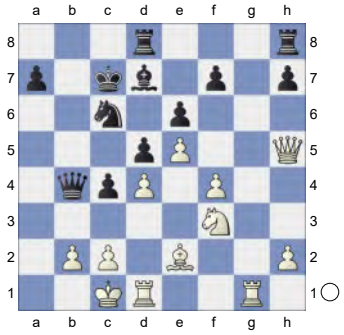
16.Be2 b5 17.Bxf4

[17.Qh6 b4 18.axb4 Nxb4 19.c3]

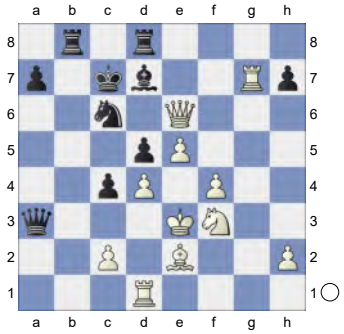
17...Nxf4 18.gxf4 b4 19.axb4 Qxb4

20.Rhg1 Kc7

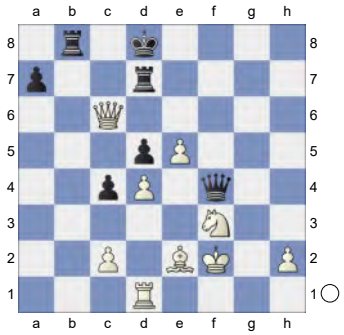
[20...Qa5]



21.Rg7 Rb8 22.Qxf7 Qxb2+ 23.Kd2 Rhd8 24.Qxe6 Qb4+ 25.Ke3 Qa3+

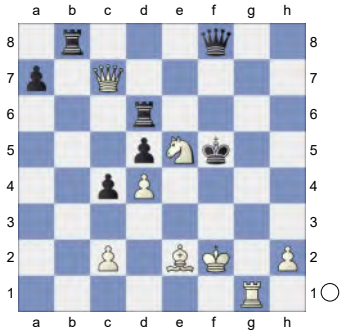


26.Kf2 Qf8 27.Rxh7 Qxf4 28.Qd6+ Kc8 29.Rxd7 Rxd7 30.Qxc6+ Kd8

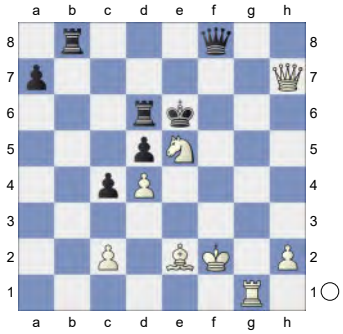


31.Rg1 Qf8 32.e6 Rd6 33.e7+ Kxe7 34.Qc7+ Predecessor: **34...Kf6 35.Ne5 Kf5**

(Diagram)



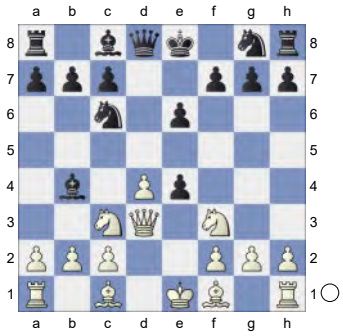
36.Qh7+ Ke6+



1-0

200 **C15**
□ **Bortnyk,Olexandr** **2608**
■ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2766**
Chess.com Classic Play-In rapid (9.25)
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qd3 Nc6 5.Nf3 dxe4**



6.Qxe4 Nf6 7.Qh4 0-0!? 7...Ne7 is setting a new trend. An interesting side line. 7...Se7 setzt einen neuen Trend. Eine interessante Nebenvariante.

[7...Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 b6 9.Bd3±]

[7...Nd5 simplifies 8.Bg5 Be7 9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.Qxe7+ Ncxe7 11.Nxd5 exd5 12.Kd2 f6]

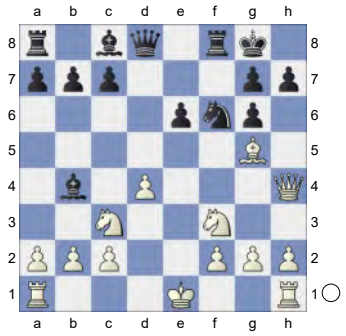
[7...Ne7 8.Bd3 Nf5 9.Bxf5 exf5 10.Bg5 Qe7+ 11.Kf1 Qe6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Qxf6 gxf6 14.Nd5 Bd6 15.Nxf6+ Kf8 16.Re1 Be6 17.d5 Kg7 18.Nh5+ Kg6 19.dxe6 Kxh5 20.exf7 Kg6 21.Ne5+ Kf6 22.f8Q+ 1-0 Andreikin,D (2725)-Tarlabasi,E (2301) Titled Tuesday 19th Jan blitz 2021 (7)]

8.Bd3 Hoping for Bc1-g5. **8...Ne7N**

[8...Be7 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bxh6 gxh6 11.Qxh6 Nb4 12.Rd1 Re8 13.Qg5+ Kf8 14.Ne5 Qxd4 15.Qh6+ Kg8 16.Bh7+ Nxh7 17.Rxd4 Nxc2+ 18.Kf1 Nxd4 19.Qh5 Rf8 20.Qg4+ Kh8 21.Qxd4 Bf6 22.Ne4 Bg7 23.h4 1-0 Holzmann,M (2420)-Rowan,C (2200) Jugoslavija (ch) 37/602 1984 (7) b6 24.Ng5 Ba6+ 25.Kg1 Kg8 26.Qe4 Nf6 27.Qa4 Bb7 28.Qc2 Rad8 29.Ng4 1-0 Hector,J (2420)-Privara,I (2200) Cappelle op 03rd 1987 (7)]

9.Bg5 Ng6! White is slightly better.

10.Bxg6 fxg6



11.0-0N

[Vorgänger: 11.Ne5 Qd5 0.57/21 *(11...b6=* 0.14/21 *)* 12.0-0± Bxc3

13.bxc3 b6 1.22/22 (Black should play *13...Nd7*± 0.38/19) 14.c4± Qd6 1.44/21 (Black should try *14...Qb7* 1.04/22) 15.Rfe1 Bb7 16.Re3 Rae8 2.03/21 (*16...c5*± 1.40/20) 17.Rae1 ½-½ Rouleau,J (2279)-Henry,R (2161) US Open-108 Cherry Hill 2007 (6)]

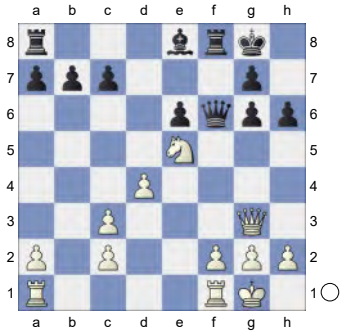
11...Bxc3 12.bxc3→ White is up to no good. **12...h6** 0.91/24

[12...Qe8± 0.32/22]

13.Bxf6± Qxf6 14.Qg3 Bd7 15.Ne5

[15.Qxc7?! Bc6=]

15...Be8



16.f4 0.28/21

[16.c4± 0.89/20]

16...Rd8 17.Rae1 b6 18.Qe3 Qf5 0.76/21

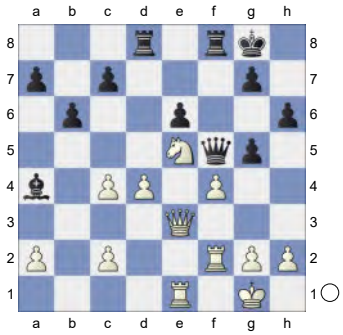
[18...g5± 0.38/25 feels stronger.]

19.Rf2 Ba4 1.13/24

[⌓19...Qf6 0.72/20]

20.c4 g5 1.84/22

[20...Qf6± 0.99/22]



21.g4!+- Qh7 3.26/25

[21...gxf4 22.Qa3 Qg5 23.Qxa4+-]

[⌓21...Qf6 2.12/21]

22.fxg5 hxg5 23.Ref1 Strongly threatening Rf2xf8+.

[Inferior is 23.Qxg5 Rxf2 24.Qxd8+ Rf8=]

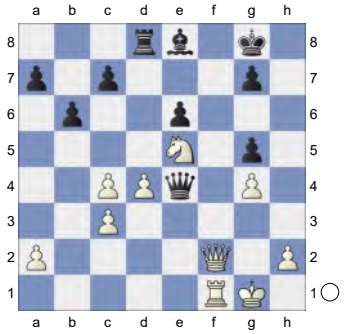
23...Rxf2 24.Qxf2 1.78/22

[⌓24.Rxf2 3.08/26 Threatens to win with Qe3-f3. Bxc2 25.Nf7 Discovered Attack (*25.Qxg5 Rxd4 26.Kg2 Qe4+ 27.Kh3 Bb1*∓)]

24...Qe4 25.c3 aiming for Qf2-f7+.

[Stronger than 25.Qf7+ Kh7=]

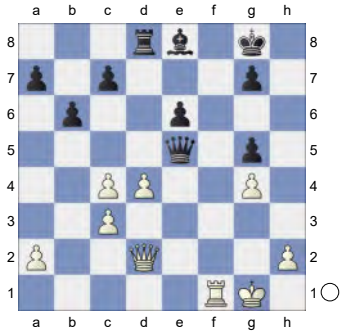
25...Be8



26.Qd2?? -4.48/28

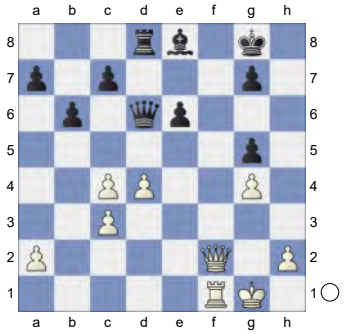
[26.Re1+- 1.92/24 avoids the disaster. Qh7 27.Rf1]

26...Qxe5-+



Pin **27.Qf2 Qd6**

(Diagram)



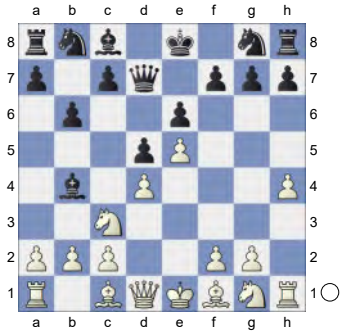
Against Qf2-f8+. Weighted Error Value: White=0.43/Black=0.23 (precise)
0-1

201 **C16**
□ **Praggnanandhaa,R.** **2608**
■ **Maghsoodloo,Parham** **2676**
chess.com Junior Speed (1.26) 19.09.20
[John Watson]

John Watson,MH: 'C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5 ' **1.e4** John Watson,MH **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.h4** I like this unusual move, which intends simply h5-h6 and is useful in almost any setup. There's also a strong logic to playing on the flank when Black has been slow to attack the center with ...c5. **5...b6**

[Presumably White meets 5...c5 with 6.a3! . Then Ba5 *(6...Bxc3+ 7.bxc3* and h4 is arguably more useful than .. Qd7. *)* 7.b4!? *(or 7.Bd2)* 7...cxd4 *(7...cxb4 8.Nb5 bxa3+ 9.c3±)* 8.Nb5 is a good version for White of the Armenian Winawer (4 e5 c5 5 a3 Ba5), e.g., Bc7 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Nxc7+ Qxc7 11.Bf4 is very pleasant for White.]

(Diagram)



6.h5 Ba6

[6...h6 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3±]

7.Bxa6 Nxa6 8.Qg4 John Watson,MH: 'White is slightly better.' **8...Bf8**

[8...f5 9.Qe2 Nb8 10.h6! seriously weakens Black's kingside dark squares]

9.Nge2?! 0.17/21 John Watson,MH: 'N' John Watson,MH: ' White is more active.'

[A recent (slightly later) Maghsoodloo game, also marred by the Blitz time control, saw 9.Qe2! Nb8 10.Nf3 *(10.f4* 0.23/20 John Watson,MH: '10. Bf4 0.64' *Nh6; 10.h6* John Watson, MH *Nxh6 11.Bxh6 gxh6 12.0-0-0 Rg8 13.g3 Nc6 14.Qd3 0-0-0 15.Nf3 Rg6 16.Ne2 Nb4 17.Qb3 c5 18.a3 c4 19.Qe3 Nc6 20.Nf4 Rg4 21.Nh5 Re4 22.Qc3 Be7 23.Nf6 Bxf6 24.exf6 b5* 0-1 La Manna,A (2549)-11.g4 Kh8 12.Be3 (2472) DDR-corr H/119 1984 (13) *25.Rxh6 a5 26.Ne5 Nxe5 27.dxe5 Qa7 28.Rxh7 b4 29.Qf3 Rxe5 30.Rh5 Rxh5 31.Qxh5 bxa3 32.bxa3 Rd7 33.Qf3 Qc5 34.Kb2 c3+ 35.Ka2 Rb7* 0-1 La Manna,A (2549)-11.g4 ♔h8 12.♗e3_15860 (2472) DDR-corr H/119 1984 (13)*)* 10...c5 11.dxc5 bxc5 12.Bf4 *(12.0-0±)* 12...Nc6 13.0-0 *(13.Rd1±)* 13...Rb8

A) 14.Nb5! a6 15.Nd6+ Bxd6 16.exd6 h6 17.c4 d4 2.80/21 John Watson,MH: '?' *(17...Nf6±*

1.11/20 (John Watson,MH) was called for.) 18.Ne5±;

B) 14.b3 Nge7 0.78/21 *(14...Rb4!⩲* 0.35/20 John Watson, MH *15.Qd2 Nd4)* 15.Rad1 0.18/19 *(15.Nb5* 0.78/21 John Watson,MH: '±' *Nf5* John Watson,MH *16.c4)* 15...Rb4 John Watson,MH: '=' 16.Bh2 *(16.g3!)* 16...Nf5 17.a3 Ncd4 *(17...Rb6)* 18.Qd3!? c4 19.bxc4?! *(19.Qd2 Nxf3+ 20.gxf3∞)* 19...Rxc4 20.Nxd4 Nxd4 21.Ne4∞ Pichot,A (2630)-Maghsoodloo,P (2676) chess.com INT 2020]

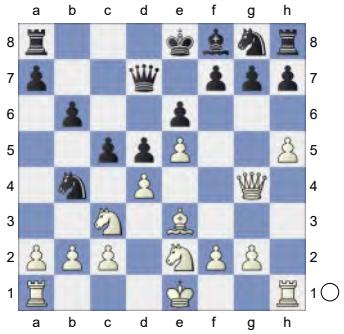
[9.h6!? Nxh6 10.Bxh6 gxh6 11.a3 0-0-0 may favor White somewhat, but is double-edged.]

[9.Be3± 0.72/20 John Watson,MH]

9...c5 0.60/18

[9...Nb4! 0.17/21 hits c2, when the pawn sacrifice by John Watson,MH: '=' John Watson,MH: ' is more appropriate.' 10.0-0 *(10.Kd1?! c5)* 10...Nxc2 11.Rb1 Nb4 12.a3 Nc6 13.b4 is unclear.]

10.Be3 Nb4



11.Rc1 -0.08/17

[John Watson,MH: ' Better is' 11.0-0-0! 0.69/21 is natural and doubtless strong, in view of White's far superior development. John Watson,MH: '⩲']

11...Rc8 0.37/20

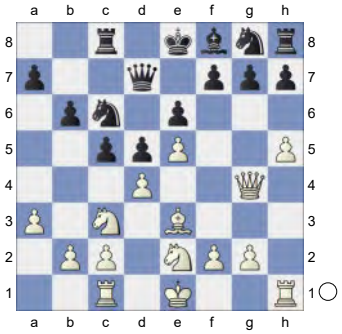
[11...Nc6= -0.08/17 John Watson, MH]

12.a3 0.01/21

[12.0-0]

[12.h6⩲ 0.37/20 (John Watson,MH) is superior. Nxh6 13.Bxh6 gxh6 14.dxc5 bxc5 15.0-0]

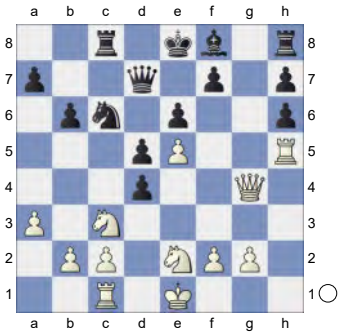
12...Nc6 Threatening ..cxd4. John Watson,MH: '=' John Watson,MH: '



Threatening ..cxd4.' **13.h6?** -0.52/20

[13.Bf4!? cxd4 14.Nb5 Nxe5! 15.Bxe5 Nh6∓]

13...Nxh6 John Watson,MH: ' ∓' **14.Bxh6 gxh6** White has broken up Black's kingside, but his center is too weak. **15.Rh5 cxd4**



16.Nxd4 -1.23/20

[16.Na2∓ -0.55/19 John Watson,MH]

16...Nxd4 John Watson,MH: ' ∓' **17.Qxd4 Rg8** John Watson,MH: '!' John Watson, MH: ' Prevents Qg4' **18.Kf1**

[18.g3 Rg5!]

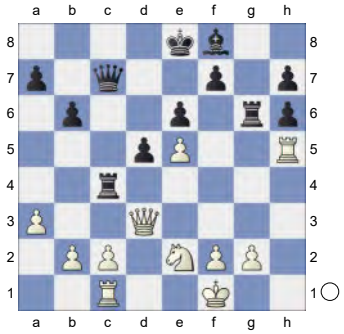
18...Rg6?! -0.78/20

[John Watson,MH: ' Black should try' 18...Rg5! -1.22/24 19.Rxg5 *(19.Rh3*

Rc4 20.Qd3 Rxe5) 19...hxg5 leaves Black with an extra pawn and more active pieces.]

19.Ne2 Rc4 20.Qd3 Qc7

[20...Rg5 21.Rxg5 hxg5 22.Qxh7 -1.51/23 *(⌓22.Re1* -1.10/20 John Watson,MH *)* 22...Re4∓]



21.g3 Bg7 -0.08/23

[21...Rg5∓ -0.79/21 John Watson,MH 22.Rxg5 hxg5]

22.Nf4? -1.59/24

[22.f4!∞ -0.44/20 John Watson,MH: '22.b3 -0.01']

[22.b3= -0.08/23 John Watson,MH Re4 23.c4 Rxe5 *(23...Bxe5? 24.cxd5* Discovered Attack *Qd7 25.Qxe4+-)* 24.cxd5]

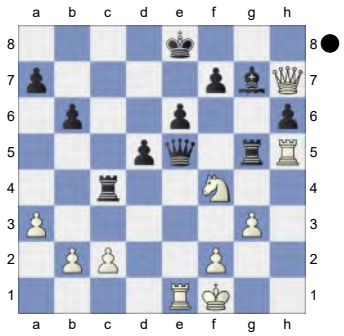
22...Rg5 -1.13/23

[Or 22...Bxe5! -1.59/24 John Watson, MH: '⌓' 23.Nxg6 hxg6 24.Rxh6 Bxb2]

23.Qxh7 Qxe5 24.Re1 -1.55/22 John Watson,MH: '

[⌓24.Nd3 -1.13/22 John Watson,MH Qf6 25.Qg8+ Bf8 26.Rxg5 hxg5 27.Kg1]

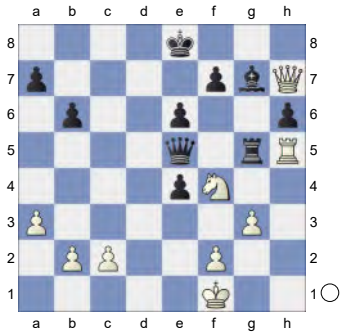
(Diagram)



' **24...Re4** John Watson,MH: '!'

[24...Qxb2? John Watson,MH 25.Nxe6 Re4 *(25...Rxh5? 26.Nxg7+ Kd8 27.Qg8+ Kd7 28.Qxf7+ Kc6 29.Nxh5+-; 25...fxe6? 26.Qg8+ Kd7 27.Rxg5+-)* 26.Rxe4 *(26.Nxg5 Qb5+ 27.Kg2 Rxe1=)* 26...dxe4 27.Rxg5 *(27.Nxg5 hxg5 28.Qxe4+ Kf8+-)* 27...hxg5 28.Nxg7++- *(28.Qxg7 Qb5+ 29.Kg1 fxe6=)*]

25.Rxe4 dxe4



26.Rxg5 hxg5 John Watson,MH: '-+' John Watson,MH: 'Endgame. KQB-KQN'

27.Nh5 Kf8? -0.53/24

[27...Qb5+ -1.50/23 John Watson, MH: '∓'

A) 28.Kg2= 0.01/20 John Watson, MH Bxb2 29.Qxe4 Qd5 John Watson,MH *(29...Bxa3?* John Watson,MH *30.Qa8+ Kd7 31.Qxa7+ Kd6 32.Qxa3++-)* 30.Qxd5 exd5;

B) 28.Kg1 -1.57/23 John Watson, MH: '?' 28...Bxb2-+]

28.c3

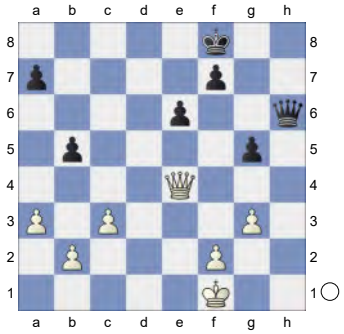
[28.Nxg7 Qxg7 29.Qxe4 John Watson,MH: ' And now Qa8+ would win.' Qxb2 30.Qa8+∓]

28...b5? 0.85/23

[28...Bh8∓ -0.34/23]

29.Nxg7 John Watson,MH: '±' John Watson,MH: ' Overworked Piece'

29...Qxg7 30.Qxe4± John Watson,MH: ' KQ-KQ' **30...Qh6**



31.Qa8+ 0.48/24

[White should play 31.Kg2± 1.14/22 John Watson,MH]

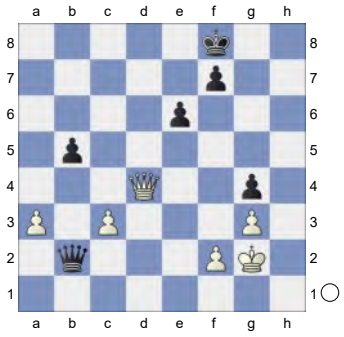
31...Kg7 John Watson,MH: ' ±' **32.Kg1** 0.01/24

[32.Qxa7! 1.00/24 John Watson,MH: '±' John Watson,MH: ' Black must now prevent Qd4+.' Qh1+ John Watson, MH 33.Ke2]

32...g4 0.88/24

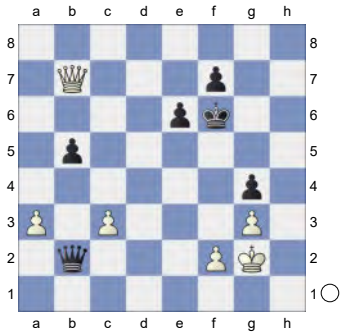
[32...Qg6= 0.01/24 (John Watson, MH) remains equal.]

33.Qxa7 John Watson,MH: ' ±' **33...Qc1+ 34.Kg2** John Watson,MH: ' Strongly threatening Qd4+.' **34...Qxb2 35.Qd4+ Kf8**



36.Qc5+ Ke8 37.Qc8+ Ke7 38.Qb7+ Kf6 0.99/27 John Watson,MH: '

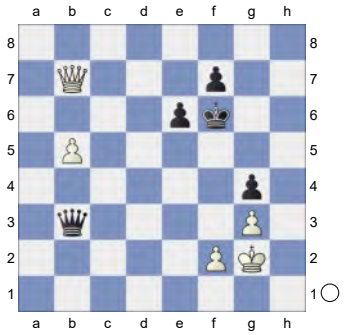
[38...Kd6= 0.01/24 John Watson,MH]



' **39.a4** John Watson,MH: '!' **39...Qxc3** John Watson,MH: ' Threatens to win with ...Qf3+.' **40.axb5** 0.01/25

[40.Qxb5± 1.15/26 (John Watson, MH) Hoping for a5. Qe5 41.Qc4]

40...Qb3



41.b6 Kg5? 5.65/31

[41...Qc2! 0.48/24 John Watson,MH: '41...Qa4 0.01']

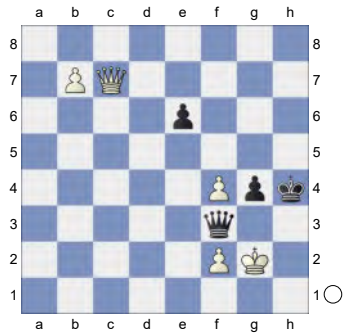
[41...Qa4= 0.01/25 (John Watson, MH) and Black has nothing to worry.]

42.Qc6

[42.Qxf7 John Watson,MH Qxb6 43.Qg7+ Kf5±]

42...f5 43.b7 f4 44.gxf4+ Kh4 45.Qc7 John Watson,MH: 'White mates.' **45...Qf3+**

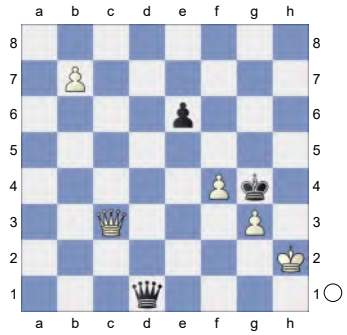
(Diagram)



46.Kg1 Qd1+ 47.Kh2 g3+ 48.fxg3+ Kg4 49.Qg7+

[Inferior is 49.b8B John Watson,MH Qd2+ 50.Kg1 Qe1+ 51.Kg2 Qd2+ 52.Kg1 *(52.Kf1 Qd1+ 53.Kf2 Qd2+ 54.Kg1 Qd1+ 55.Kf2 Qd2+ 56.Kf1 Qd1+ 57.Kf2=)* 52...Qe1+ 53.Kg2 Qe2+ 54.Kg1 Qd1+ 55.Kg2 Qd5+ 56.Kg1 Qd1+ 57.Kh2 Qe2+ 58.Kg1 Qd1+=]

49...Kf3 50.Qc3+ Kg4



51.Qb2 Kf3 52.b8Q e5 53.Q8b7+ Kg4 54.Qg7+

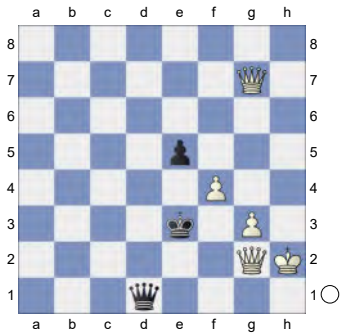
[54.Qxe5 John Watson,MH Qd2+=]

54...Kf3 55.Qg2+

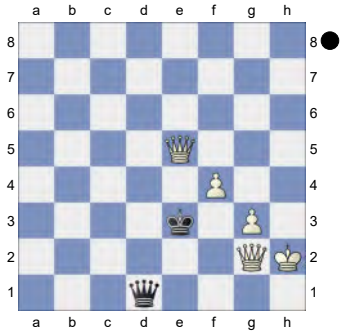
[And not 55.Qbxe5 John Watson,MH Qg1+ 56.Kxg1=]

55...Ke3

(Diagram)



56.Qxe5+



John Watson,MH: ' Never resign too early! Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.49'

1-0

202 **C18**

□ **Praggnanandhaa,R.** **2608**

■ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2784**

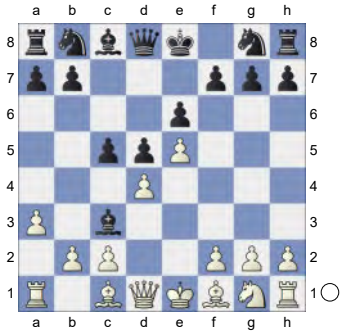
1st Abu Dhabi Super Blitz (4) 15.04.2020

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.cxd4 Qc7 9.Bd2

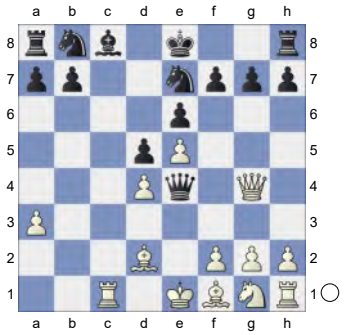
[But not 9.Qxg7? Qc3+ 10.Ke2 *(10.Kd1? Qxd4+ 11.Bd3 Rg8-+)* 10...Rg8-+]

[Reject 9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.Bxd7+ *(10.Qxg7? Qc3+ 11.Kd1 Rg8-+)* 10...Nxd7∓]

9...Qxc2

[9...0-0 is interesting. 10.Bd3 b6 11.Rc1 Ba6]

10.Rc1 Qe4+

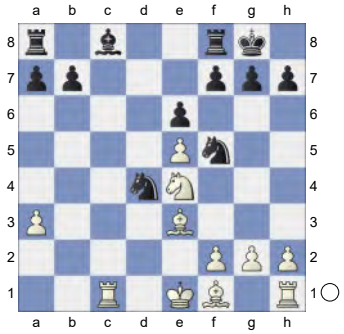


11.Qxe4 dxe4 The position is equal.

12.Ne2 Nbc6 13.Be3N

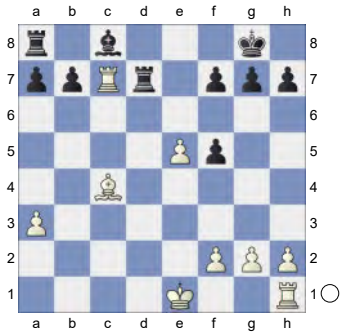
[13.g3 f5 14.exf6 gxf6 15.Bg2 f5 16.f3 e3 17.Bxe3 Nd5 18.Kf2 Bd7 19.Bg5 h6 20.Bh4 Nce7 21.f4 Bc6 22.Nc3 Kf7 23.Rhe1 Rac8 24.Nxd5 Nxd5 25.Re5 Rhe8 26.Bf3 Nf6 27.Bxc6 Rxc6 9.♘c3 ♘e7 10.♘e4 (2525)-F: 5 Nf3 Ng6 6 h4 (2525) Warszawa 35/(129) 1977 CR97-75 [Westminster Papers xi Feb 1879 p221] 1-0 (53)]

13...Nf5 14.Nc3 Ncxd4 15.Nxe4 0-0



16.Bxd4 Nxd4 17.Rc7 Prevents Bd7.

17...Rd8 18.Nd6 Nf5! 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.Bc4 Rd7



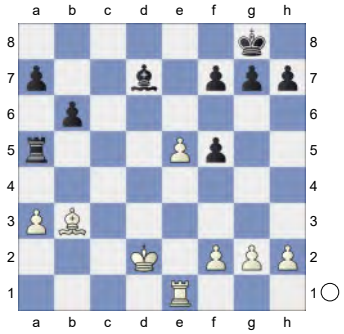
21.Rxd7 Bxd7∓ Endgame KRB-KRB

22.Bd5 Rc8 23.Kd2 Inhibits Rc1.

23...b6 Hoping for ...Rc5. **24.Re1** -1.36/19

[White should try 24.Rc1 -0.97/21]

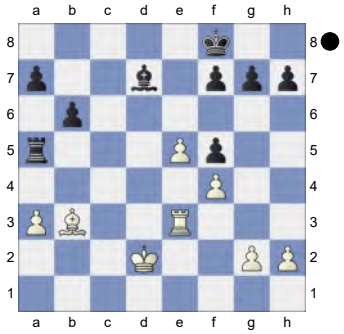
24...Rc5 25.Bb3 Ra5



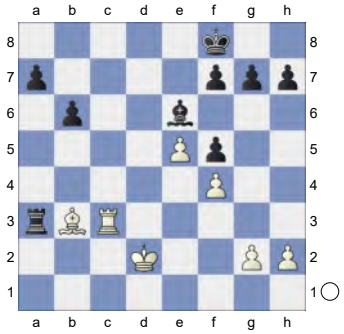
26.Re3 Kf8 27.f4? -4.19/22

[27.Ba2∓ -1.51/19]

(Diagram)



27...Rxa3-+ 28.Rc3 Be6

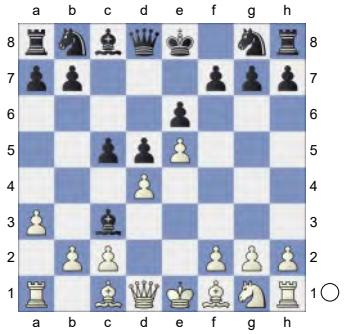


Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.01 (flawless)
0-1

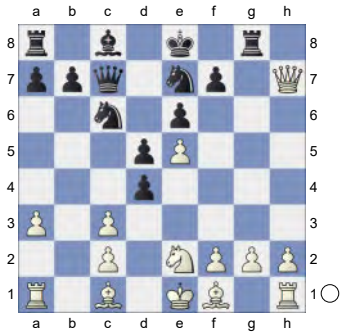
203 **C18**
☐ **Timman,Jan H** **2607**
■ **Hermansson,Emil** **2432**
Sigeman & Co 13th (5) 20.04.2005
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6

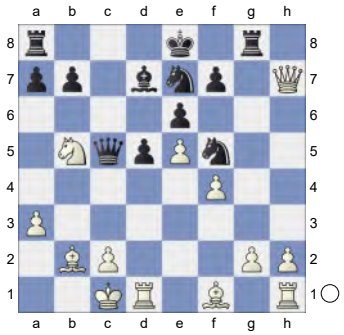


11.f4
[But not 11.cxd4 Nxd4! 12.Ra2 Nxe2 13.Bxe2 Rxg2=]
11...dxc3 12.Nxc3 Strongly threatening Nb5. **12...Nd4 13.Bb2 Bd7** White is slightly better. **14.0-0-0 Ndf5** White now steadily converts the win.
15.Nb5
[15.Qh3 Qc5 *(15...Qb6 16.Qd3 Ne3 17.Ne4 Nxd1 18.Nf6+ Kd8 19.Bd4 Qa5 20.Nxg8 Nxg8 21.Be2 Rc8 22.Bxd1 Ne7 23.g4 Rc4 24.h4 Bb5 25.h5 Qa4 26.Bb2 Rxf4 27.Qd2 Rf1 28.Rxf1 Bxf1 29.Qf2 Bh3 30.Qf3* Mateo,R (2288)-Marazanof,J (2484) Khanty Mansiysk 2016 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0*)* 16.Rd2 0-0-0 17.g4 Ne3 18.Nd1 Nxf1 19.Rxf1 Bb5 20.Re1 Nc6 21.f5 d4 22.fxe6 fxe6 23.Nf2 Nxe5 10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2786)-Panov Botvinnik Attack (2703) 92: Dutch League 2013

Telechess CBM 89 [Nedobora,M]]

15...Qc5N

[15...Bxb5 16.Bxb5+ Kf8 17.Bd3 Qc5 18.Rd2 Ne3 19.Qh3 Rc8 20.Re1 Nc4 21.Bxc4 dxc4 22.c3 Ke8 23.Qf3 b5 24.g4 a5 25.f5 Nd5 26.Rf1 Rc7 27.Rfd1 Rc8 28.h3 Qe3 29.Rf1 Qxf3 30.Rxf3 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5: 7.Qg4 with-12.Nxc3 Nd4!? with 13. Bb2 and]

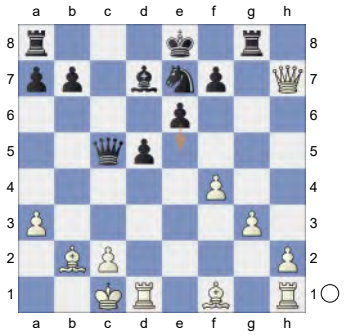


16.Nd6+

[Reject 16.Bd4?! Qc6=]

16...Nxd6 17.exd6 Chess con chili.

17...Qxd6 18.g3 Qc5



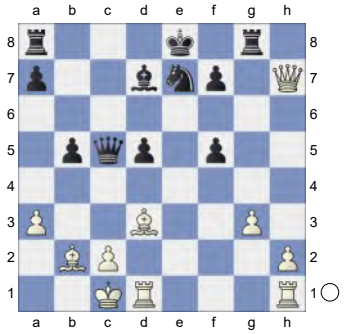
19.Bd3! b5 1.47/20

[⌓19...f5 1.08/18]

20.f5 Hoping for f6. &Bianco is more active. **20...exf5** 1.63/21

[20...Rf8± 1.22/20]

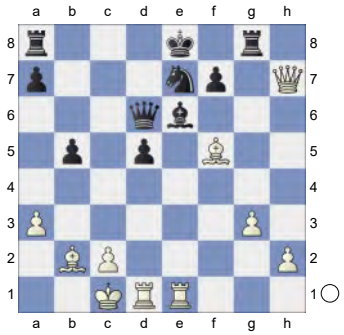
(Diagram)



21.Rhe1+- Be6 1.98/19

[⌓21...0-0-0 1.64/19]

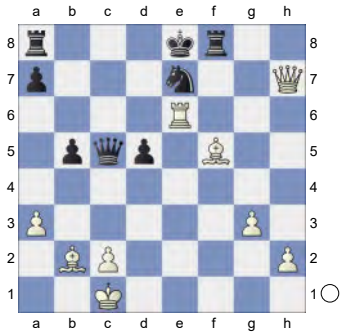
22.Bxf5! Qd6



23.Rxe6! fxe6 24.Re1 Rf8? 8.41/19

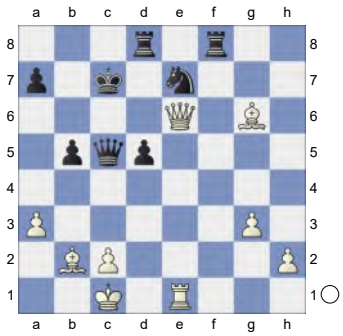
[24...Kd7 2.83/21 25.Bxe6+ Qxe6 26.Rxe6 Kxe6]

25.Rxe6 Qc5

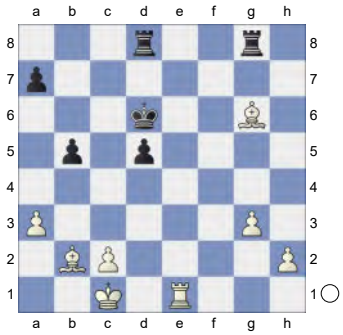


26.Qg6+ Rf7 27.Re1 Rd8 28.Qg8+ Rf8 29.Bg6+ This bishop pair is nice. **29...Kd7 30.Qe6+** Deflection **30...Kc7**

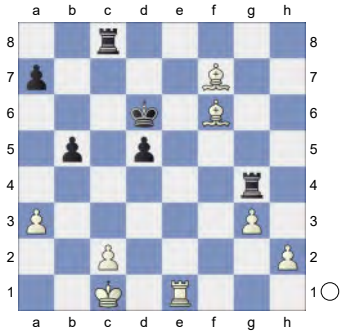
(Diagram)



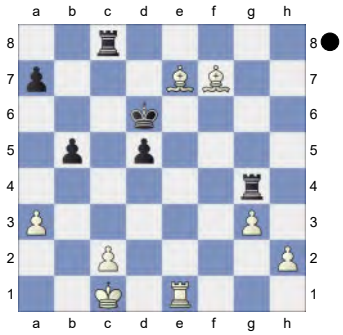
31.Qxe7+ White is clearly winning.
31...Qxe7 32.Rxe7+ Kd6 33.Re1 Rg8



34.Bf6! Rc8
[34...Rxg6 35.Bxd8]
35.Bf7 Rg4



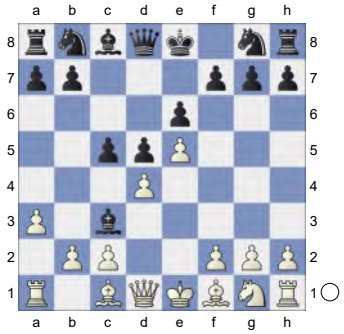
36.Be7+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/ Black=0.26 (precise)
1-0

204 **C18**
□ **Martinez Alcantara,Jose Eduardo**
■ **Duda,J.** **2739**
Titled Tue 4th Mar Late blitz (6) 04.03.25
[Kitty Kat]

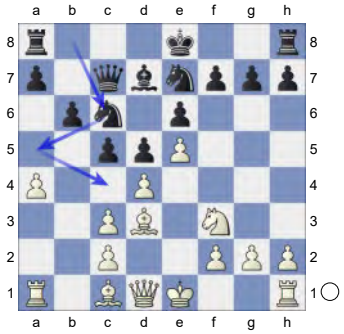
C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Nf3 Ne7 8.a4N
[8.h4 Nbc6 *(8...b6 9.h5 h6 10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.Bd3 Ba4 12.0-0 Nd7 13.Re1 0-0-0 14.Nh4 Kb7 15.Ra2 Qc6 16.Qg4 Rdg8* Chess Informant Eco-N,N Survey 2006 *)* 9.h5 h6 10.Be2 Bd7 11.0-0 *(11.Rb1 Rc8 12.0-0 Na5 13.Bd3 0-0 14.Bf4 b6 15.Qc1 c4 16.Bxh6 cxd3 17.Qg5 Nf5 18.Bxg7 Kh7 19.h6 Rg8 20.Qf6 Rxg7 21.hxg7 Kg8 22.g4 Nxg7 23.Ng5 Be8 24.cxd3 Qxc3 25.Rbc1 Qxc1* Costa,I (1876)-Nemeth Junior,H (2189) Recife 2022 0-1 *26.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 27.Kg2 Rc7 28.Qh6* 1-0 (28) Dowling,J-4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 Wijk aan Zee 2000 Telechess CBM 89 [Sh Bull 1957/3 #12]*)* 11...Na5 12.a4

Rc8 13.Re1 cxd4 14.Qxd4 Nf5 15.Qg4 Nc4 16.Bd3 Kf8 17.Rb1 b6 18.Qf4 Ne7 19.Nd4 Kg8 20.Nb5 Bxb5 21.axb5 Qd7 22.Ra1 Rc7 Fedorov,A (2575)-Morozevich,A (2745) Wijk aan Zee 2001 CI1-130 [Morozevich,Alexander] 0-1 (37)]

8...b6 9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.Bd3 Nbc6

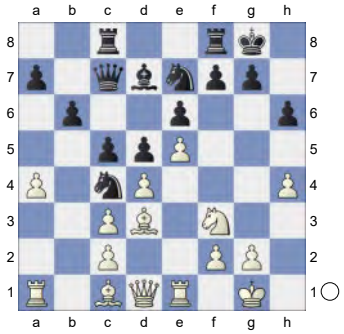


11.0-0 h6 12.Re1 Na5 13.h4 0-0 14.Bd2 0.19/20

[14.h5⩲ 0.60/17]

14...Nc4= 15.Bc1 Rac8 0.55/18

[15...Na5!= -0.01/15]



16.Nh2⩲ Kh8 0.74/18

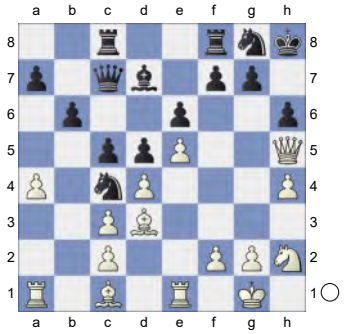
[16...Nf5⩲ 0.36/18]

17.Qh5 0.34/19

[17.Ng4± 0.74/18]

17...Ng8

(Diagram)

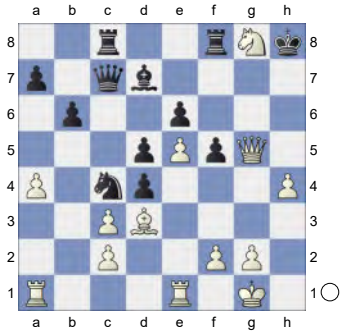


18.Bxh6! gxh6

[18...Nxh6? 19.Ng4 Be8 20.Nxh6+-]

19.Ng4! f5! White must now prevent ... Be8.

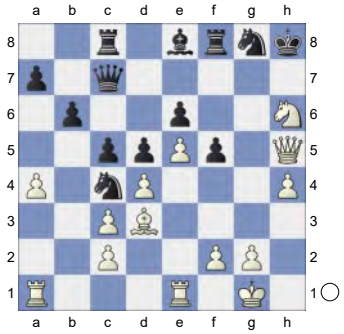
[19...cxd4 20.Nxh6 Kg7 21.Qg5+ Kh8 22.Nxg8 f5



23.exf6! Bc6 24.Ne7]

20.Nxh6 Be8? #4/10

[20...Nxh6⩲ 0.46/20 21.Qxh6+ Kg8]



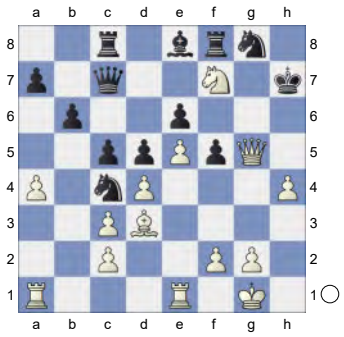
21.Nf7+! Discovered Attack (Double Check) **21...Kg7 22.Qg5+?** -0.01/25

[22.Qh8+ #3/8 mates Kg6 23.h5+ Kxf7 24.Qh7#]

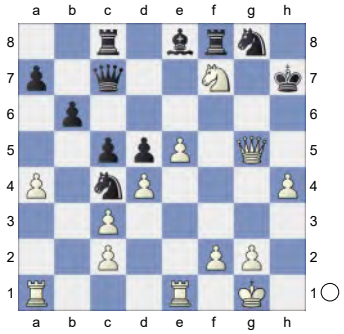
22...Kh7!=

[22...Kxf7? 23.Be2 Ne7 24.Bh5+

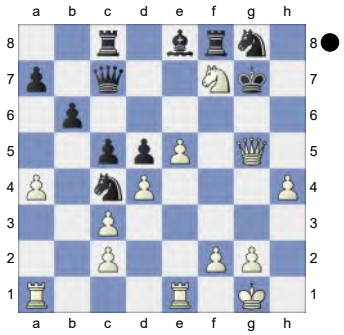
Ng6 25.Bxg6+ *(25.Qxg6+ Ke7±)* 25...Kg8 26.Bxe8+ Qg7 27.Bd7+-]



The position is equal. **23.Bxf5+! exf5 24.Qxf5+ Kg7 25.Qg5+ Kh7**



26.Qh5+ Kg7 27.Qg5+ Kh7 28.Qf5+ Kg7 29.Qg5+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.62

½-½

205 **C18**

□ **Martinez Alcantara,Jose Eduardo**

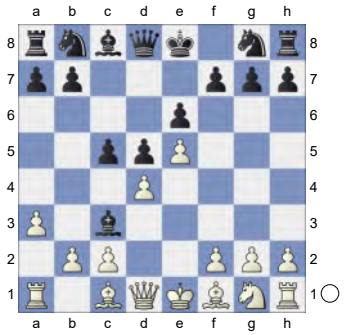
■ **Papasimakopoulos,Alexandros**

Titled Tue 28th Jan Early blitz (4)

[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Nge7

[7...Qa5 8.Bd2 c4 9.Nh4 Bd7 10.Qg4 g6 11.Qf4 h6 12.Nf3 Rh7 13.h4 0-0-0 14.Be2 Rf8 15.0-0 f5 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Qh2 Nge7 18.Rfe1 Rhf7 19.a4 Rf5 20.Reb1 h5 21.Qd6 Qc7 22.Qxc7+ Martinez Duany,L (2486)-Carrasco Martinez,J (2354) Linares ESP 2023 [John Watson] 1-0 (49)]

8.Bd3

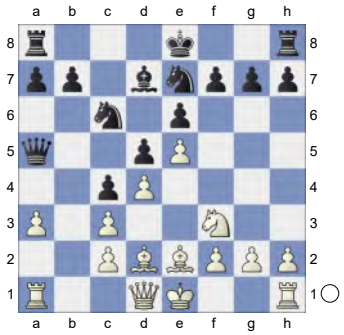
[8.Rb1 Qc7 9.h4 h6 10.h5 Bd7 11.Be2 0-0-0 12.0-0 f6 13.Bf4 f5 14.dxc5 g5 15.hxg6 Nxg6 16.Bh2 Qa5 17.Nd4 Qxc5 18.Nb5 Ngxe5 19.Re1 a6 20.Nd4 Nf7 21.Qd3 Qa7 22.Qg3 e5 Bologan,V (2641)-Ye Jiangchuan (2670) Beijing 2000 CBM 78 [Gofshtein,L] 1-0 (38)]

8...Qa5 9.Bd2 c4 10.Be2N

[10.Bf1 Bd7 11.g3 f6 12.exf6 gxf6 13.Bh3 0-0-0 14.0-0 Ng6 15.Re1 e5 16.Bxd7+ Rxd7 17.h4 h5 18.dxe5

fxe5 19.Ng5 e4 20.Qe2 Nge5 21.f3 Re8 22.fxe4 Ng4 23.Qf3 dxe4 24.Rxe4 Red8 Simagin,V-Bronstein,D Moscow 1946 CBM 118 [Moskalenko, Viktor] ½-½ (32) 25.Bf4 Qb6+ 26.Kg2 Qb2 27.Rae1 Qxc2+ 28.R4e2 Qd3 29.Qxd3 cxd3 30.Re8 Na5 31.Rxd8+ Rxd8 32.Re7 ½-½ (32) Allcock,G-Couso,L Buenos Aires 1946 CBM 131 [Machulsky,A]]

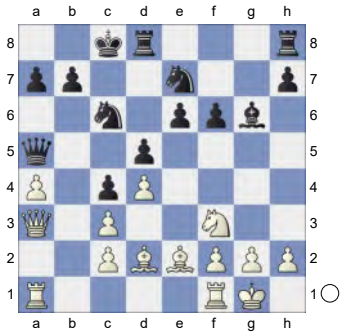
10...Bd7



11.a4 0-0-0 12.0-0 f6 13.exf6 gxf6 14.Qc1 Be8 0.45/18

[14...e5= 0.01/18 is more appropriate.]

15.Qa3 Bg6

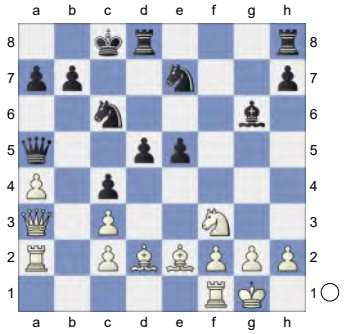


16.Ra2 White has an edge. **16...e5** 1.39/17

[16...Qc7= 0.10/18 keeps the balance.]

17.dxe5± fxe5

(Diagram)

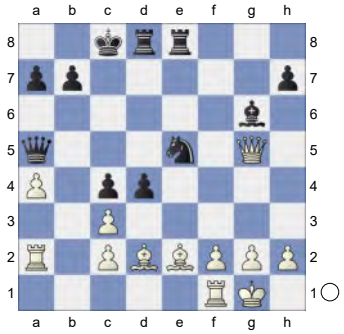


18.Nxe5! Nxe5 19.Qxe7 Rhe8 20.Qg5 1.01/16

[White should try 20.Qa3 1.47/17]

20...d4? 3.68/21

[20...Rd7± 1.01/16 was called for.]



This costs Black the game. **21.cxd4+-c3 22.Bg4+** 2.19/20

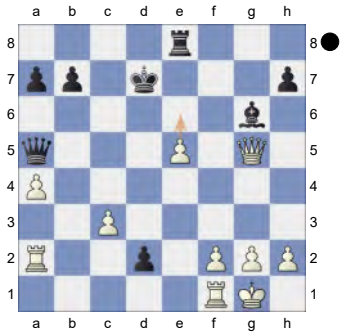
[Worse is 22.dxe5 cxd2 23.Bd1 Kb8∓]

[⌓22.Be3 3.69/21 Nc6 23.Qxa5 Nxa5 24.Ra3]

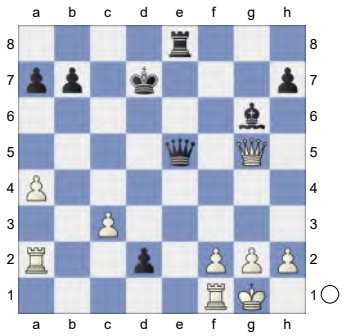
22...Rd7? 8.88/20

[22...Kb8 2.19/20]

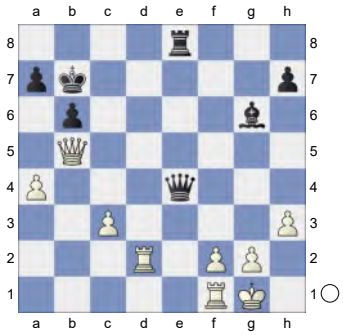
23.Bxd7+ Kxd7 24.dxe5 cxd2 25.c3



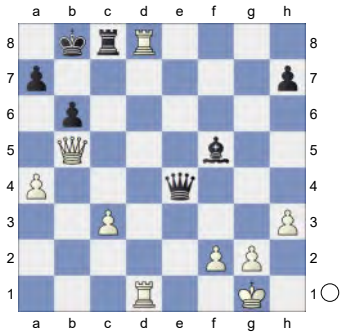
aiming for e6+! **25...Qxe5**



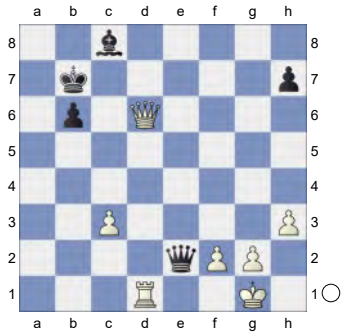
26.Rxd2+ Kc6 27.Qg4 Qe6
Against Qd7+ **28.Qb4 b6 29.h3 Qe4 30.Qb5+ Kb7**



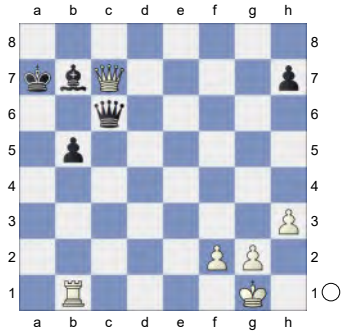
31.Rd7+ Kb8 32.Qa6 Qa8 33.Rfd1
15.19/21
[⏢33.Qc4 #12/21 Qb7 34.Rxb7+ Kxb7 35.Rd1 Re7 36.Rd8 Rc7 37.Qd5+ Ka6 38.Rb8]
33...Rc8 34.Rd8 8.47/26
[⏢34.a5 #11/20 Rg8 35.Rd8+ Rxd8 36.Rxd8+ Kc7 37.Rxa8 Bh5 38.Rxa7+ Kc6 39.Qxb6+ Kd5 40.Qd4+ Ke6 41.f4 Kf5 42.Qe5+ Kg6 43.Qg5#]
34...Bf5 White is clearly winning. **35.Qb5**
Threatening mate with Qe5+. **35...Qe4**



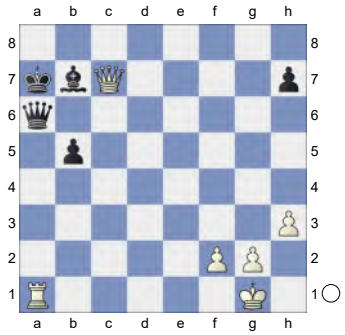
Against Qe5+ **36.Rxc8+ Bxc8**
Endgame KQR-KQB **37.a5 Qe6 38.axb6 axb6 39.Qd5 Qe2 40.Qd6+ Kb7**



41.Rb1 Qa6 42.c4 Ka7 43.Qc7+ Bb7 44.c5 b5 45.c6 Qxc6



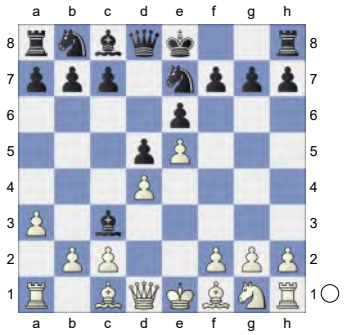
46.Ra1+ Qa6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.58/ Black=0.90
1-0

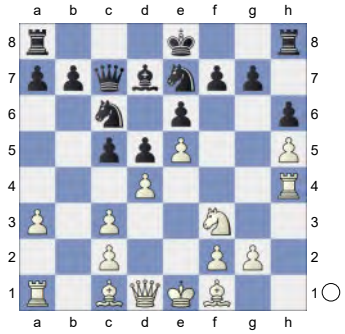
206 **C19**
□ **Dardha,Daniel** **2606**
■ **Barria Zuniga,D.** **2341**
Titled Tue 26th Nov Early (8) 26.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

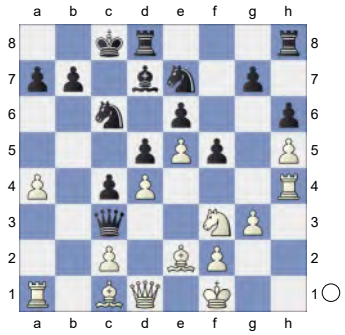


6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.h4 Nbc6 8.h5 h6 9.Nf3 Qc7 10.Rh4 Bd7



11.Bd3 0.06/18
[11.Qd2± 0.41/16]
11...0-0-0 12.Kf1 The position is equal.
12...c4 13.Be2 f5 0.59/18
[13...Rdf8= 0.24/17]
14.g3 0.28/16
[14.Rh3± 0.59/18 deserves consideration.]
14...Qa5 15.a4 0.01/19
[15.Bd2± 0.53/17]
15...Qxc3=



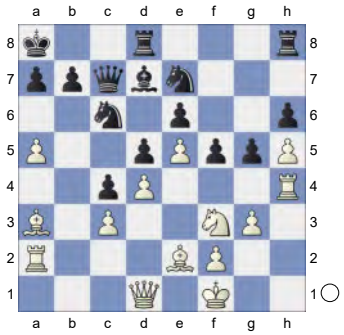
16.Ra3 Qa5 17.c3 -0.35/18

[17.Bd2= -0.02/17 Qa6 18.Ra1]

17...Qc7 -0.02/19

[17...Rhg8∓ -0.35/18 might be stronger.]

18.Ra2 Kb8 19.Ba3 Strongly threatening Bd6. **19...Ka8 20.a5 g5**

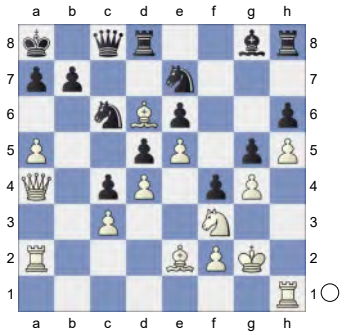


21.Bd6 Qc8 22.Rh1 Be8 23.Kg2 f4 24.g4 Inhibits Nf5. **24...Bf7** 0.22/19

[24...a6 -0.13/18 is more appropriate.]

25.Qa4 White has compensation.

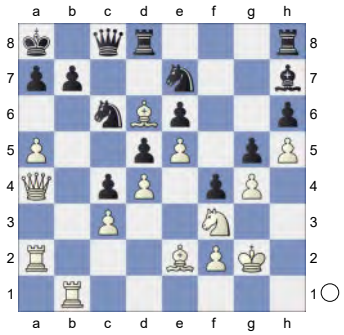
25...Bg8



26.Rb1 Rb6! is the strong threat.

26...Bh7 1.11/20

[26...Rd7= 0.25/19]

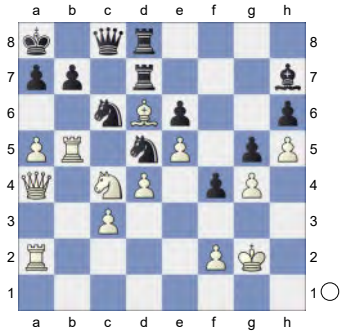


27.Rb5 0.35/19 &Bianco is more active.

[27.Rb6!± 1.11/20 Hoping for a6! a6 *(27...Rd7 28.a6)* 28.Qa3]

27...Rd7± **28.Nd2 Rhd8 29.Bxc4** -0.40/20 **dxc4∓ 30.Nxc4 Nd5** 2.83/21

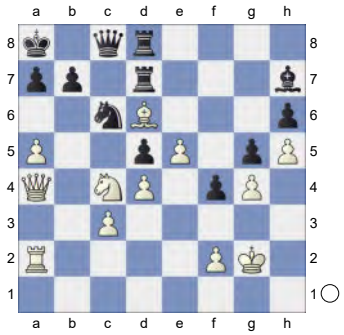
[30...Nb8!∓ -0.57/21 keeps the upper hand. 31.Nb6+ axb6 32.Bxb8 Qc6+ 33.Kh2 Qxb5 34.Qxb5 Kxb8]



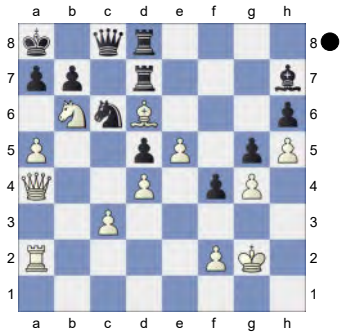
Prevents Nb6+. **31.Rxd5!+-** White wants to mate with Nb6+! Remove Defender **31...exd5?** #3/8

[31...Bd3+- 2.58/24 32.Rc5 Bxc4]

[31...Nb8 32.Bxb8]



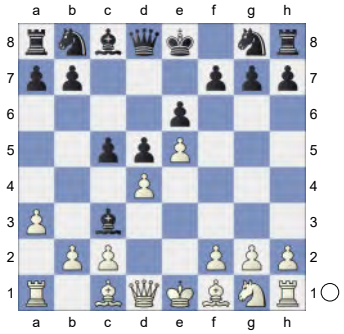
32.Nb6+!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.64
1-0

207 **C18**
□ **Fier,Alexandr** **2606**
■ **Willemze,Thomas** **2364**
Reykjavik op (6) 01.04.2023

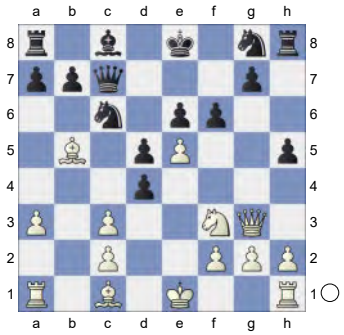
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



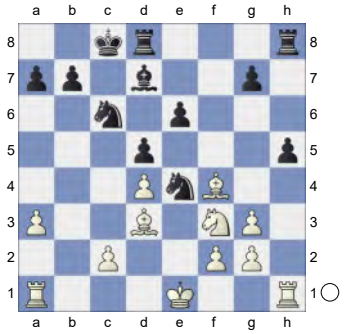
6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4!? An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **7...f6 8.Bb5+ Nc6 9.Nf3 h5**

[9...Qf7 10.a4 Bd7 11.Ba3 c4 12.Qf4 Nge7 13.Bxe7 1-0 (47) Frolyanov,D (2534)-Cruz Lledo,P (2413) Trieste 2016 Qxe7 14.Bxc6 Bxc6 15.h4 a5 16.h5]

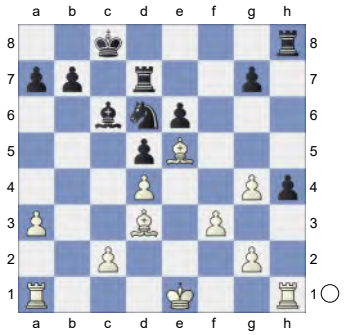
10.Qg3 cxd4



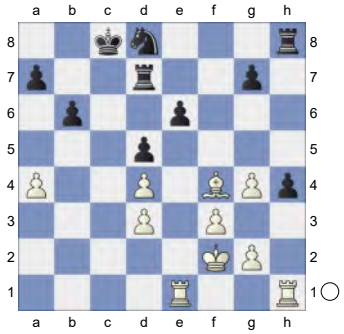
11.exf6N Qxg3 12.hxg3 Nxf6 13.cxd4 Bd7 14.Bd3 0-0-0 15.Bf4 Ne4



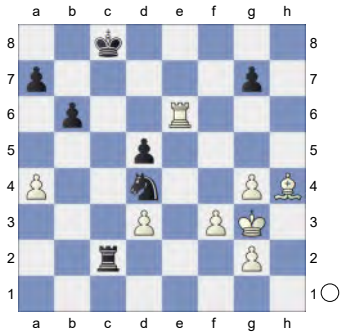
16.Ne5 Be8 17.Nxc6 Bxc6 18.Be5 Rd7 19.f3 Nd6 20.g4 h4



21.Kf2 Bb5 22.Rae1 Bxd3 23.cxd3 b6 24.a4 Nb7 25.Bf4 Nd8

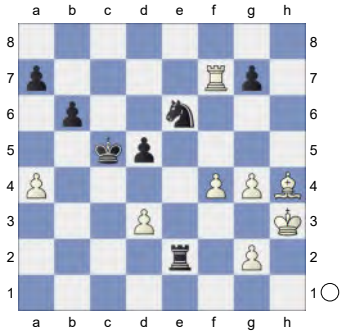


26.Bg5 Rc7 27.Rxh4 Rxh4 28.Bxh4 Rc2+ 29.Kg3 Nc6 30.Rxe6 Nxd4

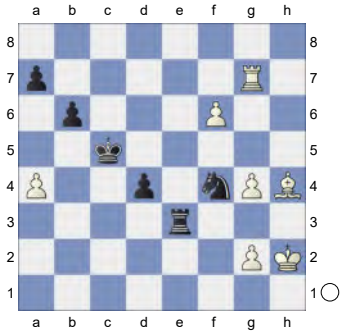


31.Re8+ Kb7 32.Kh3 Re2 33.Rf8 Ne6

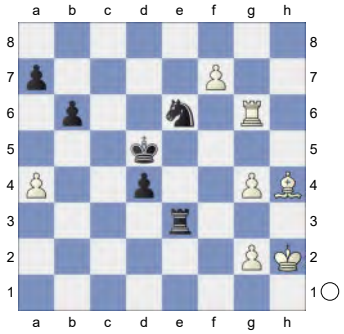
34.Rf7+ Kc6 35.f4 Kc5



36.f5 Nf4+ 37.Kg3 Nxd3 38.Rxg7 Re3+ 39.Kh2 d4 40.f6 Predecessor: **40...Nf4**



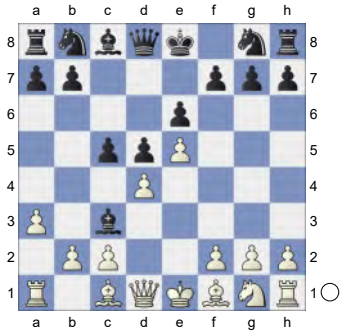
41.f7 Ne6 42.Rg6 Kd5



1-0

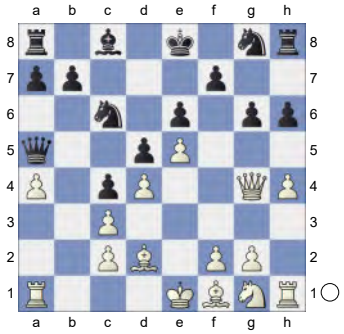
208 **C18**
☐ **Ter Sahakyan,S.** **2605**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
World Rapid 2022 (1.1) 26.12.2022
[John Watson]

Kitty Kat: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 ' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.h4
[8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Qg3 Nc6=]
8...Qa5
[8...h6 is this month's game Giri-Carlsen]
9.Bd2 h6? Carlsen may have been new to this line.
[9...Qa4! is the most common move here.]
10.a4?!
[If White is going to play h5, it's normally best to do this before Black plays ...c4, so that White retains the options of dxc5 or c4. Here the standard sequence 10.h5 g5 11.f4! f5 12.Qg3! g4 looks quite bad for Black due to 13.c4! *(13.dxc5±)* 13...Qa4 *(13...Qd8 14.dxc5; 13...Qb6 14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.cxd5 Qxd5 16.Ne2 a6 17.Nc3 Qc5 18.Qf2!)* 14.dxc5! intending Qb3, when the attractive-looking Nd4 isn't effective after simply 15.Rc1! Nxc2+ 16.Kf2! , e.g., Nd4 17.cxd5 exd5 18.Qc3 Ne6 19.Qb2 a6 20.Bd3 Ne7 21.Ne2 0-0 22.Be3 with a substantial positional advantage.]
10...c4

(Diagram)



Kitty Kat: 'White is slightly better.' **11.Nf3**

[Now 11.h5 allows g5 12.f4?! f5 13.Qg3 g4∓ and there's no dxc5 or c4 for White.]

[11.Qd1 Bd7 12.Nf3 *(12.Nh3 0-0-0 13.Qc1 g5 14.Be2 f6 15.f4 gxf4 16.Nxf4 fxe5 17.Ng6 Rh7 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Ne7 20.Qa3 Nf5 21.Bf3 Qc7 22.Bf4 h5* ½-½ Koutsogiannopoulou,T (2484)-Bungo, G (2368) Karen Asrian Mem rapid 2008 (1.5)*)* 12...0-0-0 13.g3 Kb8 14.Bg2 Ka8 15.0-0 f5 16.exf6 Nxf6 17.Qc1 g5 18.hxg5 hxg5 19.Bxg5 Rdf8 20.Bxf6 Rxf6 21.Qe3 Be8 22.Ng5 Bg6 23.Rac1 Bf5 24.Rfe1 Qxa4 25.f3 Qa5 ½-½ Giri,A (2764)-Rapport,R (2740) Danzhou 13th rapid 2022 (1)]

11...Bd7 12.Qf4! A nice move, targetting f7 and freeing the g-pawn to advance. **12...Rh7** Protecting f7 in order to castle. **13.Nh2!?** Kitty Kat: 'N'

[13.g4 has the idea 0-0-0 *(13...Nge7 14.Bh3 0-0-0 15.g5 h5∓* , but this is rather depressing for Black*)* 14.g5⩲ , preventing ....f6 and thinking about gxh6, e.g., Nce7!? *(14...h5 15.Bg2 Kb8 16.0-0 Ka8 17.Rfb1⩲)* 15.Bh3 Kb8 16.gxh6! Nxh6 17.Ng5 Rhh8 *(17...Rg7 18.Nxe6)* 18.Nxf7 Rdf8 19.Qf6!±]

[13.g3 0-0-0 14.Bg2 Kb8 15.0-0 Ka8 16.Qe3 Nge7 17.Qe1 Rdh8 18.Nh2 Qd8 19.Ng4 Ng8 20.Bf4 f5 21.exf6 Nxf6 22.Ne5 Nxe5 23.Bxe5 g5 24.hxg5 hxg5 25.f3 Rf8 26.a5 Ng8 27.a6 b6 1-0 Ivic,V (2582)-Hungaski,R (2514) Krasnaya Polyana (m/2) 149/94 2021 28.f4 gxf4 29.Bxf4 Ne7 30.Qe2 Nc6 31.Rf3 Rg8 32.Raf1 Qc8 33.Re3 Rg6 34.Bd6 Qxa6 35.Rf8+ Kb7 36.Qd1 Qa2 37.Re1 Qb2 38.Qd2 a5 39.Rff1 Qb5 40.Rb1 Qa6 41.Rf8 Rhg7 42.Qf4 a4 1-0 Juilfs,G (2582)-Obrenovic,D (2514) (ch) 141/(75) 2019]

13...0-0-0 14.Ng4

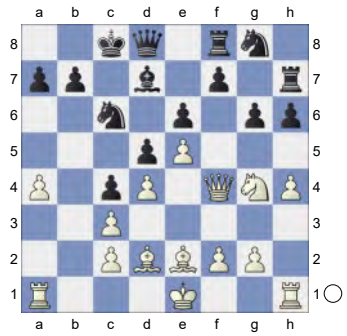
[14.Be2]

14...Rf8

[14...h5!? 15.Nf6 Nxf6 16.Qxf6 Re8=]

15.Be2 Qd8

[15...h5!]



16.Qg3

[16.Nf6 Nxf6 17.Qxf6⩲]

16...f5!? 0.85/18

[Objectively, 16...h5 0.40/20 may be better, but can turn extremely drawish, which is clearly not what Carlsen wants. Kitty Kat: ' ⩲' 17.Nh2 f6]

17.exf6 Kitty Kat: ' ± ' **17...Nxf6**

18.Bxh6?!

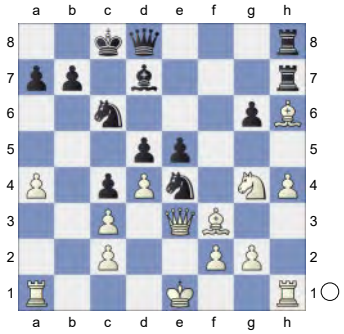
[18.Nxf6 Qxf6 *(18...Rxf6 19.h5)* 19.a5! *(19.0-0⩲)* 19...a6 20.Be3±]

[18.Nxh6 Ne4 19.Qxg6 Qe7=]

18...Ne4 19.Qe3 Rfh8 Kitty Kat: ' ...e6-e5! would now be deadly.' **20.Bf3?** -1.17/18

[20.f3! 0.53/19 Kitty Kat: '±!' Kitty Kat: ' keeps the upper hand.' Ng3 21.Bg5 Qa5 22.Rh3 Nf5 23.Qd2 Nxh4=]

20...e5!



Suddenly White is in major trouble. Kitty Kat: '∓!' Kitty Kat: ' Hoping for ...Bd7xg4.'

21.dxe5 -1.63/22

[21.Bxe4 -1.20/19 Kitty Kat: ' ∓' Bxg4 22.Bg5 *(22.Bxg6? Rxh6 23.Bf7 Rxh4-+)* 22...exd4 23.Qf4 Qd7-+]

21...Qa5? 0.72/20

[21...Bxg4! -1.63/22 Kitty Kat: '-+!' 22.Bxg4+ Kb8-+ 23.Bf4 Rxh4 24.e6+ Ka8 25.Rxh4 Rxh4-+ 26.Bh3 g5!]

22.Ra3 -0.60/21

[22.Kf1!± 0.72/20]

22...Bf5 0.00/20

[22...Qd8!∓ -0.60/21 23.Ke2 Rxh6 Decoy *(23...Qe7 24.Raa1∓)* 24.Nxh6 Qf8 25.Bxe4 dxe4]

23.0-0? -1.99/23

[The engine finds 23.g3 d4 24.Qf4 Nxc3 25.0-0! with unclear and apparently balanced play]

[23.Kf1= 0.00/20 and White stays safe.]

23...Kb8 Threatening ...Bxg4 Black is winning again. Kitty Kat: '-+!' Kitty Kat: ' Threatens to win with ...Bf5xg4.'

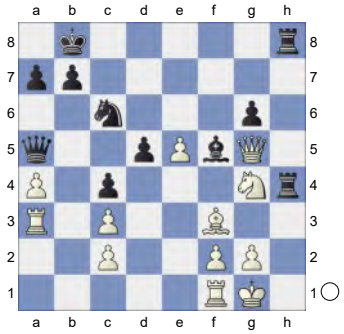
24.Bg5?! -3.88/22 Kitty Kat: '?'

[But 24.Bxe4

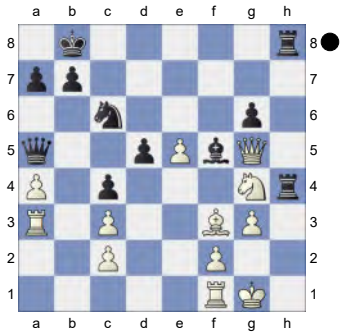
A) 24...dxe4 25.Bg5 *(25.Qg5? Bxg4* Remove Defender, Deflection *26.Qxg4 Rxh6-+)* 25...Bxg4 26.Qxe4;

B) 24...Bxg4 wins a piece.]

24...Nxg5 25.Qxg5 Kitty Kat: ' Black must now prevent g2-g3.' **25...Rxh4**



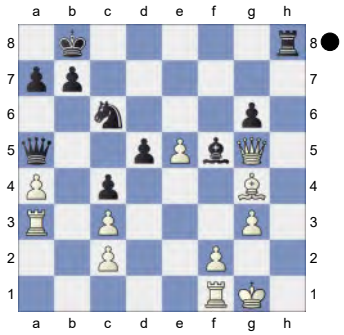
26.g3 Kitty Kat: '



' **26...Rxg4??** -1.17/23

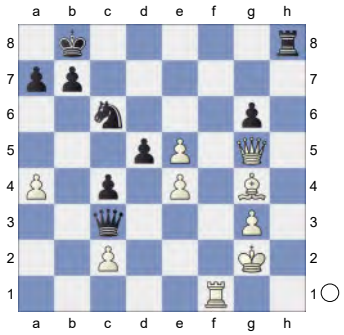
[26...R4h5! and White can resign, e.g. , 27.Qf4 Bxg4 28.Qxg4 Nxe5 29.Qf4 Rf5]

27.Bxg4 Kitty Kat: '∓' Kitty Kat: '

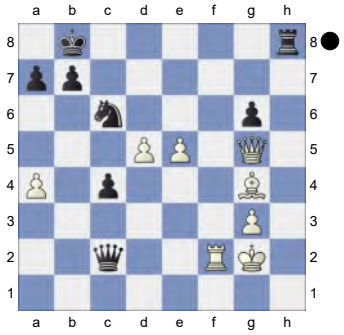


' **27...Be4** Kitty Kat: ' Black has more

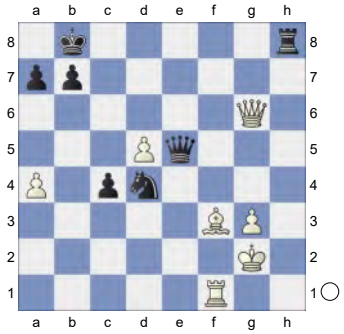
active pieces.' **28.f3** **Qc5+** **29.Kg2** **Qxa3** **30.fxe4** **Qxc3**
[30...Qxa4 31.Bd1 *(31.Qxg6 Qxc2+ 32.Rf2 Rh2+* Decoy *33.Kxh2 Qxf2+ 34.Kh3 Qf1+ 35.Kh4 dxe4=)* 31...dxe4 32.e6± *(32.Qxg6 Qa5±)*]



31.exd5?? -1.82/23
[The situation is still unclear after 31.Qxg6 -0.75/21 Kitty Kat: '∓' Kitty Kat: ' might work better.' Qxc2+ *(31...Nxe5 32.Qd6+ Ka8 33.Rf8+* Back Rank *Rxf8 34.Qxf8#)* 32.Rf2 Qxe4+ *(32...Qc1?? 33.Qd6+ Ka8 34.Rf8+; 32...Rh2+ 33.Kxh2 Qxf2+ 34.Kh3=)* 33.Qxe4 dxe4 34.e6 Ne7∓]
31...Qxc2+ Kitty Kat: '-+'
[31...Qxe5 32.Qf4 *(32.Qxg6 Nd4=)* 32...Qxf4 33.Rxf4=]
32.Rf2 Kitty Kat: '

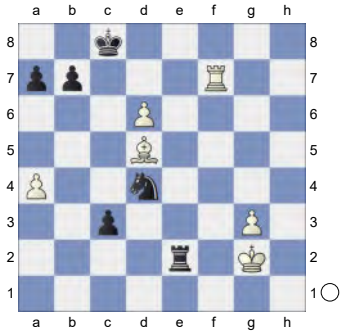


' **32...Qb1**
[32...Qxa4? is the wrong capture. 33.Qf6 *(33.dxc6 Qxc6+ 34.Rf3 a5+-)* 33...Rg8 34.Qd6+ *(34.dxc6 Qxc6+ 35.Qxc6 bxc6+-)* 34...Ka8 35.Bd7+- *(35.dxc6 Qxc6+ 36.Qxc6 bxc6+-)*]
33.Rf1 **Qe4+?** -0.39/23
[33...Qb2+! -2.06/21 Kitty Kat: '-+' 34.Rf2 Qxe5 35.Qxg6 Nd4!-+]
34.Bf3 Kitty Kat: '∓' **34...Qxe5**
[34...Qc2+!? 35.Rf2 Qb1=]
35.Qxg6 **Nd4**

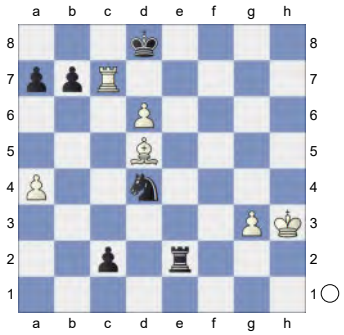


Kitty Kat: ' →' Kitty Kat: ' ...Nd4xf3 is the strong threat. Black attacks.' **36.Qe4** **Qxe4** **37.Bxe4** Kitty Kat: '=' Kitty Kat: 'Endgame. KRB-KRN' **37...Re8** **38.d6**
[38.Bg6 Re2+ 39.Rf2]
38...Kc8
[And not 38...Rxe4 39.Rf8+]
[Reject 38...c3?! 39.Rf7 Nc6 40.Rf3±]
39.Bd5? -3.70/24 Kitty Kat: ' Now White is beyond hope.'
[39.Rf4 0.03/24 Kitty Kat: '=' Kitty Kat: ' and White has nothing to worry.']
39...c3 Kitty Kat: '-+' **40.Rf7** -4.99/21
[40.Bf3 -3.50/22 was necessary. Kd7 41.a5]
40...Re2+

(Diagram)



Kitty Kat: 'Black is clearly winning.'
41.Kh3 c2 42.Rc7+ Kd8

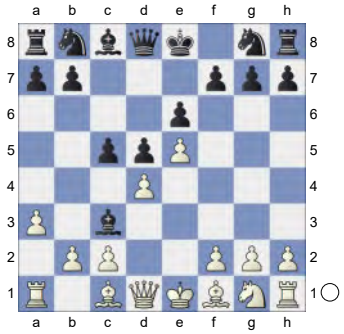


Kitty Kat: ' Weighted Error Value: White=0.64/Black=0.40'
0-1

209 **C19**
□ **Li,Chao** **2604**
■ **Peng Zhaoqin** **2402**
Corus C Wijk aan Zee NED (13) 31.01.10
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



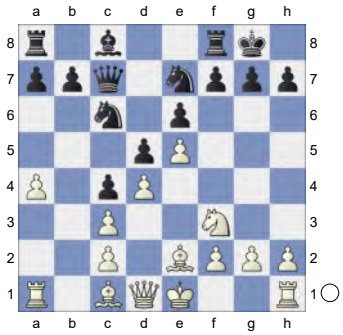
6.bxc3 Nc6 7.a4 Qc7
[7...Qa5 8.Bd2 Nge7 9.h4 Bd7 10.Qg4 0-0-0 11.Nf3 f6 12.Qxg7 Nf5 13.Qg4 fxe5 14.dxe5 Qc7 15.Qf4 Rdf8 16.Qh2 Be8 17.h5 Rhg8 18.Ng5 Qe7 19.Nf3 Rg4 20.Be2 Rfg8 21.g3 Qc7 22.Kd1 Abdumalik,Z (2491)-Bellahcene,B (2508) Gibraltar ENG 2022 [John Watson] 0-1 (41)]
8.Nf3 Nge7N
[8...Bd7 9.Qd2 *(9.Bd3 cxd4 10.cxd4 Nxd4 11.0-0 Nxf3+ 12.Qxf3 Ne7 13.Re1 Ng6 14.Ba3 Bxa4 15.c4 dxc4 16.Bd6 Qd7 17.Bxg6* ½-½ (17) Bryzgalin,K (2470)-Miron,L (2544) Plancoet 2013 EXT 2017 [RR]*; 9.Ba3 cxd4 10.cxd4 Qa5+ 11.Qd2 Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 Rc8 13.Bd3 f5 14.Rhb1 b6 15.Ba6 Rd8 16.Bd6 Kf7 17.Ng5+ Kg6 18.h4 Nxd4 19.a5 bxa5 20.Rxa5 Nh6 21.f4 Rhg8 22.c3 Nc6 23.Rc5 Ng4* Schnabel,M (2153)-Welz,P (2169) BdF 1992 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Schnabel] 1-0 (57) *)* 9...f6 10.Bb5 fxe5 11.Qg5 Nge7 12.0-0 0-0 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Qxe7 cxd4 15.cxd4 Rf7 16.Qc5 Qxc5 17.dxc5 Rc8 18.Re1 Nc6 19.Bxc6 Rxc6 ½-½ (19) Nezhmetdinov,R-Khasin,A USSR_158147 1961 French Nc3 [Myers]]
9.Bd3 0.09/20

[Reject 9.dxc5 Nxe5 10.Bd3 0-0∓]
[9.Ba3± 0.45/17]

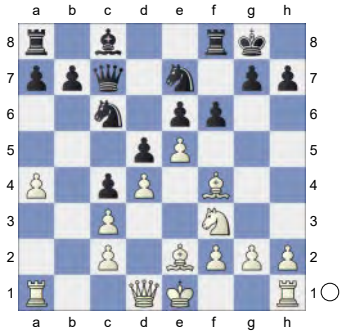
9...c4 0.42/20

[9...cxd4= 0.09/20 is more appropriate. 10.cxd4 Nxd4!]

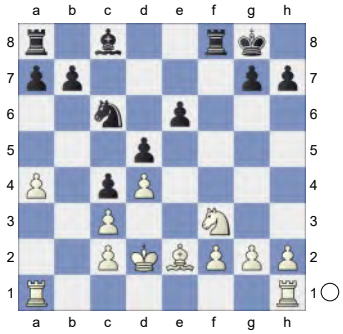
10.Be2± 0-0



11.Bf4 f6



White is slightly better. **12.exf6! Qxf4 13.fxe7 Nxe7 14.Qd2 Qxd2+ 15.Kxd2 Nc6**

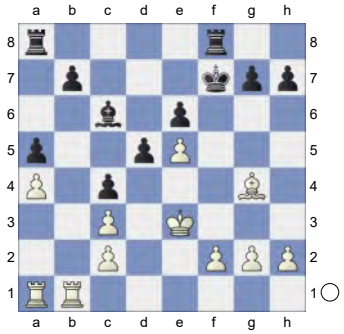


16.Ke3 Bd7 17.Ne5 Nxe5 18.dxe5 a5 19.Rhb1 Bc6 20.Bg4 0.17/22 Inhibits Rf5.

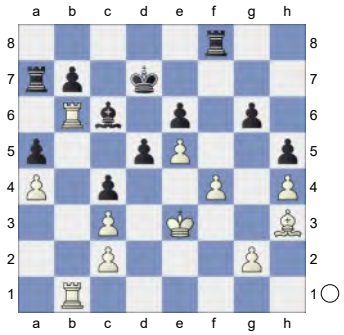
[20.h4± 0.56/20 might be stronger.]

20...Kf7=

(Diagram)

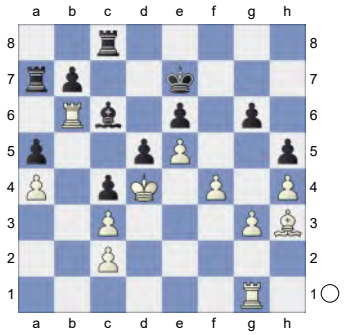


21.Rb6 Ke7 22.Rab1 Ra7 23.f4 g6 24.h4 h5 25.Bh3 Kd7



26.g3 Re8 27.Kd4 Rc8 28.Rg1 Ke7 0.78/24

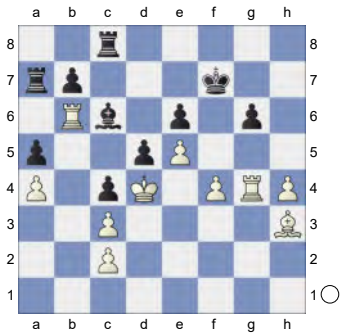
[28...Rg8!= 0.30/22]



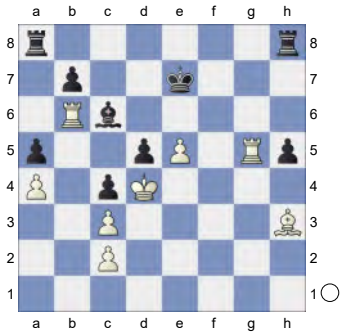
29.g4!± &Bianco is more active.

29...hxg4 30.Rxg4 Kf7

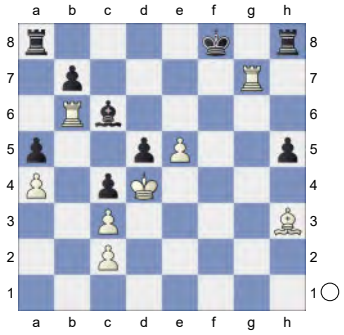
(Diagram)



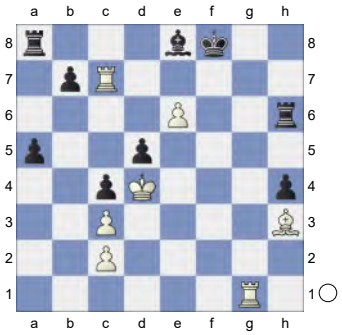
31.h5 gxh5 32.Rg5 Rh8 1.69/21
This costs Black the game.
[32...Raa8!⩲ 0.46/22]
33.f5+- exf5 34.Rxf5+
[Of course not 34.Bxf5?! h4=]
34...Ke7 35.Rg5↑ Rxc6! is the strong threat. White has strong compensation. Black is under strong pressure.
35...Raa8 2.05/21
[35...Ra6± 1.54/20 36.Rxa6 bxa6]



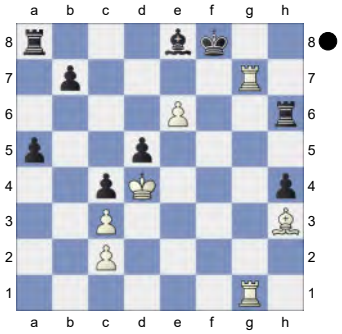
36.Rg7+ Kf8



37.Rc7 Black must now prevent Bc8.
37...h4 3.00/19
[⌓37...Rg8 1.73/20]
38.Rb1 Rh6 39.Rg1 Bxa4? 7.59/22
[39...Be8 2.98/19 40.Rxb7 *(40.Kxd5 Rd8+ 41.Ke4 Bg6+ 42.Kf4 Rh7⩲)* 40...Rg6 41.Rf1+ Kg8]
40.e6 White wants to mate with Rf7+.
40...Be8



Against Rf7+ **41.Rcg7**

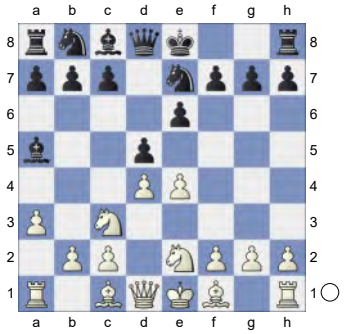


Against Rg6.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.17 (very precise)
1-0

210 **C15**
□ **Bortnyk,Olexandr** **2603**
■ **Martinez Alcantara,Jose Eduardo**
Titled Tue 12th Nov Early (8) 12.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Ne7 5.a3 Ba5

(Diagram)

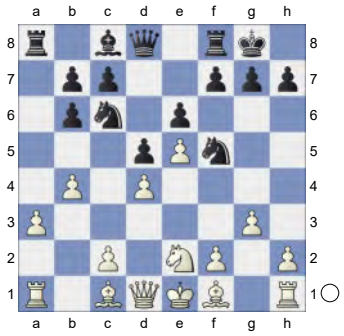


6.b4 Bb6 7.e5 0-0 8.Na4 Nbc6 9.g3N White is slightly better.

[9.b5 Na5 10.Ng3 Nf5 11.Nxb6 cxb6 12.Bd3 f6 13.Nxf5 exf5 14.0-0 fxe5 15.dxe5 Be6 16.Bb2 Rc8 17.Bd4 Nc4 18.f4 Qd7 19.a4 Rc7 20.Qe2 Qc8 21.h3 Kh8 22.Kh2 Qe8 23.Rf2 Qc8 Holzmann,M (2518)-Manolov,I (2543) Torino 2004 OR: Modern Benoni [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] ½-½ (63) 24.Rg1 Rcf7 25.Qh5 Rg8 26.g4 g6 27.Qh4 Qf8 28.gxf5 gxf5 29.Rxg8+ Kxg8 30.Rg2+ Rg7 31.Rxg7+ Qxg7 32.Qd8+ Qf8 33.Qg5+ Kh8 34.Bc3 Qf7 35.Bb4 Ne3 36.Qd8+ Qg8 37.Qxg8+ Kxg8 38.Bc3 Nc4 Conquest,S (2543)-Bischoff,K (2561) Pulvermuehle 2004 CBM 100 [Kuzmin,Alexey] ½-½ (63)]

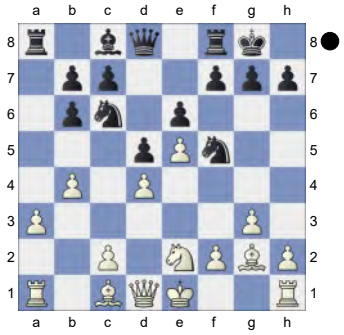
[9.c3 f6 10.exf6 *(10.f4 Bd7 11.h4 Qe8 12.h5 Nd8 13.Nb2 Nf7 14.g4 fxe5 15.fxe5 a5 16.Bf4 Bb5 17.Rg1 Nc6 18.Rg2 Nfxe5 19.Bxe5 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Rxf1+ 21.Kxf1 Qf7+ 22.Ke1 Qf3 23.c4 Qxg2 24.c5 Rf8* Holzmann,H-Chapter ,C Albena 2005 200 Traps In The Opening [John Watson] 0-1 *25.Kd2 Rf2 26.Nd3 Bxd3 27.Kxd3 Qf3+ 28.Kd2 d4* 0-1 (28) Holzmann,L (2516)-Chapter , D (2534) Albena 2005 200 Traps In The Opening [WIT 29/2/1908; 4LS #17 p3; Harding]*)* 10...Rxf6 11.Nxb6 axb6 12.Ng3 Qd6 13.b5 Na5 Chess Informant Eco-N,N Survey 2006]

9...Nf5 10.Nxb6 axb6



11.Bg2 -0.17/19

[11.Bb2± 0.40/18]



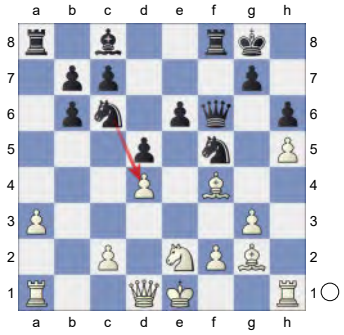
11...Nxb4!= 12.h4 Nc6 13.h5 h6

[13...f6!? 14.f4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Na5∓]

14.Bf4 -0.61/19

[14.Bf1= -0.21/17]

14...f6 15.exf6 Qxf6



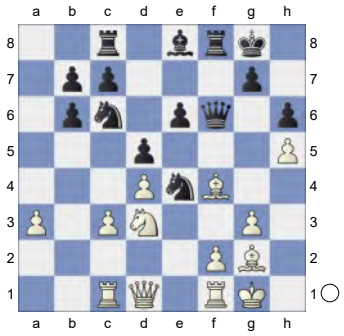
16.c3 Nd6 17.0-0 Bd7 -0.01/19

[Black should try 17...Nc4∓ -0.54/18]

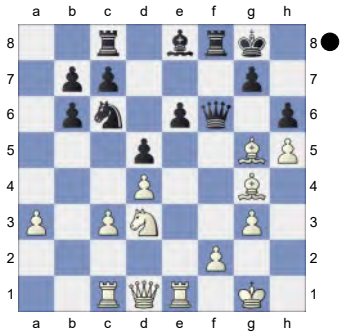
18.Nc1 -0.83/19

[18.Bxd6= -0.01/19 cxd6 19.Nf4]

18...Rac8 -0.26/19
[Better is 18...Nb5∓ -0.83/19 19.Ne2 Qe7]
19.Nd3 Ne4 20.Rc1 Be8

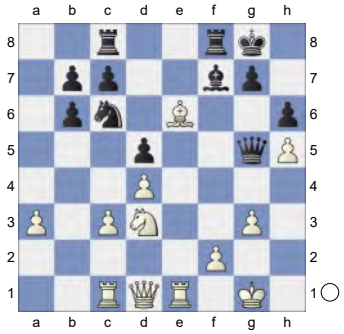


21.Re1 Qf5 22.Bf3 Ng5? 2.04/22
[22...Qf7= -0.01/20 and Black has nothing to worry.]
23.Bg4+- Qf6
[23...Nh3+? 24.Kh2 Qf6 25.Bxe6+ Bf7 26.Bxh3+-]
24.Bxg5

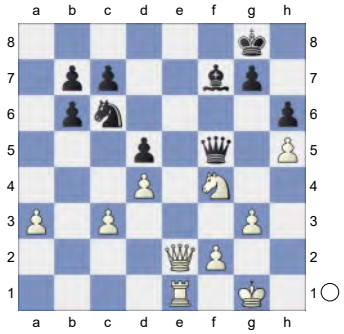


Remove Defender **24...Qxg5 25.Bxe6+** 1.24/21
[25.Nf4+- 1.93/21 Bf7 26.Nxe6]
25...Bf7 2.34/22
[25...Kh8± 1.24/21]

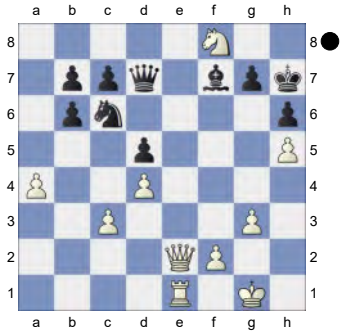
(Diagram)



26.Bxc8 Rxc8 27.Nf4 Re8? 3.83/22
[27...Ra8 2.10/20 is a better defense. 28.Ra1 Qf5]
28.Rxe8+ Bxe8 29.Qe2 Bf7 30.Re1 Qf5



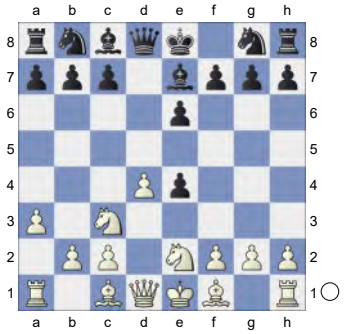
31.a4 Qd7 32.Ng6 Hoping for Qf3.
32...Kh7 #10/21
[32...Qf5+- 4.58/24 33.Kg2 Kh7]
33.Nf8+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.74
1-0

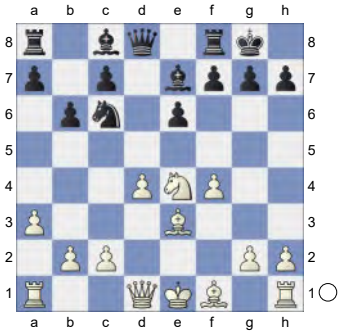
211 **C15**
□ **Asrian,Karen** **2602**
■ **Smirnov,Pavel** **2645**
Moscow Aeroflot op-A (9) 23.02.2005
[Ftacnik,Lubomir]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 dxe4 5.a3 Be7

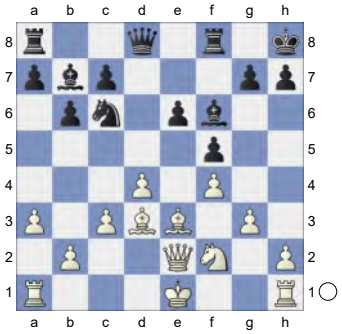


6.Nxe4 Nf6 7.N2g3 Nxe4 8.Nxe4 Nc6 9.Be3 0-0
[9...e5 10.dxe5 *(10.d5 Nd4)* 10...Nxe5+- 11.Qxd8+ Bxd8 12.Bd4= f6 13.0-0-0 Be7 14.Bb5+ c6= 15.Bxe5 fxe5 16.Bc4 Rf8]
10.f4
[10.Qd2 e5 *(10...f5 11.Nc3± e5 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.0-0-0= Qxd2+! 14.Rxd2 f4 15.Bd4 Nc6 16.Bc4+ Kh8± 17.Re1)* 11.d5 Nd4= 12.Bc4 Nf5]
10...b6
[10...Qd5 11.Qd3 Rd8
A) 12.c3 e5∓ *(12...b6)* 13.fxe5 Nxe5 14.dxe5 Qxd3∓ 15.Bxd3 Rxd3 16.Bd4 c5 17.Ke2;
B) 12.0-0-0 Qa2= 13.Qc3 e5 14.Bc4 Qa1+ 15.Kd2 exd4]

(Diagram)

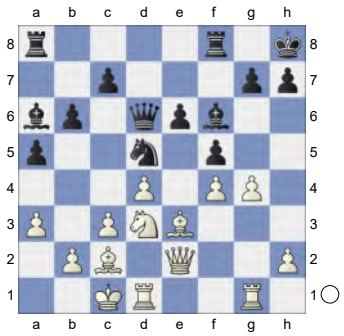


11.c3 Bb7 12.Bd3 Bh4+ 13.g3 f5 14.Nf2
[14.Nd2 Nxd4 15.0-0 *(15.Bxd4 Bxh1± 16.gxh4!? c5)* 15...Nc6 16.Bc4 Bf6 17.Bxe6+ Kh8± 18.Bxf5 Bxc3]
14...Bf6 15.Qe2
[15.Qb3 Ne7 16.Rg1= *(16.Qxe6+ Kh8 17.0-0 Bd5!)* 16...Qd6!]
15...Kh8!?
[15...Na5 16.Rg1 Nb3 17.Rd1= a5 18.g4 Bh4]



Black has all the forces prepared for this advance, so it is logical to make it in suitable moment. **16.Rg1 Ne7 17.0-0-0 Qd6 18.Bc2**
[18.Bb1]
18...a5 19.g4 Nd5 20.Nd3 Ba6?

(Diagram)

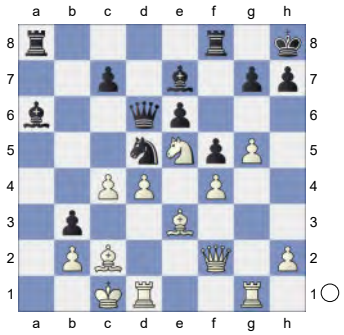


Tactically very unfortunate solution as white d pawn will become a superpower.

21.g5! Be7 22.Qf2?! It was much better just to grab a pawn with fair chances for the opening advantage.

[22.Qf3 b5 23.Ne5 b4 24.axb4 axb4 25.c4∓ Nxe3! *(25...b3 26.Bxb3 Qb4= 27.Bd2)* 26.Qxe3 Bb7 27.g6]

22...b5 23.Ne5 b4 24.axb4 axb4 25.c4 b3



26.Bxb3

[26.c5 bxc2 27.cxd6 cxd1Q+ 28.Kxd1 cxd6= 29.Nc6 Bd3]

26...Qb4? Both very strong players are making sloppy tactical decisions , Smirnov ommits a good continuation with 26...♘c3!? **27.Rd3 Qb7**

[27...Nxe3 28.Rxe3 Bb7 29.Kc2= Rfb8!]

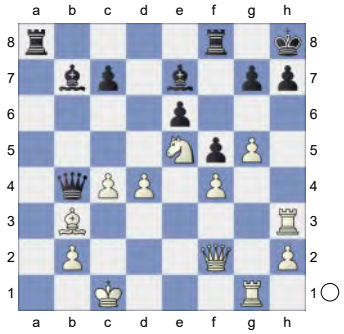
28.Bd2

[28.Qh4 Rfb8 29.Bf2]

28...Nb4 29.Bxb4? Small comedy of errors continues, Asrian might have hoped for an advantage with 29.♘d3!

[29.Rh3]

29...Qxb4 30.Rh3 Bb7



31.d5

[31.Ng6+ Kg8 32.Nxe7+ Qxe7 33.Kd2 Rfd8±]

31...Kg8 32.Kc2

[32.Qh4 h6 33.gxh6 *(33.Kb1)* 33...Ra1+ *(33...Bxh4 34.Rxg7+ Kh8 35.Ng6#)* 34.Kc2 Rxg1∓ 35.Qg5! Rxg5 36.h7+ Kh8 37.fxg5 g6 *(37...Qd2+ 38.Kxd2 Bxg5+ 39.Kc2 Rf6 40.dxe6+-)* 38.Nxg6+ Kg7 39.Nxf8+-]

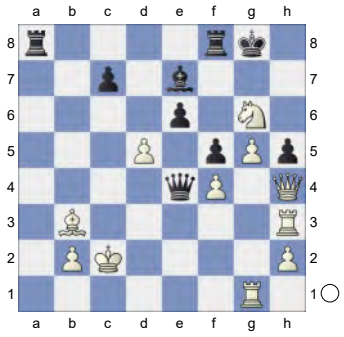
32...g6 33.Qh4

[33.Nd3∓ Qa5 34.Qe1]

33...h5 34.Nxg6 Bxd5? 35.cxd5

[35.Re1]

35...Qe4+?



36.Rd3

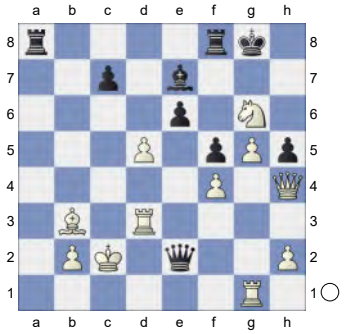
[36.Kd2 Bb4+ 37.Rc3 Qd4+ 38.Ke2 Qxg1]

36...Qe2+ 37.Rd2

[37.Kc3 Bb4+ 38.Kxb4+- Qxd3]

37...Qe4+ 38.Rd3? Qe2+?? Time trouble has heavily influenced the last phase of the game, the mistakes

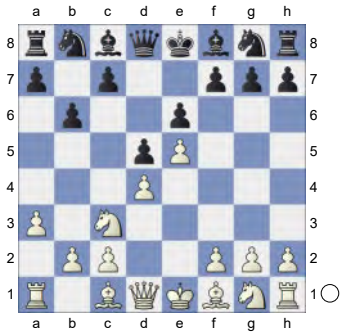
are winning in magnitude. **39.Rd2 Qe4+ 40.Rd3 Qe2+**



1-0

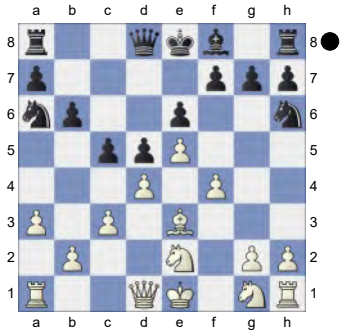
212 **C16**
□ **Ehlvest,Jaan** **2602**
■ **Gulko,Boris** **2597**
Curacao Open (9) 03.11.2003
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8

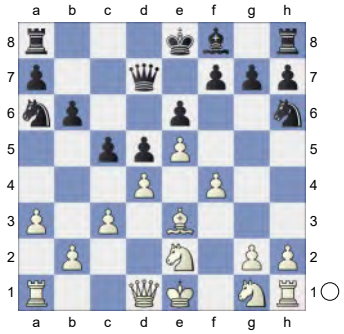


6.f4 Nh6 7.Be3 Ba6 0.48/19
[7...c5= 0.13/16 was preferrable.]
8.Bxa6± Active counter play! **8...Nxa6** White is slightly better. **9.Nce2 c5 10.c3**

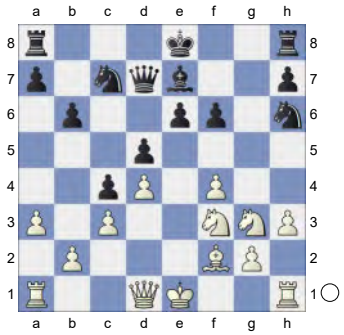
(Diagram)



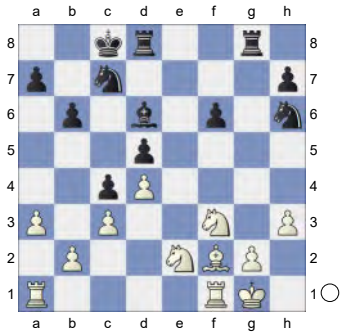
aiming for Qa4+. **10...Qd7**



Against Qa4 **11.Nf3 Be7 12.Bf2 c4 13.h3 f5 14.exf6 gxf6 15.Ng3 Nc7**

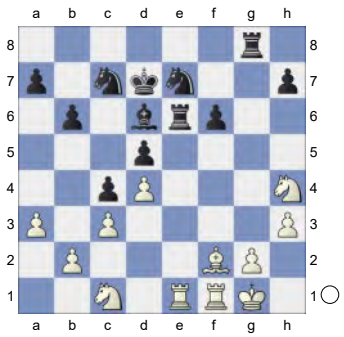


16.f5 0-0-0 17.fxe6 Qxe6+ 18.Qe2 Rhg8 19.0-0 Qxe2 20.Nxe2 Bd6

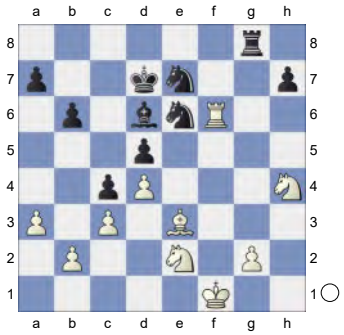


Against Ng3 **21.Bh4 Rde8 22.Rae1 Re6N** 0.14/21

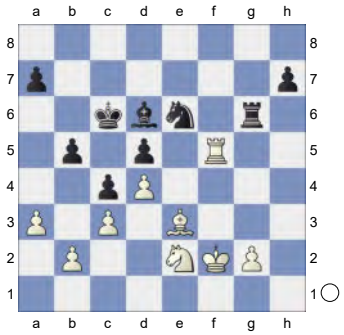
[22...Nf5!∓ -0.32/20]
23.Nc1 -0.47/21
[23.Kf2!= 0.14/21]
23...Nf5!∓ 24.Bf2 Kd7 25.Nh4 Ne7 0.01/19
[25...Rxe1∓ -0.44/22 feels stronger. 26.Bxe1 Ne3]



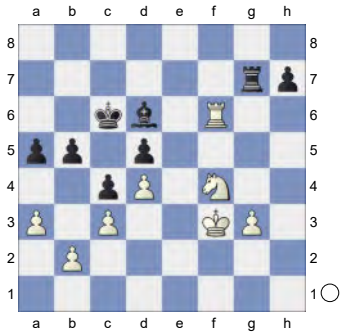
26.Rxe6= Nxe6 27.Be3 Ng5 Threatens to win with ...Nxh3+. **28.Rxf6 Nxh3+ 29.Kf1 Ng5 30.Ne2 Ne6**



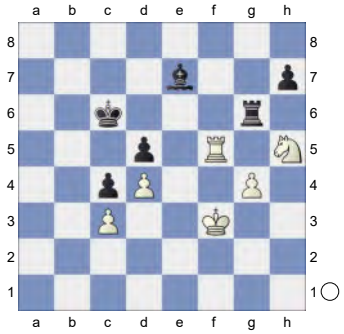
31.Bh6 Rg4 32.Nf5 Nxf5 33.Rxf5 Kc6 34.Kf2 Rg6 35.Be3 b5 0.34/23
[35...a6= 0.01/22]



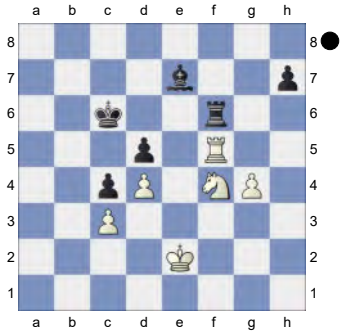
36.g3± a5 37.Kf3 0.01/23
[37.Bf4± 0.48/22 should be considered.]
37...Rg7 38.Rf6 Ng5+ 0.69/22
[38...Rg6= 0.01/26 39.Rf7 h6]
39.Bxg5 Rxg5 Endgame KRB-KRN **40.Nf4 Rg7**



Prevents Rf7. **41.g4 b4** 0.65/26
[Black should play 41...Rg8= 0.01/25]
42.axb4 axb4 43.Nh5 0.01/27
[43.cxb4± 0.43/23 Rb7 44.Rf5]
43...bxc3= The position is equal. **44.bxc3 Rg6 45.Rf5** Strongly threatening Nf6. **45...Be7**



Prevents Nf6. **46.Nf4 Rf6 47.Ke2**



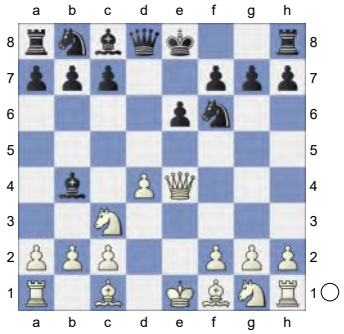
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very

precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise)
½-½

213 **C15**
□ **Bortnyk,Olexandr** **2601**
■ **Papasimakopoulos,Alexandros**
Titled Tue 25th Feb Early blitz (8)
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves

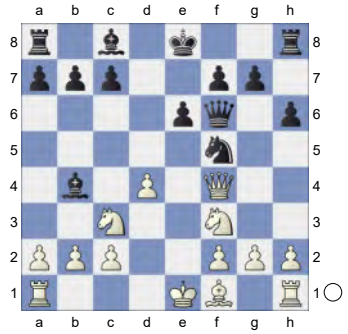
1.d4 d5 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 Bb4 4.Qd3 dxe4 5.Qxe4 Nf6



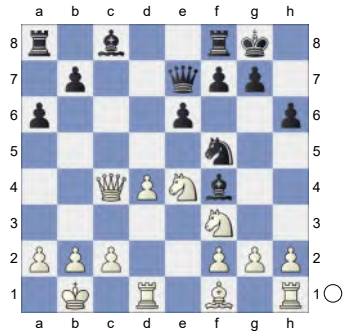
6.Qh4 Nc6 7.Nf3 Ne7 8.Bg5N

[8.Bd3 Nf5 9.Bxf5 exf5 10.Bg5 Qe7+ 11.Kf1 *(11.Ne5 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Qe6 13.0-0 Ne4 14.Bc1 0-0 15.f3 Nxc3 16.Re1 f6 17.Bd2 fxe5 18.Bxc3 Qc4* Winawer Sidelines-B3 *)* 11...Qe6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Qxf6 gxf6 14.Nd5 Bd6 15.Nxf6+ Kf8 16.Re1 Be6 17.d5 Kg7 18.Nh5+ Kg6 19.dxe6 Kxh5 20.exf7 Kg6 21.Ne5+ Kf6 22.f8Q+ Bxf8 Andreikin,D (2725)-Tarlabasi,E (2301) chess.com INT 2021 [John Watson] 1-0 (55) 23.Nd7+ Kf7 24.Nxf8 Rhxf8 25.f3 Rad8 26.Kf2 Rd2+ 27.Re2 Rfd8 28.Rhe1 Kf6 29.a4 h5 30.Kg3 Rg8+ 31.Kh3 Rxe2 32.Rxe2 f4 33.Kh4 a5 34.Rd2 b6 35.b3 Kf5 36.Rd5+ Kf6 37.g3 Re8 Andreikin,D (2728)-Papasimakopoulos,A (2248) chess.com INT 2021 [John Watson] 1-0 (55) 38.Rxh5 Re2 39.Rh6+ Ke5 40.gxf4+ Kxf4 41.Rf6+ Ke5 42.Rc6 Kf4 43.Rc4+ Kf5 44.Rxc7 Rg2 45.Kh3 Rg6 46.Rc4 Rg8 47.Rg4 Rc8 48.c4 Rd8 49.Kg3 Rd3 50.h4 Rxb3 51.Rg5+ Kf6 52.Rb5 Rc3 Eichstaedt,M (2728)-Prinfilk (2248) IECC email 2021 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (55)]

8...Nf5 9.Qf4 h6 The position is equal.
10.Bxf6 Qxf6

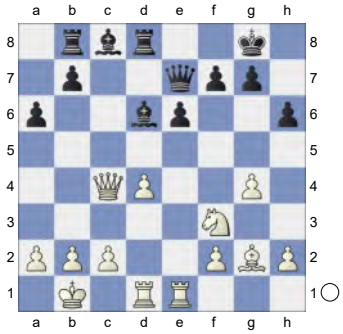


11.Qxc7 0-0 12.0-0-0 Bd6 13.Qc4 a6 14.Ne4 Bf4+ 15.Kb1 Qe7

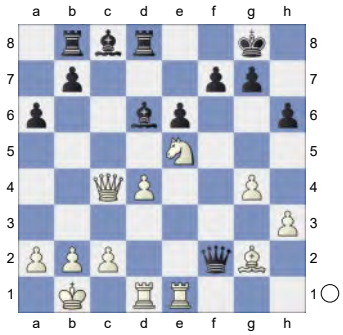


16.g3 Bc7 17.Bg2 Rd8 18.Rhe1 Rb8 19.g4 Nd6 20.Nxd6 Bxd6

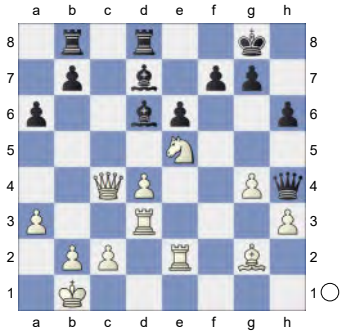
(Diagram)



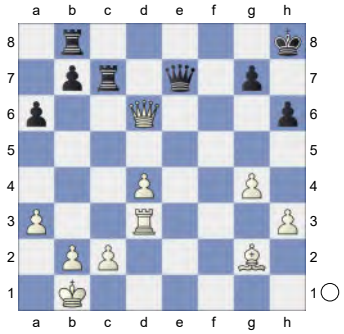
21.Ne5 **Qh4** **22.h3** 0x0.0018ea5d041adp-1022s more active pieces. **22...Qxf2**



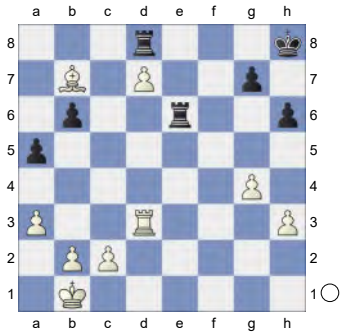
23.Re2 0.16/22
[23.Rf1!± 0.86/21 Qxg2 24.Nxf7]
23...Qg3= 24.Rd3 Qh4 0.12/19
[24...Qh2 -0.22/22 was preferrable. 25.Bf1 Qg1]
25.a3 Bd7



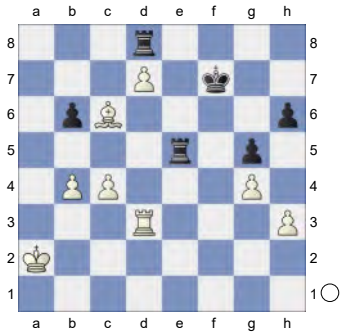
26.Nxd7 Rxd7 27.Rxe6 Rc7 28.Qb3 fxe6
[Not 28...Qf2 29.Rxd6 Qxg2 30.Rc3± *(30.Rd1 Re8±)*]
29.Qxe6+ Kh8 And now ...Qf6 would win. **30.Qxd6 Qe7** 1.21/21
[30...Qe1+± 0.65/24 31.Ka2 Rbc8]



31.Qxe7± **Rxe7** Endgame KRR-KRB
32.d5 1.04/19
[⌓32.c4! 1.52/20]
32...b6 1.86/20
[32...Re1+± 1.04/19 33.Ka2 Re2]
33.d6+- Re6 2.80/24
[33...Re5± 1.55/21 was worth a try. 34.c3 *(34.d7 Rd8±)* 34...Rd8]
34.d7 Rd8 35.Bb7 a5

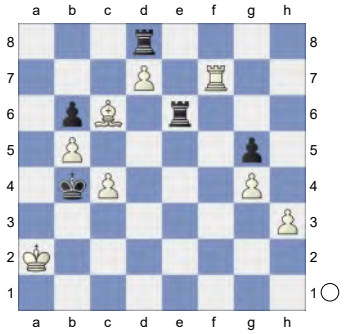


36.c4 g5 37.Ka2 Strongly threatening b4. **37...Kg7 38.b4 axb4** 2.36/23
[⌓38...Re5 1.91/24 39.bxa5 bxa5]
39.axb4 Re5 Against c5 **40.Bc6 Kf7**

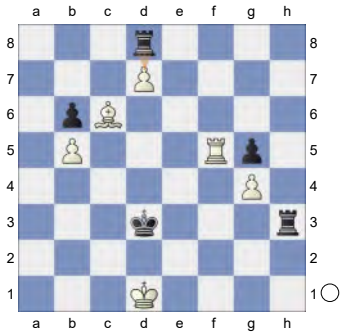


41.Rd6? 0.02/24
[41.Ka3+- 1.89/24]

41...Ke7= 42.Rxh6 Re6 1.10/25
[42...Re3= 0.05/26 43.Kb2 Rf8]
43.Rh7+ 0.74/23
[⌓43.Rxe6+ 1.10/25 Kxe6 44.b5]
43...Kd6± 44.b5 Kc5 2.31/24
[44...Re3± 0.83/23 might work better.]
45.Rf7? 0.01/24
[45.Rh5!+- 2.31/24]
45...Kb4 1.11/26
[45...Kxc4= 0.01/24 remains equal. 46.Kb2 Re2+ 47.Kc1 Kc5]

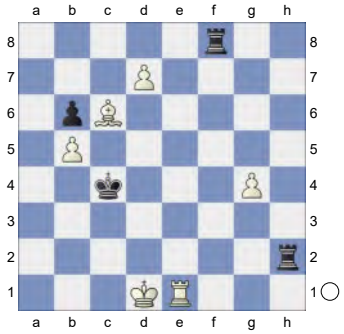


46.Kb2 Re2+ 47.Kc1 Kxc4 48.Kd1 0.91/23
[White should play 48.Rf5 1.41/27]
48...Kd3 2.34/27
[48...Re5± 0.91/23]
49.Rf3+? 0.16/22
[49.Rf5!+- 2.34/27 aiming for Rd5+. Rh2 50.Ke1 *(50.Rxg5? Rxd7 51.Rg8 Ra7-+)*]
49...Re3= 50.Rf5 Rxh3

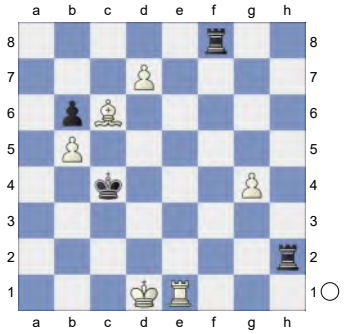


51.Rd5+ Kc4 2.13/25
[51...Ke4± 0.71/23 keeps fighting.]

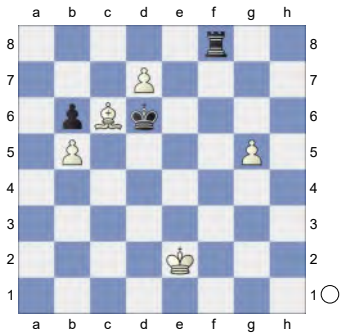
52.Rxg5 1.24/24
[52.Kd2+- 2.13/25]
52...Rh2 2.39/25
[52...Re3± 1.24/24 was called for. 53.Kd2 Re7]
53.Re5+- Rf8 8.58/27
[53...Rh7± 1.12/22]
54.Re8? 0.01/27
[54.Ke1+- 8.58/27 Rd8 55.Re8]
54...Rf1+= 55.Re1 Rf8



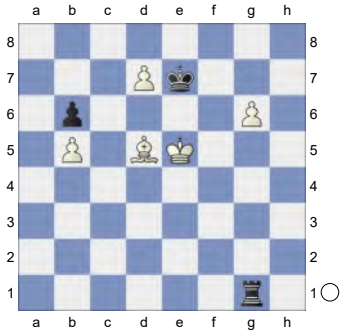
56.Re8 -0.01/22
[56.Re2± 1.18/28 Rxe2 57.Kxe2]
56...Rf1+ 57.Re1⇄ White is fighting back **57...Rf8**



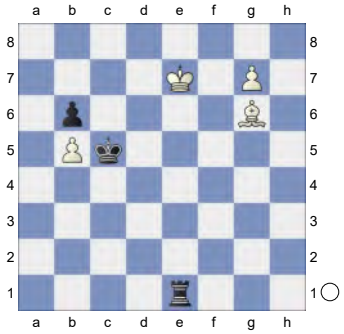
58.Re2 0.01/24
[58.g5!± 1.03/23 Black must now prevent g6. Ra2 59.g6 Ra1+ 60.Ke2 Rxe1+ 61.Kxe1]
58...Rxe2 59.Kxe2 Hoping for Ke3. KR-KB **59...Kc5?** 3.40/33
[59...Kd4!= 0.01/35 and Black is okay.]
60.g5? 0.01/33
[White should try 60.Kd3+- 3.40/33]
60...Kd6



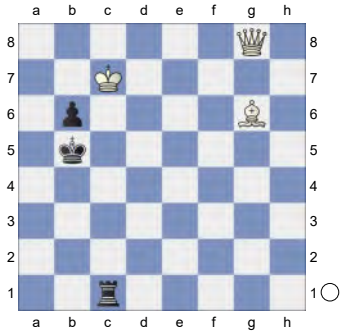
61.Ke3 Ke7? 13.22/29
[61...Ke5= 0.01/31]
62.Ke4+- Rf1 63.Ke5 Rf8 64.g6 Rf1 65.Bd5 Rg1



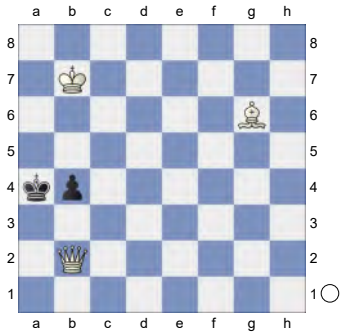
66.Bf7? -0.21/31
[66.Be4!+- 10.22/28 Rg5+ 67.Bf5]
66...Kxd7= 67.Kf6 Kd6? 10.16/25
Black is on the road to losing.
[67...Rf1+∓ -0.55/24 68.Kg5 Ke7]
68.g7+- Kc5 69.Bg6 Rf1+ 70.Ke7 Re1+



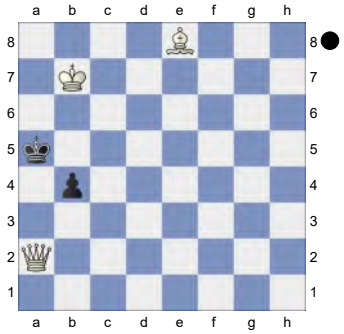
71.Kf8 8.95/23
[⊼71.Kd7 21.21/23 Rd1+ 72.Kc7]
71...Rf1+ 72.Ke7? -0.01/20
[72.Bf7+- 9.31/28]
72...Re1+= 73.Kd7 Rd1+ 74.Kc7 Kxb5 75.g8Q White mates. **75...Rc1+**



76.Kb7 Ka5 77.Qa2+ Kb5 78.Qb2+ Ka4 79.Qxc1 b5 80.Qb2 b4



81.Be8+ Ka5 82.Qa2#

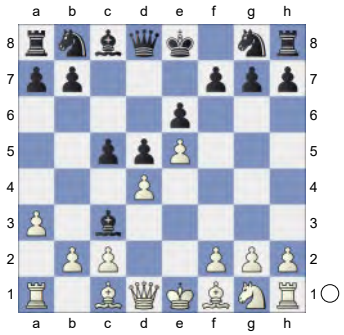


Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/ Black=0.42
1-0

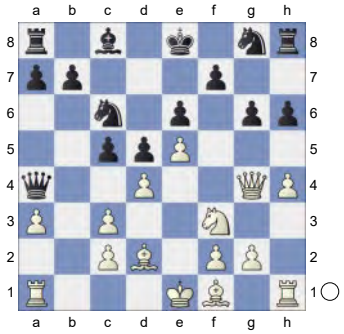
214 **C18**
□ **Moussard,J.** **2600**
■ **Nikolic,Predrag** **2535**
Bundesliga 2024-25 (7.6) 01.02.2025
[Kitty Kar]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qg4 g6 9.h4 Nc6 10.Nf3 h6

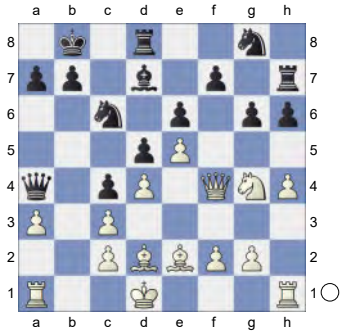


11.Qf4 White is slightly better. **11...c4 12.Kd1 Bd7 13.Be2N**

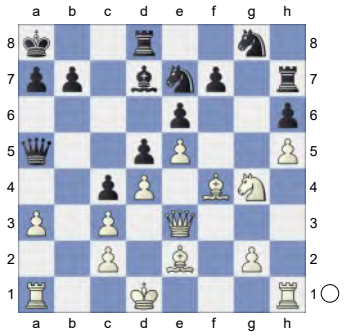
[13.Bc1 Rh7 14.Rh3 0-0-0 15.Rg3 Nge7 16.Rh3 Ng8 17.Rg3 Nge7 18.Rh3 ½-½ (18) Liu,Z (2242)-Storkan, Z (2493) Wijk 2023 Inf 94 [John Watson]]

13...Rh7 14.Nh2 0-0-0 15.Ng4 Kb8 0.88/20

[Black should try 15...h5⩲ 0.38/19 16.Ne3 Nce7]



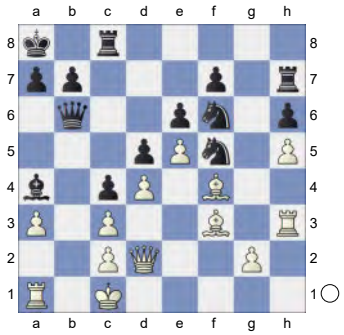
16.h5± g5 17.Qg3 Ka8 18.f4 gxf4 19.Bxf4 Qa5 20.Qe3 Nce7



21.Qd2 Nf5 22.Bf3 Ba4 23.Rh3 Qb6 24.Kc1 Inhibits Qb2+. **24...Rc8 25.Nf6**

[Don't play 25.Rb1?! Qa5⩲]

25...Nxf6



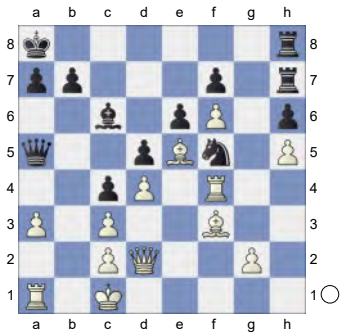
26.exf6 Rch8 27.Be5 Nd6 28.Rg3 Nf5 29.Rg4 Qa5 30.Rf4 0.83/22

[⌓30.Rb1 1.17/22]

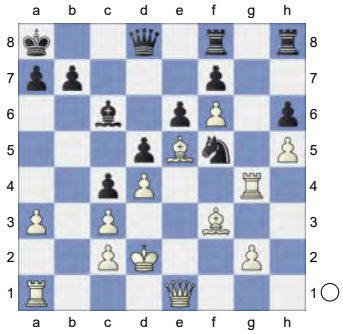
30...Bc6 1.18/19

[Black should play 30...Qd8 0.83/22]

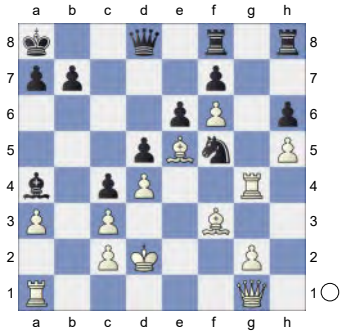
(Diagram)



31.Qe1 Qd8 32.Rg4 Rf8 33.Kd2 Rhh8 1.47/21
[⌓33...Re8 0.93/20]

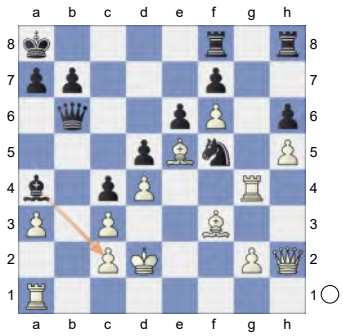


34.Qg1 1.11/21
[⌓34.Rg7! 1.47/21]
34...Ba4 1.68/21
[34...Rh7± 1.11/21]

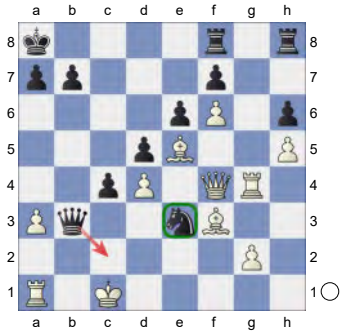


35.Qh2 1.14/19
[Better is 35.Rg7!+- 1.68/21]
35...Qb6

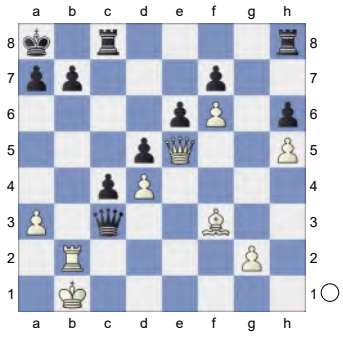
(Diagram)



36.Qf4 0.01/20
[36.Rc1± 1.18/21]
36...Bxc2!= And now ...Rfg8! would win. Really sharp! **37.Kxc2?** -5.27/21 This costs White the game.
[37.Kc1!= -0.01/22 and White is okay.]
37...Qb3+-+ Deflection. Black is clearly winning. **38.Kc1** -7.84/23
[⌓38.Kd2 -5.04/26 Qb2+ 39.Kd1 Qxa1+ 40.Qc1 Ne3+ 41.Kd2 Qxc1+ 42.Kxc1 Nxg4 43.Bxg4]
38...Qxc3+ 39.Kb1 Qb3+ 40.Kc1 Strongly threatening Qd2. **40...Ne3**



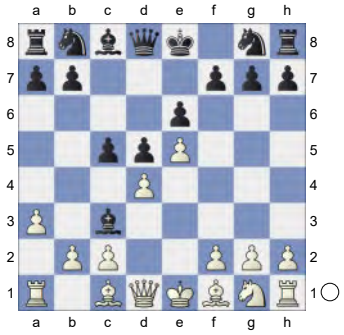
41.Ra2 Against Qc2+ **41...Nxg4 42.Rb2 Qc3+ 43.Kb1 Nxe5 44.Qxe5 Rc8**



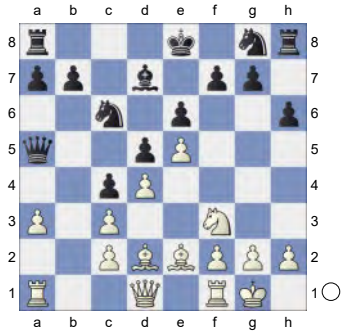
Weighted Error Value: White=0.71/ Black=0.41
0-1

215 **C18**
□ **Bologan,Viktor** **2600**
■ **Hungaski,Robert Andrew** **2477**
World Rapid 2024 (10.76) 28.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

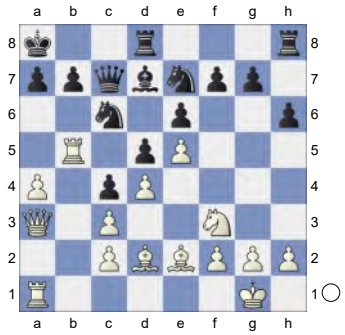
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



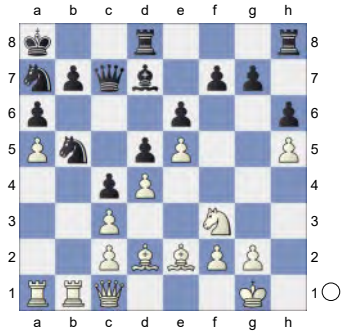
6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Qa5
[7...Bd7 8.h4 Qa5 9.Bd2 c4 10.a4 0-0-0 11.h5 f5 12.Qc1 Nh6 13.Qa3 Nf7 14.Be2 Rdg8 15.Kd1 g5 16.h6 g4 17.Ne1 Ng5 18.f3 gxf3 19.gxf3 Nf7 20.Bf1 Rg6 21.Ng2 Rhg8 22.Nf4 Bologan,V (2574)-Vastrukhin, O (2401) chess.com INT 2020 [John Watson] 0-1 (78)]
8.Bd2 c4 9.Be2N
[9.Nh4 Bd7 10.Qg4 g6 11.Qf4 h6 12.Nf3 Rh7 13.h4 0-0-0 14.Be2 Rf8 15.0-0 f5 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Qh2 Nge7 18.Rfe1 Rhf7 19.a4 Rf5 20.Reb1 h5 21.Qd6 Qc7 22.Qxc7+ Kxc7 23.Be3 Nc8 Martinez Duany,L (2486)-Carrasco Martinez,J (2354) Linares ESP 2023 [John Watson] 1-0 (49)]
[9.a4 Bd7 10.g3 0-0-0 11.h4 f5 12.Ng5 Rf8 13.h5 Nh6 14.Rh4 Nf7 15.Nxf7 ½-½ (15) Gashimov,V (2719)-Ponomariov,R (2734) Khanty Mansiysk 2009 Informant 107 [RR]]
9...Bd7 10.0-0 White is slightly better.
10...h6



11.a4 0-0-0 12.Qc1 Kb8 13.Qa3 Ka8 14.Rfb1 Nge7 15.Rb5
[15.Qb2 b6=]
15...Qc7

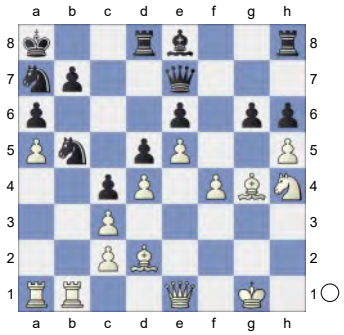


16.a5 a6 17.Rbb1 Nc8 18.h4 N6a7 19.h5 Nb5 20.Qc1 Nca7

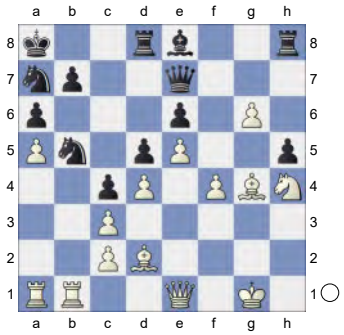


21.Nh4 Be8 22.f4 -0.10/18
[22.Qe1± 0.33/17]

22...Qe7 0.21/15
[⌓22...g5 -0.10/18 23.fxg5 hxg5]
23.Qe1= f5 24.g4 fxg4 25.Bxg4 g6? 2.04/19
[25...Rg8!= 0.01/19 and Black stays safe.]

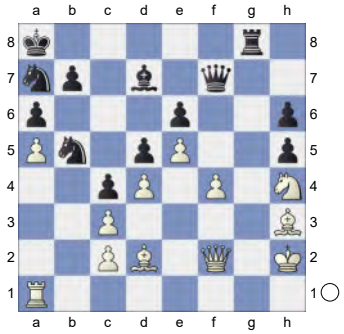


26.Kh2? 0.18/20
[26.Nxg6 Bxg6 27.hxg6 h5⩲]
[26.hxg6+- 2.04/19 Threatens to win with f5. h5

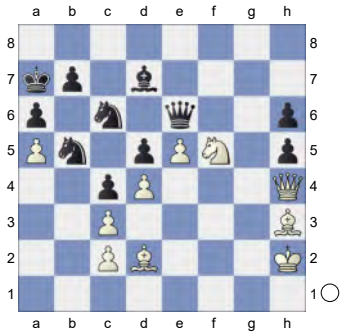


27.Bxe6! Qxe6 28.f5]
26...gxh5 0.54/20
[26...Rg8= 0.18/20 is more appropriate.]
27.Bh3⩲ Qf7 28.Qf2
[But not 28.f5 exf5 29.Nxf5 *(29.Bxf5 Nc6∓)* 29...Qh7=]
28...Bd7 29.Rg1 Rdg8 30.Rxg8+ 0.15/19
[30.f5± 0.76/20]
30...Rxg8=

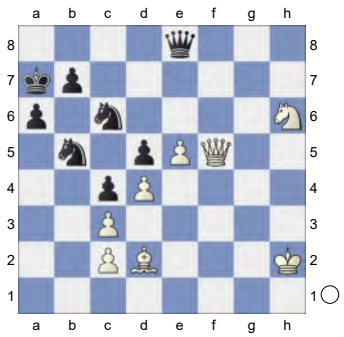
(Diagram)



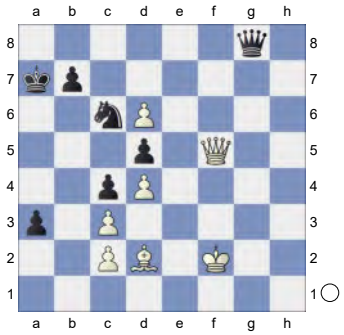
31.Rg1 0.01/22
[31.f5⩲ 0.37/19 should be considered.]
31...Nc6 32.Rxg8+ Qxg8 33.f5 exf5
[Much less strong is 33...Nxa5 34.f6 Be8 35.Qe3±]
34.Nxf5 Qe6 0.30/21
[34...Qh7 -0.01/19 deserves consideration.]
35.Qh4 Ka7



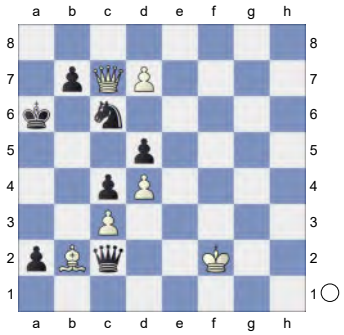
36.Qxh5 Nxa5 37.Bg4 Nc6 38.Nxh6 -0.51/21
[White should try 38.Ne3⩲ 0.59/20 Qe7 39.Bf3 *(39.Nxd5 Bxg4 40.Qxg4 Qf7±)*]
38...Qe7∓ 39.Bxd7 Qxd7 40.Qf5 Qe8



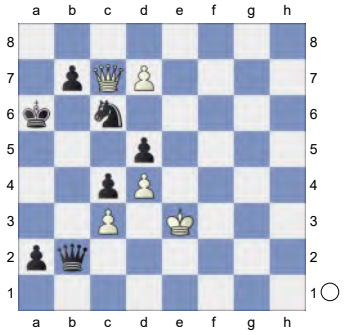
41.Nf7 -1.64/20
[White should play 41.Qf3∓ -0.56/20]
41...a5-+ 42.Kg3 -1.63/18
[42.Bc1∓ -1.22/17]
42...a4 Hoping for ...a3. **43.Nd6** -2.38/23
[43.Kg4∓ -1.58/16 was worth a try.]
43...Nxd6 44.exd6 Qg8+ 45.Kf2 a3



46.Bc1 a2 47.Bb2 Kb6 48.Qd7? -22.10/22
[48.Ba1 -1.99/22]
48...Qg6 49.Qc7+ Ka6 50.d7 Qxc2+



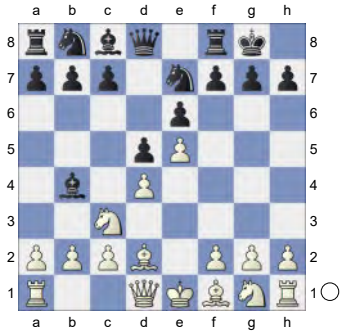
51.Ke3 Qxb2



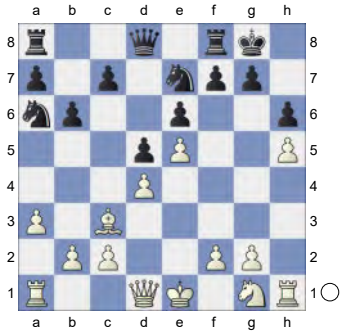
Weighted Error Value: White=0.57/ Black=0.14 (very precise)
0-1

216 **C16**
☐ **Kadric,Denis** **2600**
■ **Milanovic,Slavisa** **2316**
BIH-chT1 30th (2.1) 27.08.2023

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.Bd2 0-0

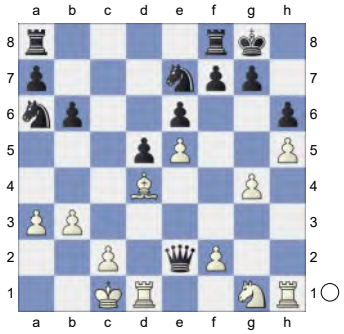


6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 b6 8.h4!? An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **8...Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.h5N**
[Vorgänger: 10.Qd3 Nb8 11.Nf3 h6 12.g4 c5 13.Bd2 cxd4 14.Ng5 hxg5 15.hxg5 Ng6 16.Qh3 1-0 Seils,J (2355)-Rausch,S (2315) GER-ch 65th Bad Wildbad 1993 (9)]
10...h6

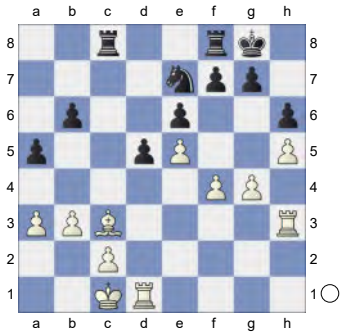


11.Qe2 Qc8 12.0-0-0 c5 13.g4 cxd4 14.Bxd4 Qc4 15.b3 Qxe2

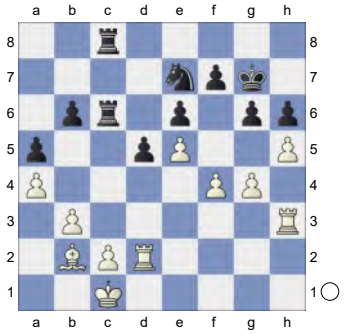
(Diagram)



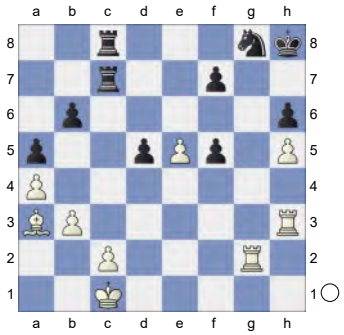
16.Nxe2 Rac8 17.f4 Nc5 18.Rh3 Ne4 19.Nc3 Nxc3 20.Bxc3 a5



21.a4 Rc6 22.Bb2 Rfc8 23.Rd2 Kf8 24.Rf3 g6 25.Rh3 Kg7

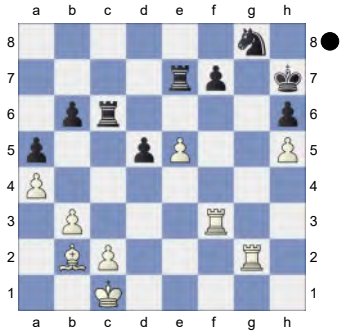


26.Ba3 R6c7 27.Rdh2 Ng8 28.f5 gxf5 29.gxf5 exf5 30.Rg2+ Kh8



31.Bb2 Re7 32.Rf3 Rc6 33.Rxf5 Kh7

34.Rf3



1-0

217 **C15**

□ **Dolmatov,Sergey** **2600**

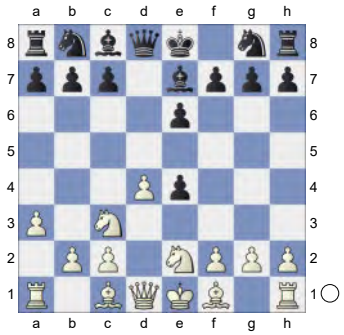
■ **Svetushkin,Dmitry** **2486**

Linares Anibal op 07th (7) 13.01.2000

[Lukacs,Peter]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 dxe4 5.a3 Be7

[5...Bxc3+ 6.Nxc3 Nc6 7.d5 exd5 8.Qxd5]

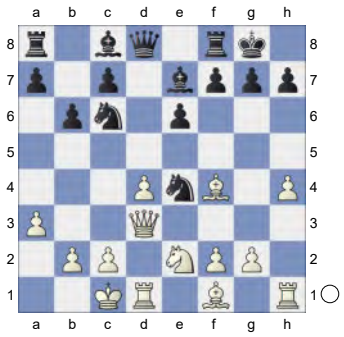


6.Nxe4 Nf6 7.Qd3 Nc6 8.Bf4 0-0 9.0-0-0 b6 10.h4 Nxe4

[10...Bb7 11.Nxf6+ The ♘ belongs to e5 in this variation. *(11.N2g3 Qd7* This is an important prophylactic move to improve the ♔'s position. *12.Ng5 h6 13.Nh5 g6 14.Nxf6+* Both kings are looking for a safe shelter before the fight. *Bxf6 15.Nf3 Kg7*

This one of the benefit of ♗c2. *16.Qe3 Rh8 17.Ne5; 11.N2c3±* Marjanovic-Spiridinov, Yerevan 1989 *Nb8* - Adams-Seirawan, Mermaid Beach Club Match Bermuda 1999 CBM 69 *12.Nxf6+ Bxf6 13.Qg3 c6 14.Ne4 Kh8 15.Bd3; 11.Ng5 e5 12.Bg3 Bd6 13.d5 Ne7 14.c4 h6 15.Nc3 Bc8)* 11...Bxf6 12.Qg3 Δ ♖ed1 doubling on the only opened ⇔. Rc8 13.Bg5 Qd6 14.Bxf6 Qxg3 15.Nxg3 gxf6 16.Nh5± Δ g4 A.Sokolov-Spragett, Saint John CAN 1988]

[10...Nd5 11.Bd2 e5 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Qg3 Ng4 14.f3 f5 15.N4c3 Bd6 16.Nf4]



11.Qxe4 Bb7 12.d5

[12.Nc3 Na5 13.d5 Bd6= Akhmadeev-Burmakin, Chigorin mem 1999 14.Bxd6!? cxd6 15.Bd3 g6 16.h5 Qf6 17.hxg6 This is the typical manoeuvre here to open the d ⇔ and threatening sometimes with ♗a4. hxg6 18.Rh3]

12...exd5 13.Rxd5 Bd6

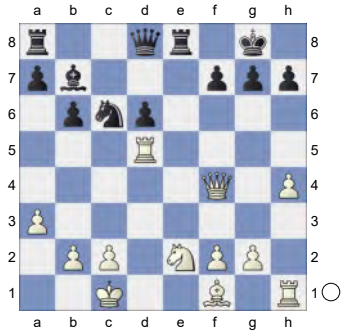
[13...Qc8+- 14.Nc3 Bf6 15.Bd3 g6

A) 16.Bg5 Re8 The exchange of the dark-squared ♗ is a relief for Black. *(16...Bxc3 17.bxc3 Nd8 18.h5 Bxd5 19.Qxd5)* 17.Qf4 Be5 18.Rxe5 Nxe5 19.Be4 c6;

B) 16.h5 Re8 *(16...Ne7 17.hxg6 hxg6 18.Be5)* 17.Qf3 *(17.Qc4 Qg4 18.hxg6±* with a corrupted ♙ structure for Black, Dolmatov-Klimm, Ciudadde Obeda op 2000. *hxg6* is the logical reply here.*)* 17...Ne7 18.hxg6 hxg6 White's plan is a direct march with his pawns on the ». 19.Be4 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 Bxd5 21.Bxd5 Rb8 This is a useful move in this line. 22.Be5]

14.Bxd6 cxd6 15.Qf4 Re8

[15...Ne5 is also met by the standard centralization: 16.Rd1 Rc8 × f7 has to be defended. 17.Nc3± with some pressure and space advantage. Re8? 18.Rh3 Re6]



16.Rxd6 White has only a minimal positional advantage here due to his active pieces.

[16.Qxd6

A) 16...Qc8 17.Nc3 Δ h5 creating a remote ♔ . *(17.Qd7?!* creates additional weaknesses in Black's ♙ structure. *Qb8±)* 17...Rd8 18.Qf4± Rxd5 19.Nxd5± Δ g4 leaving the ⇗ h1-a8. Qe6 20.Bc4± Ne5 White cannot make profit from the pin on the h2-g8 ⇗. 21.Rd1 Rd8 *(21...Nxc4 22.Qxc4 Rd8 23.Qc7=)* 22.Qg5;

B) 16...Ne5 17.Qxd8 Raxd8 18.Rxd8 Rxd8 19.f3 h5 *(19...Nc4 20.Nf4* but not *Ne3?! 21.Bd3)*

B1) 20.Nf4 Rd4 *(20...Nxf3*

21.gxf3 Bxf3± 22.Bg2);

B2) 20.Nc3 was also enough, for example: 20...Ng6 21.Bc4 Rd4 22.Bd3

B2a) 22...Rxh4 23.Re1 Rh2!+- *(23...Kf8+- 24.Bb5 Ne7 25.Rd1)* 24.Bxg6 fxg6 25.Re7 Ba6 26.Rxa7 Bf1 27.g3;

B2b) 22...Nf4 23.Bf1 Rd6]

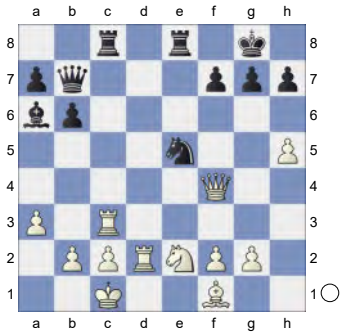
16...Qe7 17.Rh3 Ne5?! In case of mass exchanges on the d ⇔ the ♔ is better in the ⊞. **18.Rd2**

[18.Rd1]

18...Ba6 19.Rc3!

[19.Re3 Rac8 20.Kb1 Qc5 21.Rc3 Qe7 22.Rxc8 Rxc8 23.Rd1]

19...Qb7 20.h5 Rac8

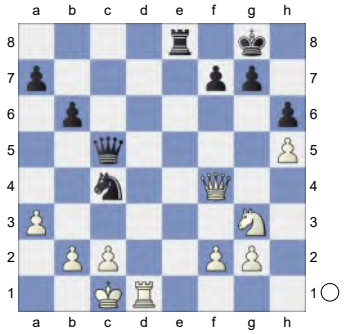


21.Rxc8 Qxc8 22.Ng3 Bxf1 23.Nxf1 Nc4 24.Rd1 h6? Black forgets about the retreat of his ♗. **25.Ng3!+-** Now the ♗ is in a big trouble.

[25.Nd2 The centralized white bishops dominate the whole board. Nxd2 *(25...Ne5 26.Ne4)* 26.Qxd2 Qc4 27.Qd7 Rc8 28.c3]

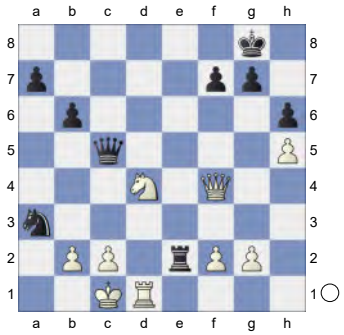
25...Qc5

(Diagram)



26.Nf5 double attack. **26...Re2 27.Nd4! Nxa3**

[27...Nxa3 28.Qb8+ *(28.bxa3* The second ♁ is coming. *Qxa3+ 29.Kb1 Qb4+)* 28...Kh7 29.bxa3 Qxa3+ liquidating for a winning ⊥. 30.Kb1 Rxf2 *(30...Qb4+ 31.Nb3 Qc3 32.Rc1 Rxf2 33.Qxa7)* 31.Nb3 Rxg2 32.Qf4]



1-0

218 **C19**

□ **Korneev,Oleg** **2600**

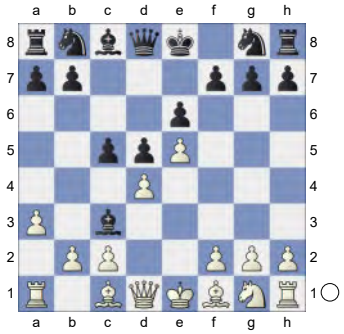
■ **Gomez Esteban,Juan Mario** **2475**

Elgoibar 08th (1) 21.11.1998

[Mikhalevski,Victor]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Nf3 Bd7 8.Bd3

[8.dxc5]

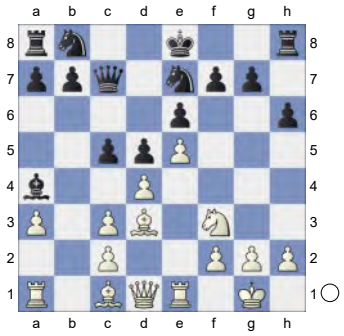
8...Ba4 9.0-0

[9.Ng5? h6! 10.Qh5 g6!-+ 11.Qh4 Nf5!-+ 12.Bxf5?? gxf5 13.Qh5 Qe7!+- 14.Nh3?? *(14.Bf4 Bxc2 15.Ra2 Bd3 16.dxc5 Nd7 17.c6 bxc6 18.Ra1!? Rb8 19.Be3 Rb3)* 14...Nd7! 15.Bg5 Qf8 16.Bh4 cxd4+- 17.cxd4!? Qg7]

9...Qc7 For the first time this move was tested in the European Championship under 10!Gomez Esteban gives it another chance. **10.Re1**

[10.h4 Nd7 11.h5 with the initiative on the queen side. h6 12.Re1 Dangerous 0-0-0 as after 13.Nh4 difficult to find a good defence against ♕c6 , ♕:b2 and ♗:f3Δg5. Kb8 14.Bd2 Rc8 15.Ra2 Nc6 16.Qg4! Qa5 17.Nf3!∓ c4 18.Bf1! Rcg8!?]

10...h6!?



The idea of this move is to take under control the b1(!)-square that can be important after 11. ♗g2(see below).

11.dxc5 avoiding all the tricks,but losing important time.

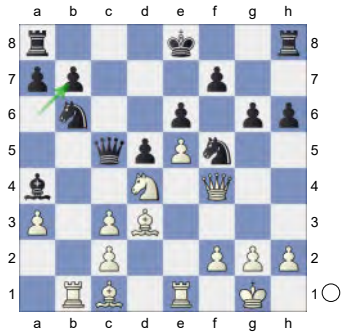
[11.Nh4!+- Nd7 12.f4 0-0-0± 13.Nf3 Kb8 14.Be3 Qa5 and a strong pass pawn supported by a rook from a1 is very dangerous. 15.Qd2!? Rc8 16.Rab1! cxd4 17.Nxd4 Nc5 18.Rb4 Rhd8 19.Reb1± Rd7]

11...Nd7 12.Nd4 Qxc5

[12...Nxc5 13.Bb5+ *(13.Nb5 Bxb5 14.Bxb5+ Nd7 15.Qg4 Qxc3 16.Bf4)* 13...Kf8 see 34... ♔g7 14.Qf3 Kg8 15.Bxa4 Nxa4 16.Nb5± Qd7? 17.Rb1+- Ng6? 18.c4!+- a6!? 19.Nd4 Nc5]

13.Rb1 Nb6 14.Qg4 g6 15.Qf4! Nf5

[15...Qxc3 16.Bd2□± Qc7 17.Qf6 Rh7 18.Bb5+ Bxb5 19.Nxb5 Qxc2 20.Bb4!±]



preparing ♗b7 and stoping c4-c5 forever.

16.Nxf5

[16.Rb4! A good example of the "pin" theme. Qxc3□ 17.Bd2 Qxa3 18.Rxa4± Nxa4 19.Bb5+ Kd8 20.Bxa4]

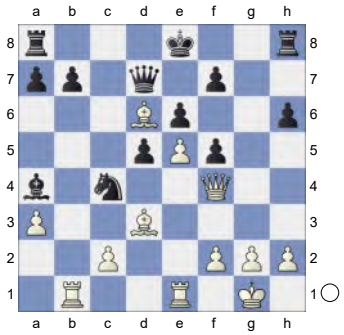
16...gxf5

[16...exf5 17.e6]

17.Be3!? Qxc3 Here the first results of the opening:1)Black have finished developing successfully;2)the a8-h1 diagonal is open for his bishop and finally very unpleasant f7-f6 is threatening.I think Black is already

better. **18.Bd2 Qc7 19.Bb4!?** The f-file must be closed even at the cost of a pawn. **19...Nc4∓ 20.Bd6!** A clever way to get counterplay on the queenside. **20...Qd7**

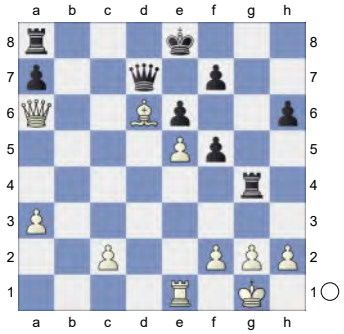
[20...Qc6 21.Qh4]



21.Bxc4 dxc4 22.Qxc4 Rg8

[22...Rc8 23.Qd4 Bxc2+- 24.Rbc1??]

23.Rxb7 Qxb7 24.Qxa4+ Qd7 25.Qa6 Black should find a moment to take on b4. **25...Rg4**



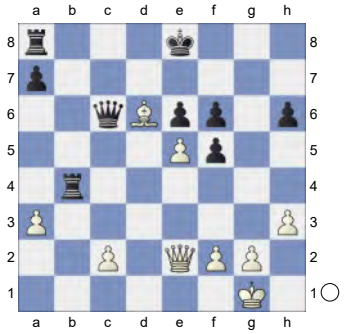
26.Rb1 By the series of strong moves White strenghtens a pressure on the queen side.Everything is ready for a4-a5. **26...Ra4**

[26...Rc8! The most direct way to a win. 27.Rb7 Ra4 28.Rxd7 Rxa6 29.Re7+ Kd8]

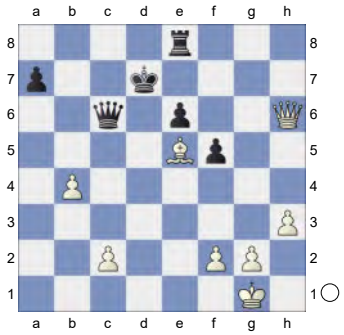
27.Qd3 Qc6 Probably the time-pressure has interfered into the game and Black is just waiting. **28.h3**

[28.Qg3+- Now it's over. Rg4]

28...f6 29.Qe2!? Rh4 30.Rb4 Rxb4?



Black should refrain from this careless move.Now the a5-pawn is unblocked and White is already on top. **31.Qh5+ Kd8 32.axb4** The pin along the d-file in combination with the threats ♗:c5 and ♕ a4 is very unpleasant. **32...fxe5** It doesn't prevent ♗:c5,but a good advice is already very expensive. **33.Qxh6! Kd7?** This is a serious tactical mistake. Black should retreat on b8 immediately or after 33... ♗:c5.Now White obtains a big advantage. **34.Bxe5! Re8?**

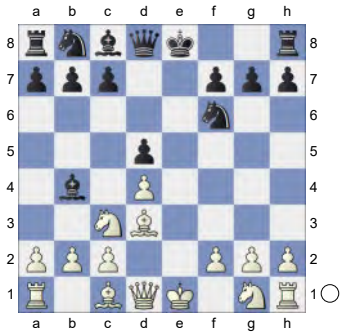


Decisive mistake.Black had to defend his queen by 34... ♔g7 or 34... ♔g8 with some chances for escaping.

1-0

219 **C01**
□ **Anderssen,Adolf** **2600**
■ **Kipping,J.** **0**
Manchester 1857
[Fritz 6 (5s)]

1.e4 e6 Opening = C39 - Königsspr G-Allgaier,Kieseritzky/Kings KG-Allgaier, Kieseritzky **2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nf6**



6.Nf3

[6.Nge2 0-0 7.0-0 Re8 8.Bg5 c6 9.Ng3 h6 10.Bf4 0-1 Short,N-Shirov, A/Madrid 1997 (28) Bd6 11.Qd2 Bxf4 12.Qxf4 Be6 13.Nd1 Nbd7 14.Ne3 Nf8 15.Nef5 Ng6 16.Qf3 Nh7 17.Rfe1 Nh4 18.Nxh4 Qxh4 19.c3 Nf8 20.Re3 Qg4]

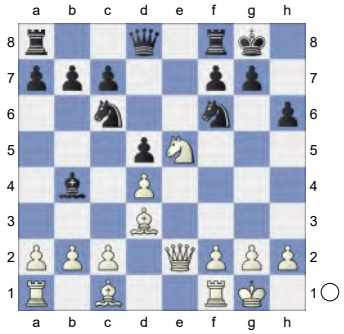
[6.h3 0-0 7.Qf3 c5 8.dxc5 Nc6 9.Nge2 d4 10.a3 dxc3 11.axb4 cxb2 12.Bxb2 Nxb4 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Qxf6 Nxd3+ 15.cxd3 gxf6 16.Kd2 Bd7 17.Rhb1 Bc6 18.f3 Rfd8 19.Kc3]

6...0-0 7.0-0N h6

[7...Bg4 8.Ne2 *(8.Kh1 c6 9.Ne2 Bd6 10.Ne5 Nbd7 11.f4 Re8 12.Bd2 Nf8 13.h3 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 N6d7 15.Qf2 f6 16.Rae1 fxe5 17.fxe5 Bc7 18.Qf7+ Kh8 19.Qh5 Re6 20.Rf7 Qe8 21.Ref1 h6 22.Qg4 Bxe5; 8.Bg5* Winants,L-Almasi,Z/Wijk aan Zee 1995/0-1 (66) *c6 9.Be2 Nbd7 10.Ne5 Bxe2 11.Nxe2 Qc7 12.Nxd7 Nxd7 13.Bf4 Bd6 14.Qd2 Rae8 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.Rae1 f5 17.Nf4 Re4 18.g3 Rfe8 19.f3 R4e7 20.Kg2 Kf7 21.Nd3 Rxe1 22.Rxe1 Rxe1 23.Qxe1 Qe7 24.Ne5+ Kg8 25.Kf2)* 8...Bxf3 9.gxf3 Nh5 10.Ng3 Nxg3 11.hxg3 Bd6 12.Kg2 f5 13.Rh1 g6 14.c4 c5 15.dxc5 Bxc5 16.cxd5 Bd6 17.Bc4 Nd7 18.Be3 Rc8 19.Bb3 b6 20.Bd4 Qg5 21.f4 Qd8 22.Rxh7]

[7...Re8 8.Re1]

8.Ne2 Bg4= 9.Ne5 Bxe2 10.Qxe2 Nc6



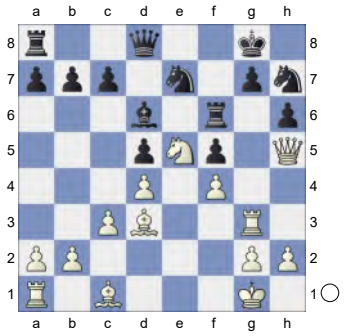
11.c3∓ The pressure on the isolated pawn grows **11...Bd6 12.f4-+ Ne7 13.Rf3 Nh7**

[13...Re8 14.Re3]

14.Rg3 f5!

[14...Nf6 15.Ng4 Ng6 16.Qf3]

15.Qh5 Rf6

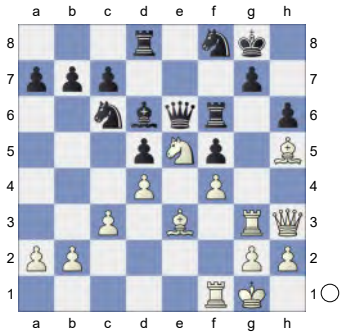


16.Be3 Qe8 17.Qh3 Nf8 18.Be2?-+

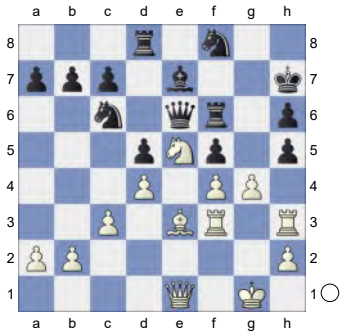
[18.c4 c6]

18...Nc6

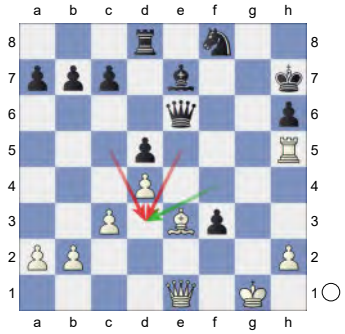
[18...Qa4∓ 19.Qh5]
19.Rf1 Rd8 20.Bh5 Qe6
[20...Qe7 21.Re1]



21.Rff3
[21.Bf2!?= Qc8]
21...Kh8
[21...Kh7]
[21...Ne7∓ 22.Qh4!?∓]
22.Qh4
[22.Bc1 Ne7∓ 23.Re3?! Qg8]
22...Be7 23.Rh3 Kh7 24.Qe1
[24.Rfg3!?]
24...g6∓ 25.g4
[25.Bd2∓ gxh5 *(25...Nxe5 26.fxe5∓ ⌓Rf7!? 27.Bxg6+ Nxg6 28.Rxh6+-+ Kg8 29.Rxg6+; 25...Kh8 26.Re3-+ ⌓gxh5 27.Nxc6! Qxc6∓ 28.Rxe7)* 26.Re3]
[25.Bf2 Nxe5 26.Re3 *(26.dxe5 Rf7±)*]
25...gxh5∓

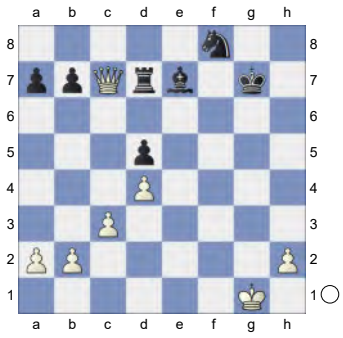


26.Rxh5∓
[26.g5-+ ⌓Nxe5!? 27.dxe5]
26...fxg4= 27.f5
[⌓27.Rg3 Nxe5 28.dxe5-+]
[≤27.Qb1+ Kg7 28.Rg3 Nxe5 29.dxe5]
27...Nxe5
[27...gxf3 28.fxe6 Nxe5=]
28.Rf4
[28.dxe5
A) 28...gxf3 29.fxe6 Rg6+ 30.Kf1 Nxe6 31.Rf5 *(31.Bxa7 Rf8 32.Qb1 Bg5)*;
B) 28...Qxe5 29.Qg3 *(29.Rf1 Qe4)* 29...Qxg3+∓ 30.Rxg3 *(30.hxg3 gxf3 31.Kf2 Nd7)*]
28...Rxf5=
[28...Qd6]
[28...Nd3 29.fxe6-+ Nxe1?! *(29...Nxf4 30.Bxf4-+ Rxf4 31.Qe5; 29...Rxf4 30.Qb1-+ Rf6 31.Qxd3+∓ Kg7 32.Qe2)* 30.Rxh6+∓ Rxh6 31.Rf7+ Kg6 32.Bxh6 Nf3+ 33.Kg2 Re8 34.Bxf8 Bxf8 35.Rxc7 Rxe6]
[28...Nf3+ 29.Rxf3∓ Qf7!?∓]
29.Rfxf5
[29.Rhxf5 Nd3]
29...Nf3+
[29...Nf7 30.Qg3 Bd6 *(30...Ng6)*]
30.Rxf3∓ gxf3

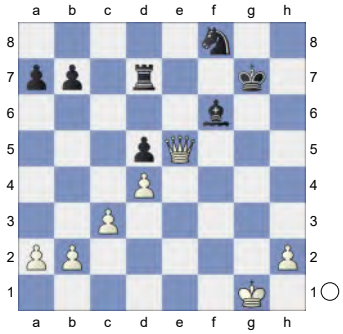


Attacks the isolani on d3 **31.Rxh6+∓ Qxh6 32.Bxh6 f2+ 33.Qxf2?-+**
[33.Kxf2-+ Kxh6]
33...Kxh6 34.Qf4+ Kg7 35.Qxc7 Rd7

(Diagram)



36.Qe5+ Bf6

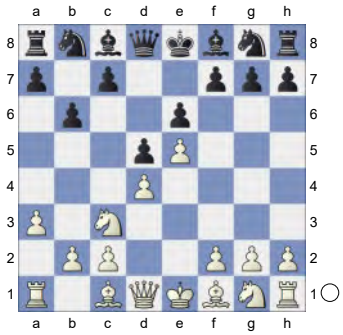


0-1

220 **C16**
□ **Bernadskiy,Vitaliy** **2599**
■ **Xiong,Jeffery** **2709**
PNWCC Online Blitz JP 22 (2) 21.03.21
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8



6.f4 Ne7 7.Nf3 Qd7 8.Be3 h5

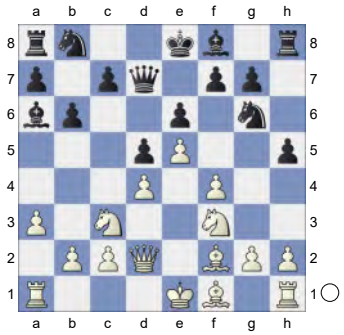
[8...a5 9.h3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.g4 c5 12.Qe2 Nc6 13.0-0-0 c4 14.f5 Nc7 15.Rhf1 b5 16.fxe6 fxe6 17.Ng5 Nd8 18.Qf2 Be7 19.Qh4 b4 20.Nb1 Bxg5 21.Qxg5 Qe7 22.Qh5+ Nf7 23.g5 Ernst,T (2525)-Adams,M (2615) London 1991 CI1-130 [Ernst, Thomas] 1-0 (48)]

9.Bf2 Ng6N White is slightly better.

[9...Nf5 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Qd3 Nb8 13.Ne2 c5 C 16/15]

[9...Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.0-0-0 Nbc6 13.h3 Ng6 14.Ne2 h4 15.Kb1 0-0-0 16.c4 dxc4 17.Qxc4 Nce7 18.Be3 Nd5 19.Bc1 Nge7 20.g4 hxg3 21.Nxg3 g6 22.Ng5 Qe8 23.h4 Bh6 24.h5 6.Nge2 f6 7.Nf4 fe5 (2272)-Mikhailov, S (2547) Stockholm 2012 Lexikon09 [FS 12/1979 p311] 0-1 (57)]

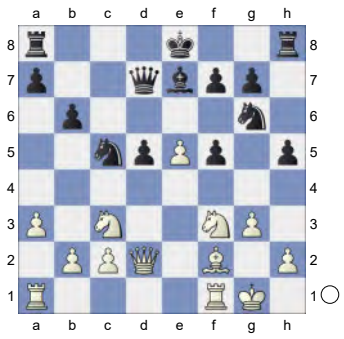
10.Qd2 Ba6



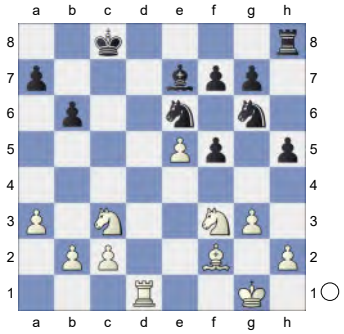
11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.0-0 Be7 13.g3 c5 14.dxc5 Nxc5 15.f5 0.05/21

[15.Qe2± 0.50/18]

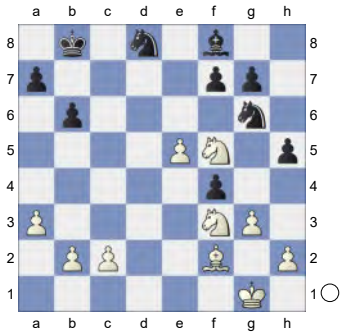
15...exf5=



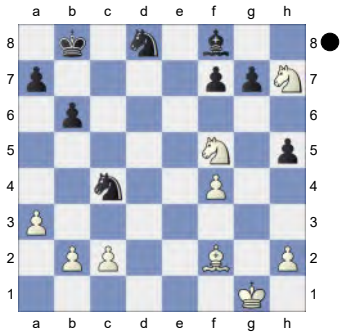
16.Qxd5 Rd8 17.Qxd7+
[17.Rad1 feels hotter. Qc8 18.Qc4 0-0 19.Nd5]
17...Rxd7 18.Rad1 Ne6 0.76/21
[18...0-0= -0.01/21]
19.Rxd7± Kxd7 20.Rd1+ 0.19/21
[20.Nb5± 0.72/22]
20...Kc8



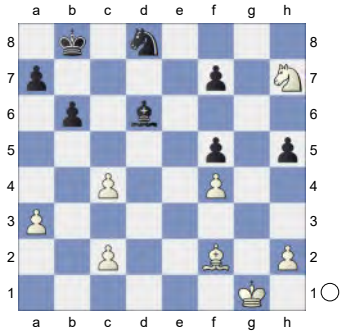
21.Nb5 Kb8 22.Rd7 Rd8! 23.Rxd8+ Nxd8 24.Nbd4 f4 25.Nf5 Bf8



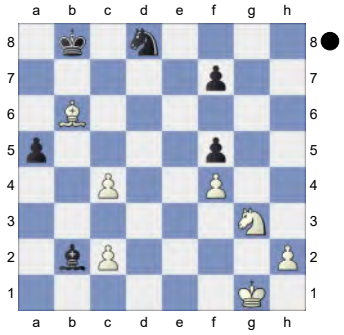
26.Ng5 -0.26/20
[⊿26.Kf1 0.17/21]
26...Nxe5= 27.gxf4 Nc4 28.Nh7



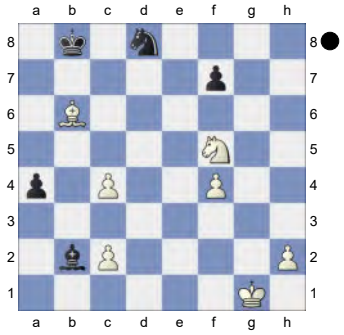
Bd6 0.08/23
[28...g6!∓ -0.36/21]
29.b3 g6 30.bxc4 -0.62/24
[30.Nxd6= -0.10/24 Nxd6 31.Ng5]
30...gxf5



Endgame KBN-KBN **31.Nf6** -1.40/25
[Better is 31.c5!∓ -0.50/25 bxc5 32.Nf6]
31...Bxa3∓ 32.Nxh5 Bb2! 33.Ng3 a5
White must now prevent ...a4. **34.Bxb6**

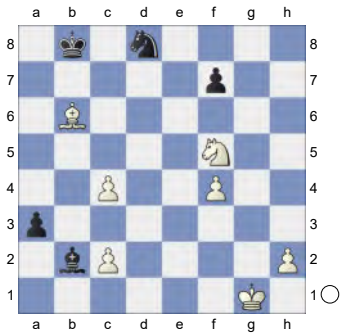


a4! 35.Nxf5? -8.44/23
[Don't go for 35.Bxd8? a3 36.Kf2 a2-+]
[35.Bc5∓ -1.38/24]

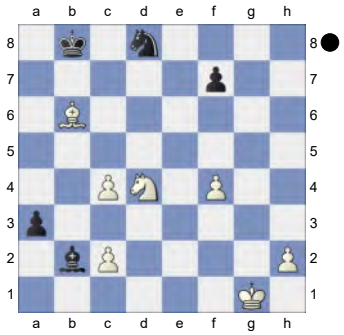


35...a3!-+

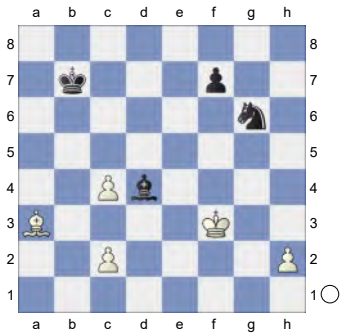
(Diagram)



36.Nd4
[36.Bxd8 a2]

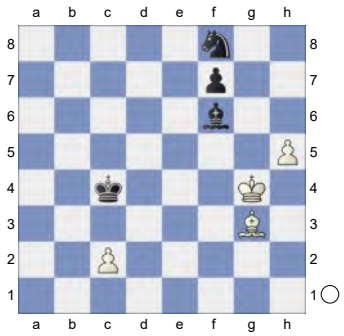


36...Kb7! -3.81/22 **37.Bc5 Ne6** -2.03/24
[⌓37...a2 -3.86/25 38.Nb3 Nc6]
38.Bxa3 Bxd4+
[And not 38...Bxa3 39.Nxe6 fxe6 40.Kf2=]
39.Kg2 Nxf4+ 40.Kf3 Ng6

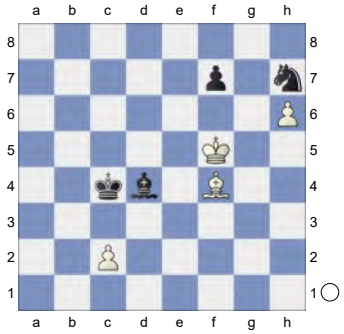


41.Kg4 -3.07/25
[⌓41.Ke4 -2.09/25 Bf6 42.Bc1]
41...Bf6 42.Bd6 Kc6 43.Bg3 -3.52/26
[43.Kf5 -1.90/25]
43...Kc5 44.h4 Kxc4 45.h5 Nf8

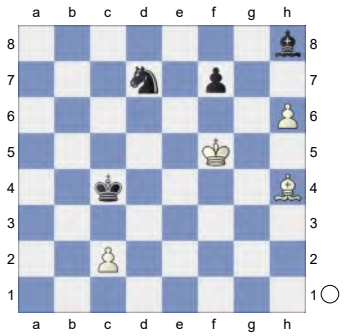
(Diagram)



46.h6? -6.17/32
[46.Kf5 -2.76/26 Nh7 47.Be5]
46...Nh7 47.Kf5 Kd5 48.Bf4 Bc3 49.Be3 Kc4 50.Bf4 Bd4

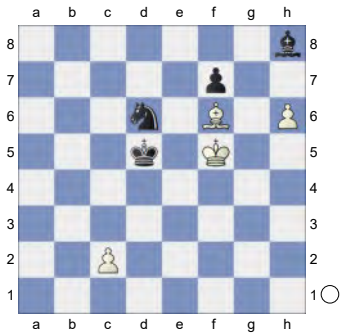


51.Bd2 Bh8 52.Be1 Nf8 53.Bh4 Nd7 Prevents Bf6. **54.Be1 Nc5?** 0.01/28
[54...Nb6-+ -3.47/29 Hoping for ... Nd5. 55.Bh4 Nd5]
55.Bh4!= Nd7



Against Bf6. aiming for ...Kc3. **56.Be1 Nb6 57.Bg3 Kd5** Prevents Be5. **58.Bh4 Nc4 59.Bf6?** -11.82/25
[59.Bg5 -2.60/22]
59...Nd6+

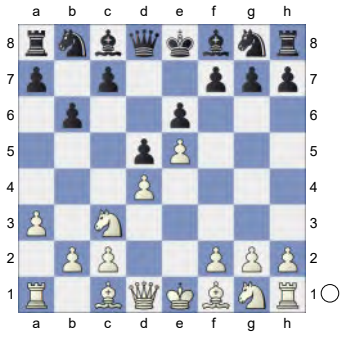
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/ Black=0.24 (precise)
0-1

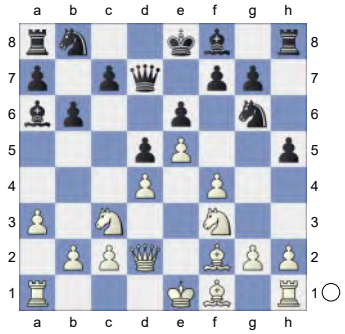
221 **C16**
□ **3.Bh4 Nh6!** **2599**
■ **Tymrakiewicz,R..** **2709**
RUS-chT 16th (2) 21.03.2021
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8

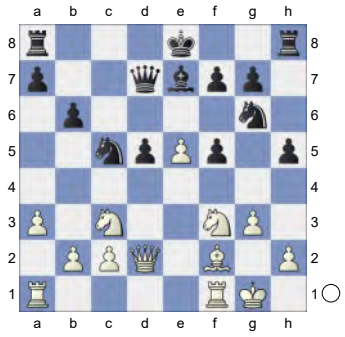


6.f4 Ne7 7.Nf3 Qd7 8.Be3 h5
[8...a5 9.h3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.g4 c5 12.Qe2 Nc6 13.0-0-0 c4 14.f5 Nc7 15.Rhf1 b5 16.fxe6 fxe6 17.Ng5 Nd8 18.Qf2 Be7 19.Qh4 b4 20.Nb1 Bxg5 21.Qxg5 Qe7 22.Qh5+ Nf7 23.g5 Ernst,T (2525)-Adams,M (2615) London 1991 CI1-130 [Ernst, Thomas] 1-0 (48)]

9.Bf2 Ng6N White is slightly better.
[9...Nf5 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Qd3 Nb8 13.Ne2 c5 C 16/15]
[9...Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.0-0-0 Nbc6 13.h3 Ng6 14.Ne2 h4 15.Kb1 0-0-0 16.c4 dxc4 17.Qxc4 Nce7 18.Be3 Nd5 19.Bc1 Nge7 20.g4 hxg3 21.Nxg3 g6 22.Ng5 Qe8 23.h4 Bh6 24.h5 6.Nge2 f6 7.Nf4 fe5 (2272)-Mikhailov, S (2547) Stockholm 2012 Lexikon09 [FS 12/1979 p311] 0-1 (57)]
10.Qd2 Ba6

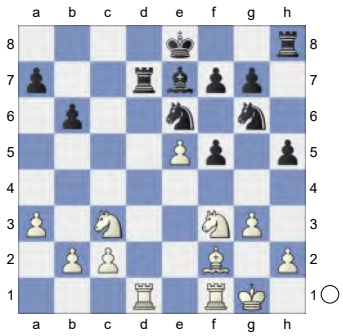


11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.0-0 Be7 13.g3 c5 14.dxc5 Nxc5 15.f5 0.01/20
[15.Rae1± 0.47/17]
15...exf5=

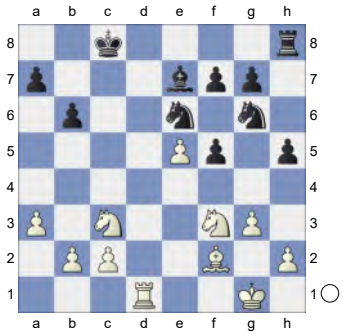


16.Qxd5 Rd8 17.Qxd7+ Rxd7 18.Rad1 Ne6 0.76/20
[18...0-0= 0.00/20 remains equal.]

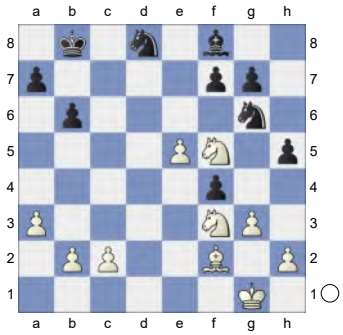
(Diagram)



19.Rxd7!± Kxd7 20.Rd1+ 0.22/22
[20.Nb5± 0.60/22]
20...Kc8

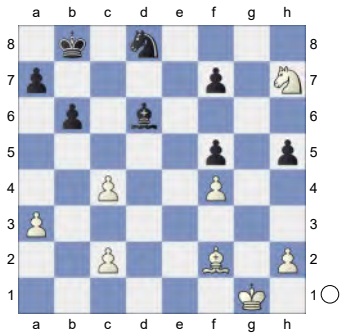


21.Nb5 Kb8 22.Rd7 0.12/22
[22.Rd5± 0.66/20]
22...Rd8!= 23.Rxd8+ Nxd8 24.Nbd4 f4 25.Nf5 Bf8

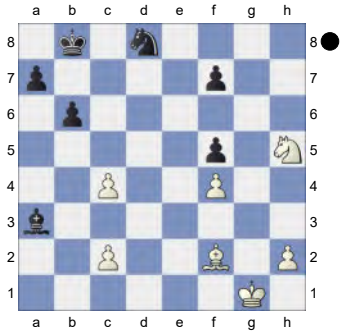


26.Ng5 Nxe5 27.gxf4 Nc4 28.Nh7 Bd6 29.b3 g6 30.bxc4 -0.58/23
[White should play 30.Nxd6= 0.01/22 Nxd6 31.Ng5]
30...gxf5

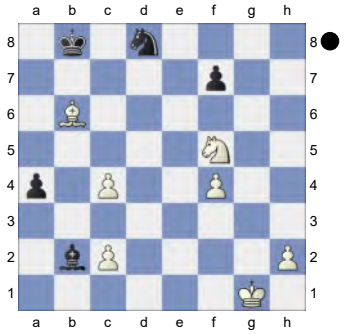
(Diagram)



Endgame KBN-KBN **31.Nf6** -1.39/25
[Better is 31.c5∓ -0.63/22 bxc5 32.Nf6]
31...Bxa3∓ 32.Nxh5

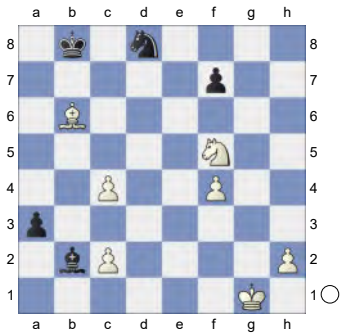


Bb2! 33.Ng3 a5 34.Bxb6 a4 35.Nxf5? -8.07/22
[Don't blunder 35.Bxd8? a3 36.Kf2 a2-+]
[35.Bc5 -1.66/23]

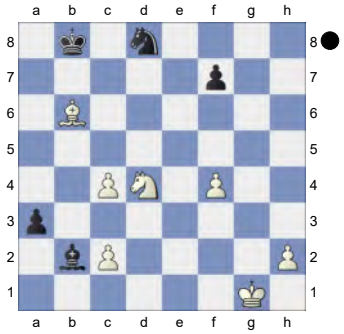


35...a3!-+

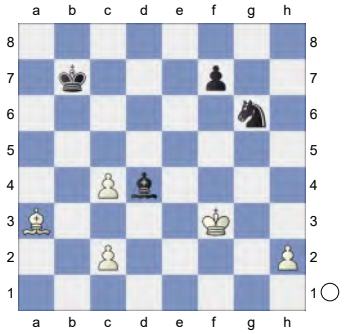
(Diagram)



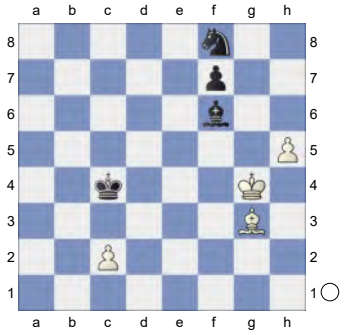
36.Nd4



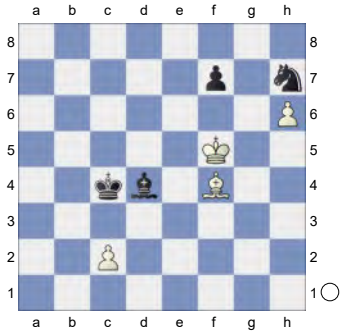
Kb7! 37.Bc5 Ne6? -1.45/23
[37...a2-+ -3.69/22 is more deadly. 38.Nb3 Nc6]
38.Bxa3 -2.12/25
[38.Nb3∓ -1.45/23]
38...Bxd4+
[Weaker is 38...Bxa3 39.Nxe6 fxe6 40.Kf2=]
39.Kg2 Nxf4+ 40.Kf3 Ng6



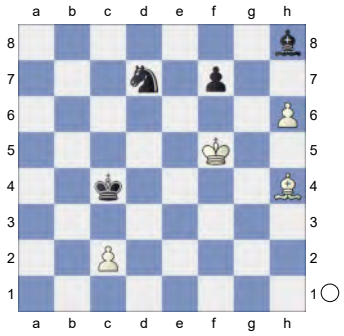
41.Kg4 -3.06/25
[⌓41.Ke4 -1.88/23 Bf6 42.Kf5]
41...Bf6 -1.74/24
[⌓41...Ne5+ -3.06/25 42.Kf4 Nxc4]
42.Bd6 -2.55/22
[42.Bc1 -1.74/24 was called for.]
42...Kc6 43.Bg3 -3.11/24
[43.Kf5 -1.92/24 was necessary.]
43...Kc5 44.h4 Kxc4 45.h5 Nf8



46.h6? -6.10/34
[46.Bd6 -2.75/26 Nh7 47.Kf5]
46...Nh7 47.Kf5 Kd5 48.Bf4 Bc3 49.Be3 Kc4 50.Bf4 Bd4

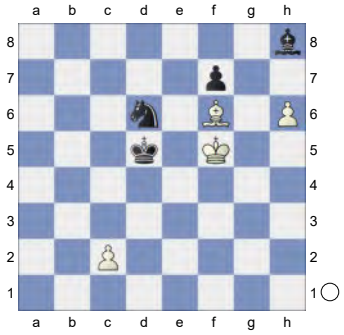


51.Bd2 Bh8 52.Be1 Nf8 53.Bh4 Nd7 Inhibits Bf6. **54.Be1 Nc5?** 0.01/27
[54...Kd4-+ -3.08/26 Threatens to win with ...Nf6. 55.Bb4 Kc4]
55.Bh4!= Strongly threatening Bf6.
55...Nd7



Prevents Bf6. And now ...Be5 would win.
56.Be1! This costs White the game.
56...Nb6 57.Bg3 Kd5 Inhibits Be5.

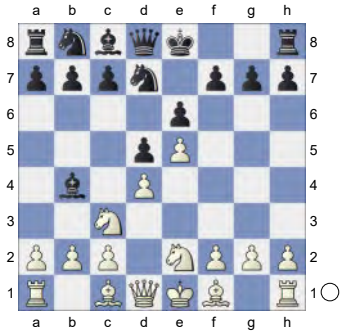
58.Bh4 Hoping for Bf6. **58...Nc4**
59.Bf6? -14.38/29
[59.Bg5 -2.64/21]
59...Nd6+



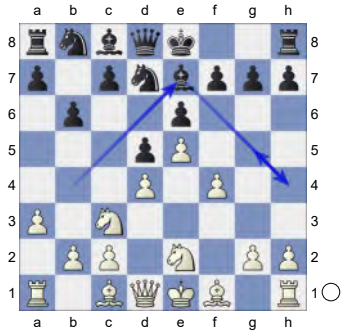
Weighted Error Value: White=0.46/ Black=0.21 (precise)
0-1

222 **C15**
□ **Andersen,Mads** **2598**
■ **Romanov,Evgeny** **2598**
Capablanca Memorial Elite 57th (4)
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7!**

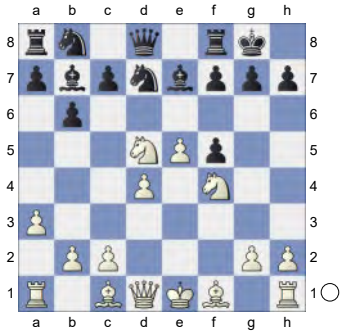


6.f4 b6 0.89/20
[6...0-0± 0.36/23 7.a3 Ba5 8.g3 Bb6 9.Na4 c5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Nxc5 Nxc5 12.Bg2 Nc6 13.Be3 Nd7 14.0-0 Qc7 15.Nd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Nb8 17.Bf2 Bd7 18.Rc1 Rc8 19.Qd2 Rusakov,Y-Alexander,K Budapest 1984]
[6...f5 7.a3 Be7 8.g4 fxg4 9.Ng3 h5 10.h3 Bh4 11.Qd3 Nf8 12.Bd2 gxh3 13.0-0-0 Nc6 14.Rxh3 g6 15.Be1 Be7 16.Be2 Qd7 17.Bf3 Kd8 18.Kb1 b6 19.f5 gxf5 20.Nxf5 exf5 21.Nxd5 1-0 Nataf,I (2565)-Ostenstad,B (2506) Calvia ol (Men) 2004 (4)]
7.a3N
[7.g3 Bb7 8.Bg2 g6 9.Be3 h5 10.Qd2 Be7 11.0-0-0 Nc6 12.h3 Na5 13.b3 Bb4 14.Kb1 Ba6 15.Bf3 c5 16.Qc1 c4 17.Qb2 b5 18.a3 Bxa3 19.Qxa3 b4 20.Qxb4 Rb8 21.Qa4 cxb3 ½-½ Hector,J (2513)-Berg,E (2514) Sigeman & Co_80416 2002 (7) 22.cxb3 Rxb3+ 23.Kc2 Qc7 24.Ra1 Bxe2 25.Qxa5 Qxa5 26.Rxa5 Bxf3 27.Kxb3 Bxh1 28.Rxa7 Nb8 29.Nb5 0-0 30.Rc7 Na6 31.Re7 Bg2 32.Ka4 Bxh3 33.Bc1 g5 34.fxg5 Kg7 35.Ka5 Bf1 36.Nd6 Kg6 ½-½ Holzmann,M (2513)-Chapter Part (2514) (ch) 153/(111) 2022 (7)]
7...Be7

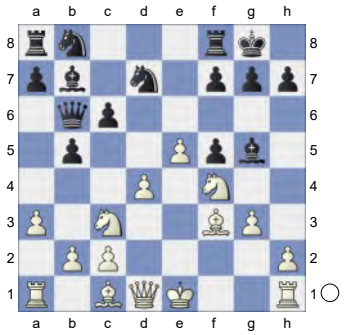


8.f5! Deflection. White is better. **8...exf5 9.Nxd5 Bb7 10.Nef4** Strongly threatening Bf1-c4. **10...0-0** 1.56/20
[Black should try 10...g5 0.93/20]

(Diagram)

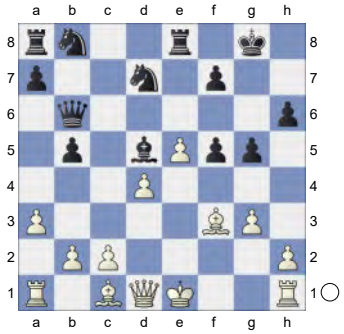


11.Bc4 White is much more active.
11...Bh4+ 12.g3 b5 13.Be2↑ White is really pushing.
[13.Bxb5 Bg5=]
13...Bg5 14.Bf3! Nd5-f6+! is the strong threat.
[14.Bxb5? Bxf4 15.Bxf4 Bxd5-+]
14...c6 15.Nc3 1.16/20
[15.Ne3!+- 1.80/20]
15...Qb6

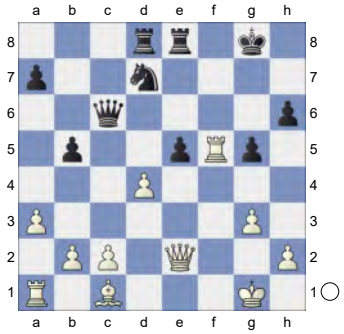


16.Nfd5 0.15/20 **cxd5= 17.Bxg5 h6 18.Bf4** A strong pair of Bishops. **18...g5?** 2.27/19
[18...Nc6± 0.72/20]
19.Bc1? 0.04/20
[White should play 19.Nxd5+- 2.27/19 Bxd5 20.Bxd5]
19...Re8 0.75/20
[19...Nc6= 0.04/20 20.Nxd5 Nxd4 *(20...Qxd4? 21.Ne7+* Pin, Double Attack *Kh7 22.Bxc6+-)* 21.Nxb6 Discovered Attack Nxf3+ 22.Kf2 Nxb6]
20.Nxd5±
[20.Bxd5? Bxd5 21.Nxd5 Qc6-+]

20...Bxd5

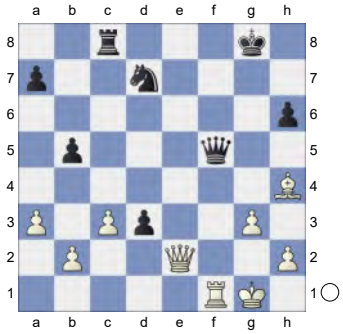


21.Bxd5 Nc6 22.Bxc6!
[22.c3?! Ndxe5 23.0-0 *(23.dxe5 Nxe5 24.Kf1 Rad8∓)* 23...Rad8 24.Bxc6 Qxc6 25.Rxf5 Nc4=]
22...Qxc6 23.0-0 Rad8 1.68/21
[23...Qb6± 0.83/22]
24.Qe2!+-
[24.Rxf5 Nxe5 25.c3 Nc4=]
24...f6 25.Rxf5 fxe5? 3.71/20
[25...Re7 1.91/18 26.h4 Rc8 27.hxg5 fxg5]



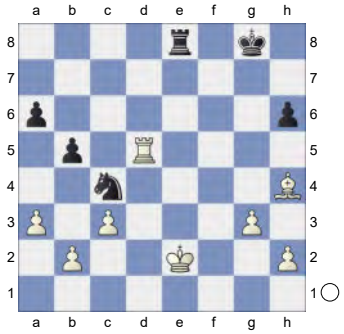
26.Bxg5! Qg6 Repels Qe2-h5 **27.Bxd8 Qxf5 28.Bh4 Rc8 29.c3**
[29.Qxb5 Qf3]
29...exd4 30.Rf1!
[30.cxd4?! Rc2 31.Rf1 *(31.Qe8+ Kg7=)* 31...Rxe2±]
30...d3

(Diagram)

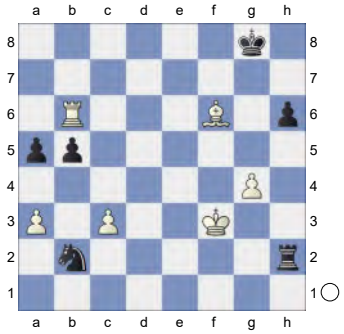


31.Rxf5 dxe2 Endgame. KRB-KRN
32.Kf2
[32.Rxb5 e1Q+ *(32...e1B 33.Kf1±)* 33.Kg2 Qe2+ 34.Kh3 Qf1+ *(34...Qxb5 35.c4 Qf5+ 36.g4 Qf3+ 37.Bg3 Rxc4 38.a4 Nf6 39.a5 Qf1+ 40.Kh4 Rxg4#)* 35.Kg4 Rc4+ *(35...Qxb5 36.Kf3 Qd3+ 37.Kg2 Qe2+ 38.Kg1 Ne5 39.h3 Nf3+ 40.Kh1 Qh2#)* 36.Kh5 Kh7 *(36...Qe2+ 37.Kxh6 Qe6+ 38.Bf6 Qxf6+ 39.Kh5 Kh7 40.h4 Qh6#; 36...Qe2+ 37.Kxh6 Qe6+ 38.Bf6 Qxf6+ 39.Kh5 Kh7 40.h4 Qh6#)*]
32...Re8 33.Ke1!
[33.Rxb5 e1Q+ *(33...e1B+ 34.Kg2=)* 34.Kg2 Re2+ *(34...Qe2+ 35.Kh3 Qf1+ 36.Kg4 Re4+ 37.Kh5 Qxb5+ 38.Kxh6 Re6+ 39.Bf6 Rxf6#)* 35.Kh3 Qf1+ 36.Kg4 Re4+ *(36...Rxh2 37.Rf5 Qe2+ 38.Rf3 Qe4+* Deflection *39.Kh5 Kg7 40.Rf7+ Kxf7 41.Kxh6 Qg6#)* 37.Kh5 Qxb5+ 38.Kxh6 Re6+]
33...a6 34.Rd5 Ne5 35.Kxe2 Hoping for Rd5-d8. **35...Nc4+**

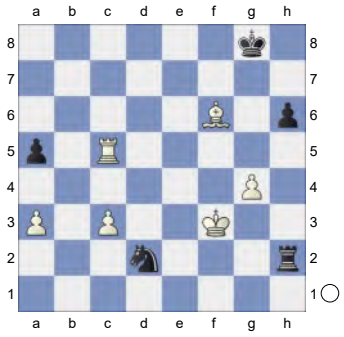
(Diagram)



36.Kf3 Nxb2 37.Rd6 a5? 3.44/23
[37...Nc4 1.87/19 38.Rxa6 *(38.Rxh6 a5±)* 38...Re3+ 39.Kf4 Kf7]
38.Rb6 Re5 39.Bf6 Prevents Nb2-c4.
39...Rh5 40.g4 Rxh2

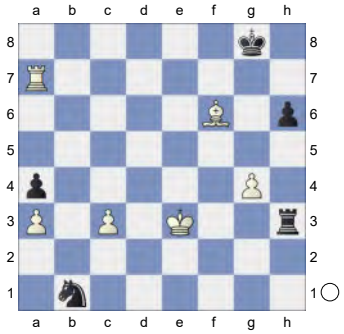


41.Rxb5 Nc4 42.Rc5 Nd2+ 2.59/22
[42...Nxa3± 1.53/21 43.Rxa5 Nb1]

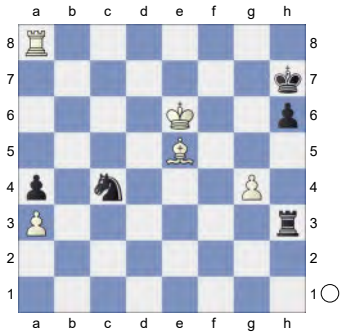


43.Ke3! aiming for a3-a4! **43...a4** 3.35/20
[43...Kf7 2.04/17 might work better.]
44.Rc7 Nb1 4.83/25
[44...Kf8 3.23/21 was necessary. 45.Kf4 Rf2+ 46.Ke5 Nf3+ 47.Kd5 Ne1]
45.Ra7? 0.11/21

[45.Kf4+- 4.83/25]
45...Rh3+=

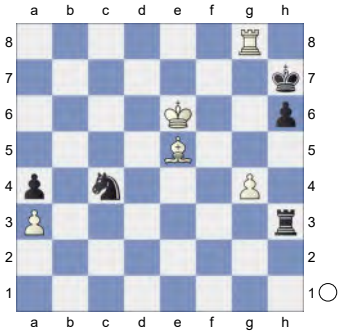


46.Ke4 Nxc3+ 47.Kf5 Nd5 48.Be5
[48.Rxa4 Rf3+ 49.Kg6 Rxf6+∓]
48...Nb6? 6.40/27
[48...Rxa3= 0.16/24 49.Ke6 Rd3]
49.Ke6+- White wants to mate with Ra7-g7+. White is clearly winning. **49...Nc4**
50.Ra8+ 9.98/5
[Worse is 50.Rxa4 Nxe5 51.Kxe5 Kh7=]
[⌓50.Bd4 6.40/25 Rd3 51.Ra8+ Kh7 52.Rh8+ Kg6 53.Rg8+ Kh7 54.Rg7+ Kh8 55.Bf6 Rd6+ 56.Kf5 Rd5+ 57.Kg6 Ne5+ 58.Kxh6]
50...Kh7

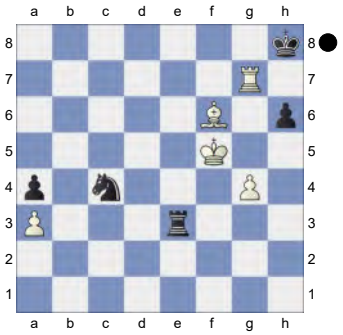


51.Rh8+
[And not 51.Rxa4 Nxe5 52.Kxe5 h5=]
51...Kg6 52.Rg8+ Kh7

(Diagram)



53.Rg7+! Kh8 54.Bf6 Threatening mate with Ke6-f7. **54...Re3+ 55.Kf5**

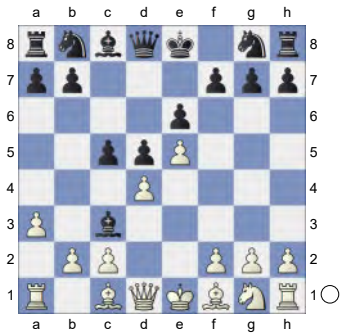


Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/ Black=0.53
1-0

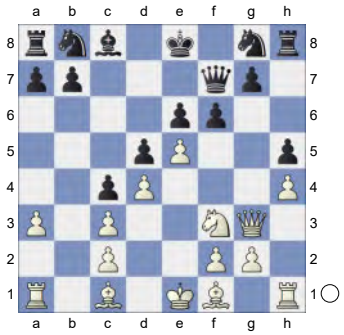
223 **C18**
□ **Aryan,Chopra** **2592**
■ **Nihal,Sarin** **2648**
Menorca op 1st (6) 23.04.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f6 8.Nf3 c4 9.Qg3 Qf7 10.h4 h5



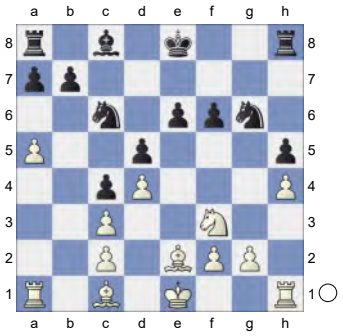
11.a4 White is slightly better.

[11.Qf4 Ne7 12.g4 hxg4 13.Qxg4 Nbc6 14.Bf4 Nf5 15.Bh3 Bd7 16.Bg3 Nce7 17.0-0-0 Qh5 18.Qxh5+ Rxh5 19.Bg4 Rh7 20.Kd2 0-0-0 21.Rdg1 Rdh8 22.Re1 Rh6 23.Rhg1 b6 24.Bf4 R6h7 25.Bxf5 Nxf5 Pattnayak,N (2020)-Mitrabha,G (2505) Pune 2023 0-1 (66)]

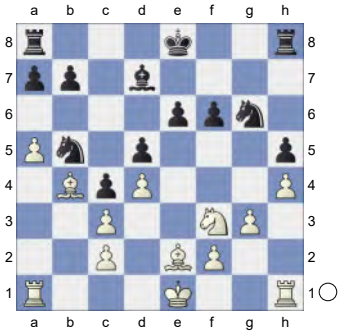
11...Nc6 12.a5N

[12.Ba3 Bd7 13.Qf4 0-0-0 14.g3 Nge7 15.exf6 gxf6 16.Ne5 Qh7 17.Nxd7 Rxd7 18.Bh3 f5 19.0-0 Rg8 20.Kh2 Rg6 21.Rae1 Ng8 22.Re2 Qh6 23.Bc1 Qf8 24.Rfe1 Nd8 25.Qf3 Nf6 26.Bg5 Ng4+ Djurhuus,R (2525)-Johannessen,L (2330) Asker 1997 CBM 062 [Atlas, Valeri] 1-0 (56) 27.Kg2 Qd6 28.Qf4 Nf6 29.Rxe6 Nxe6 30.Qxd6 Rxd6 31.Bxf5 Rxg5 32.hxg5 Ne4 33.Rxe4 dxe4 34.d5 Kd8 35.Bxe6 Ke7 36.Kf1 a5 37.Ke2 b5 38.axb5 a4 39.Kd2 a3 40.Kc1 Rb6 41.g6 Kf6 G6 Ideas (2525)-Brochet,P (2330) Hungarian League 1997 The Total Marshall [Messa,R] 1-0 (56)]

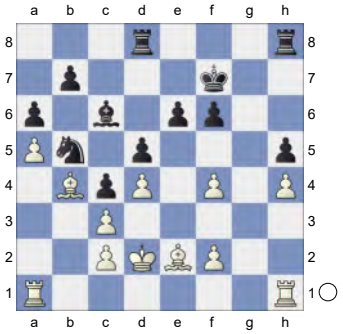
12...Nge7 13.Be2 Qg6 14.Qxg6+ Nxg6 15.exf6 gxf6



16.Be3 Nce7 17.g3 Nf5 18.Bc1 Nd6 19.Ba3 Nb5 20.Bb4 Bd7



21.Kd2 Kf7 22.Ne1 Bc6 23.Ng2 Rad8 24.Nf4 Nxf4 25.gxf4 a6



26.Rhg1 Nc7 1.08/24

[26...Rdg8± 0.68/23 is superior.]

27.Rg3 0.38/24 &Bianco is more active.

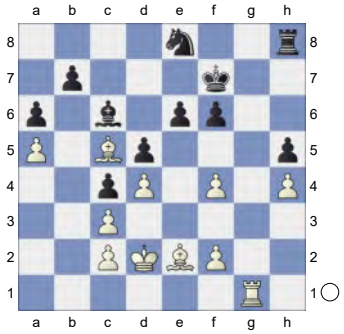
[White should play 27.Rae1± 1.08/24]

27...Rdg8± 28.Rxg8

[28.Re3 is interesting. f5 29.Bd6

Ne8 30.Be5]

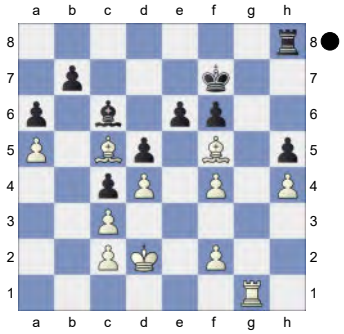
28...Kxg8 29.Rg1+ Kf7 30.Bc5 Ne8



31.Bf1 0.01/21

[31.Kc1± 0.36/23]

31...Ng7!= 32.Bh3 Nf5 33.Bxf5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.05 (flawless)

½-½

224 **C18**

☐ **Martinez Alcantara,Jose Eduardo**

■ **Rustemov,Alexander** **2525**

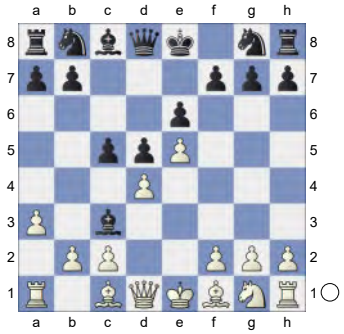
Chess.com RCC Wk18 Swiss rapid (1)

[Kitty Kat]

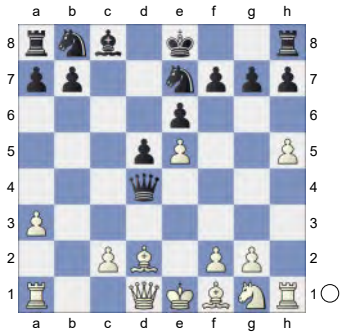
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7 8.h5 cxd4 9.cxd4 Qc3+ 10.Bd2 The position is equal. **10...Qxd4**



11.Nf3 Qe4+ 12.Be2 Nf5 Against Rh4

[12...Nbc6 13.Rh4 Qxh4 14.Nxh4 Nxe5 15.Nf3 Nxf3+ 16.Bxf3 Bd7 17.Rb1 Bc6 18.Bb4 a5 19.Bxe7 Kxe7 20.Qd4 f6 21.c4 Rhd8 22.cxd5 exd5 23.h6 g6 24.Kf1 Kf7 25.Re1 Rd6 26.Qc5 Rd7 27.Bg4 Volchkova,A (2022)-Wojs,A (1931) Terme Catez 2024 1-0 (34)]

13.Kf1 b6 14.c4N -0.32/18

[14.Bb5+= -0.01/18 Nd7 *(14...Kf8 15.Kg1 Ba6 16.Bd3 Qg4 17.Bxf5 Qxf5 18.h6 gxh6 19.Nd4 Qe4 20.Bxh6+ Ke8 21.Qd2 Rg8 22.f3 Qxe5 23.Re1 Qf6 24.Bf4 Nd7 25.Nxe6 fxe6 26.Qxd5 Qxf4 27.Rxh7 Bc8 28.Qxe6+ Kd8 29.Qxg8+* Van Mechelen,L (2460)-Bascunana Sanchez,P (2465) Westerlo BEL 1990 Inf 46 [Kortschnoj/Kasparov] 1-0 (34)*)* 15.Kg1 *(15.Bd3 Qg4 16.Rb1 Bb7*

17.c3 d4 18.Bxf5 Qxf5 19.cxd4 Qd3+ 20.Kg1 Bxf3 21.Qxf3 Qxf3 22.gxf3 Rc8 23.Kf1 f6 24.f4 Kf7 25.Ke2 Nb8 26.Bb4 Rc2+ 27.Ke3 Rhc8 28.Rhd1 Nc6 29.Rd2 Rxd2 Chapter-Games Game 5 (47))]

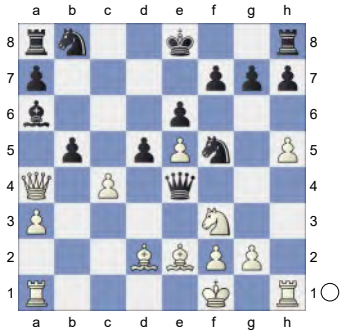
14...Ba6 -0.01/19

[14...Bb7∓ -0.32/18 deserves consideration.]

15.Qa4+ -0.64/20

[Better is 15.cxd5= -0.01/19 exd5 16.Bxa6 Nxa6 17.Qe2 Qxe2+ 18.Kxe2]

15...b5!∓



16.Qb4 -1.50/21

[16.Qa5∓ -0.57/19 dxc4 17.a4]

16...Nc6∓

[16...bxc4?! 17.Qa4+ Nd7 18.Qxa6=]

[16...dxc4 17.Ng5 Qd4 18.Bc3∓]

17.Qc5 dxc4 18.a4 -2.10/18

[18.Bc3∓ -1.40/18]

18...Qd5

[18...Nfd4? 19.Nxd4 Nxd4 20.Bb4!+-]

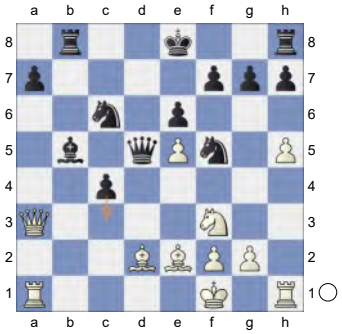
19.Qa3 Rb8 -0.83/21

[Not 19...Nxe5 20.h6∓]

[⌓19...Nfd4 -1.44/20 20.Nxd4 Nxd4]

20.axb5 Bxb5

(Diagram)



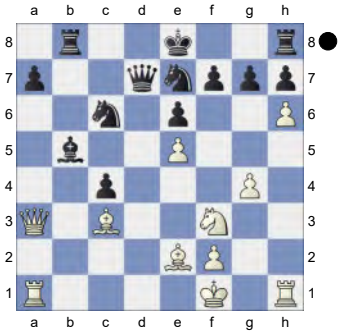
Hoping for ...c3! **21.Bc3 Qd7** -0.40/19

[21...h6∓ -0.89/19 22.Rh3 Qd7]

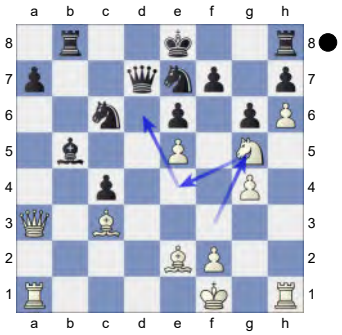
22.g4 -0.82/21

[22.h6!∓ -0.40/19 should be considered.]

22...Nfe7 23.h6



g6 24.Ng5

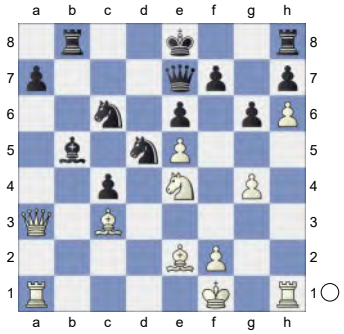


Strongly threatening Ne4. **24...Nd5?** 1.20/21

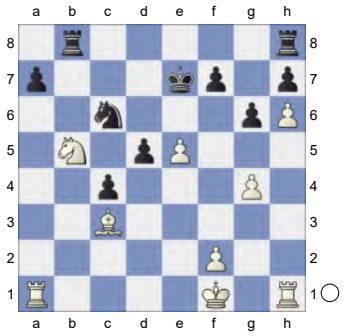
[24...0-0!∓ -0.80/20 keeps the pressure on. 25.Ne4 Nd5]

25.Ne4± Threatens to win with Nd6+. &Bianco is more active. **25...Qe7**

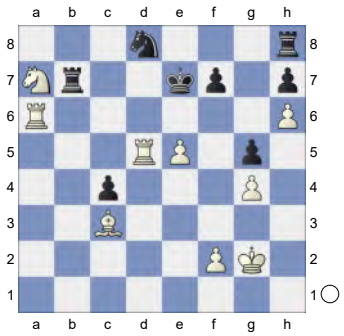
(Diagram)



26.Nd6+ Kd7 1.68/19
[26...Kf8± 1.09/20]
27.Bf3+- aiming for Rd1. **27...Qg5?** 5.24/25
[27...Rhc8 1.61/20 is tougher. 28.Rd1 *(28.Nxc8 Rxc8 29.Qc1 Ke8∓)* 28...Nxc3 29.Qxc3 Kc7]
28.Bxd5 exd5 29.Nxb5 Intending Qd6+ and mate. **29...Qe7 30.Qxe7+ Kxe7**

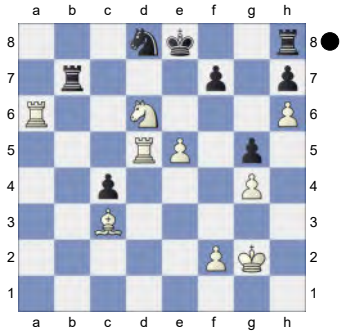


31.Nxa7 Nd8 32.Kg2 g5 33.Rhd1 Ke6 34.Ra6+ Ke7 35.Rxd5 Rb7



36.Nc8+ Ke8 37.Nd6+

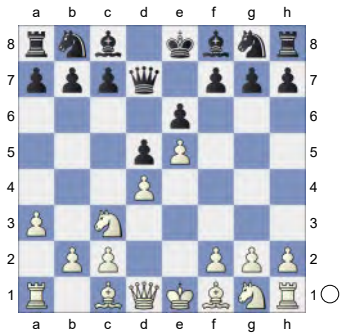
(Diagram)



Quite a comeback for White.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.83
1-0

225 **C16**
□ **Ivic,Velimir** **2590**
■ **Demidov,Mikhail** **2587**
Julius Baer Play In rapid (4.45) 24.07.23
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5 Leko,P: 'Inf 84/239' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.a3 Bf8** 1.19/22
[5...Bxc3+!± 0.66/24 6.bxc3 Ne7]



6.h4
[6.Nf3 b6 7.b4 c6 8.Rb1 Ne7 *(8...Ba6 9.b5 cxb5 10.Nxb5* Jimenez G,G (2566)-Van Perlo,G (2414) Candidates FIDE sf2 1994*)* 9.a4 Nf5 10.Bd3 Na6 11.b5 Nb4

12.Bxf5 exf5 13.0-0 Be7 14.e6 Qxe6 15.Re1 Qd6 16.Ba3 c5 17.dxc5 bxc5 18.Bxb4 cxb4 19.Qxd5 Qxd5 20.Nxd5 Be6 1-0 Leko,P (2713)-Georgiev,K (2655) FIDE GP Dubai rapid 2002 (4.2)]

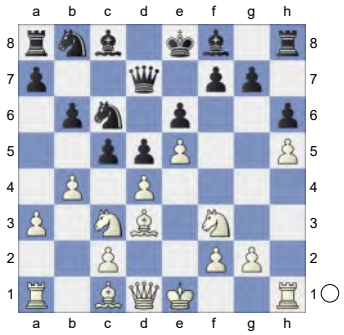
6...b6 7.h5 h6 8.b4N White is better.

[8.f4 c5 9.Nf3 Ne7 10.Be3 Nf5 11.Bf2 Nc6 12.Bb5 a6 13.Bd3 cxd4 14.Na4 Rb8 15.Bxf5 b5 16.Nb6 Rxb6 17.Bh3 Qc7 18.0-0 Be7 19.Nxd4 Nxd4 20.Bxd4 Rc6 21.c3 Bc5 22.Bg4 0-0 1-0 Berlingozzo,E (2446)-IC4 (2522) USSR 28/527 1979 (2)]

8...Ne7 9.Nf3 c5!?N New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.

[Predecessor: 9...c6 10.Rb1 Ba6 11.b5 cxb5 12.Nxb5 Bxb5 13.Bxb5 Nec6 14.c4 Be7 15.Rh3 a6 0-1 Adair,J (2363)-Rombaldoni,A (2494) Kesarovski Georgiev Memorial-A 12th 2013 (7)]

10.Bd3 Nec6



11.b5 0.14/21

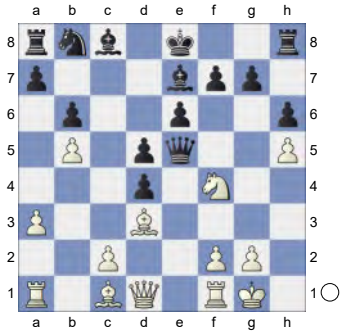
[11.dxc5± 0.87/20 Hoping for b4-b5. bxc5 12.bxc5]

11...Nxd4= 12.Nxd4 cxd4 13.Ne2 Qc7 14.0-0? -1.33/20

[14.f4± 0.39/22 keeps the upper hand.]

14...Qxe5∓ 15.Nf4 Be7

(Diagram)



16.Re1 Qd6 0.00/23

[16...Qf6∓ -1.06/25 17.a4 Nd7]

17.Qg4= 0-0 18.Ng6! fxg6 19.Qxg6 Bf6? 1.97/22

[19...e5= 0.00/23 and Black has nothing to worry. 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.Rxe5 *(21.Bg6+ Ke6∓)* 21...Qxe5 22.Qg6+ Kg8 23.Qh7+ Kf7 24.Qg6+ Kg8 25.Qh7+ Kf7]

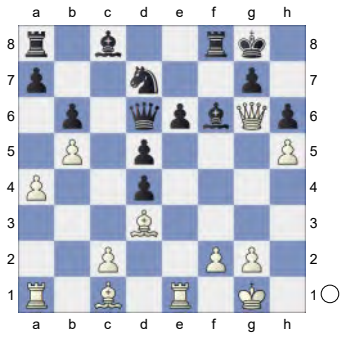
20.a4? -0.53/22

[20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.Bxh6 Nd7 22.Bxg7 *(22.Bg6+ Ke7∓)* 22...Ke8∓ *(22...Bxg7 23.h6±* Pin *)*]

[20.Bxh6+- 1.97/22 Rf7 21.Qh7+ Kf8 22.Bg6]

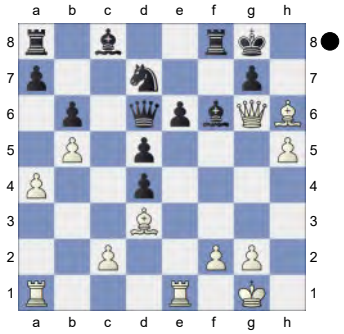
20...Nd7!∓

[20...e5? 21.Ba3 Qd8 *(21...Qc7? 22.Qh7+ Kf7 23.Bg6+* Deflection *Ke6 24.Bxf8+-)* 22.Qh7+ Kf7 23.Bg6+ Ke6 24.f4+-]

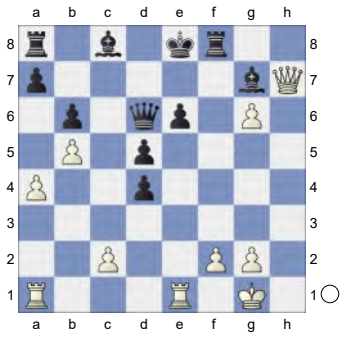


21.Bxh6

[21.Qh7+ Kf7 22.a5 Ke8 23.axb6 Qxb6 *(23...Nxb6? 24.Bg6+ Kd8 25.Ba3+-* Skewer *)* 24.Qg6+ Ke7-+]

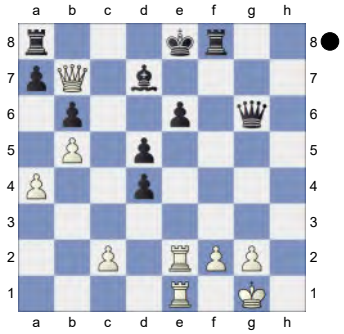


21...Ne5 0.10/26
[21...Rf7!∓ -0.78/22 White must now prevent ...Nd7-f8. 22.Qh7+ Kf8]
22.Qh7+ -0.48/5
[22.Rxe5!= 0.10/26 Qxe5 23.Bd2]
22...Kf7 23.Bg6+ Nxg6 24.hxg6+ Ke8! 25.Bxg7 Bxg7

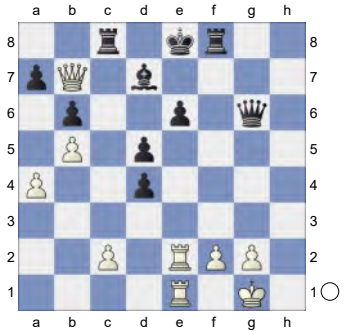


26.Qxg7 Threatens to win with Qg7-h7!
26...Qf4 27.Re2 -3.01/23
[Only move: 27.f3∓ -0.34/22 d3 28.cxd3]
27...Qf6-+ 28.Qc7 -4.18/23
[⊼28.Qh7 -2.92/20 d3 Discovered Attack 29.Ree1]
28...Bd7 -1.70/22
[28...Qxg6 29.Qc6+ Kd8 30.Rae1+- *(30.Qxa8 Qh6±)*]
[⊼28...d3 -4.18/23 29.Rxe6+ Qxe6 *(29...Bxe6? 30.Qc6+ Kd8 31.Qxa8+ Bc8 32.Qxd5+ Kc7 33.Rf1-+)*]
29.Rae1 Qxg6 30.Qb7

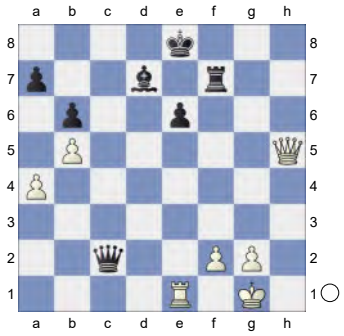
(Diagram)



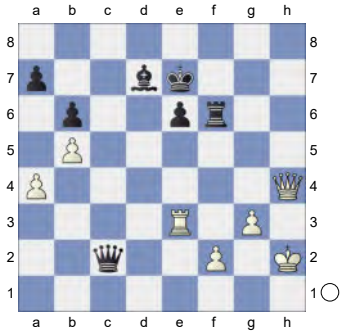
Rc8



31.Qxd5 -2.31/27
[⊼31.Rxe6+ -1.87/23 Bxe6 32.Qxc8+ Kf7 33.Qc7+ Kg8 34.Qe5]
31...Ke7
[31...Rxc2? is the wrong capture. 32.Rxe6+ *(32.Qxd4? Rxe2 33.Rxe2 Qb1+ 34.Kh2 Qh7+ 35.Kg1 Rh8-+)* 32...Qxe6 33.Rxe6+ Kd8 34.Rd6+- *(34.Qxd4 Kc8+-)*]
32.Qxd4 Rxc2 33.Qh4+? -3.27/21
[33.Rxc2∓ -1.49/19 Qxc2 34.a5]
33...Ke8 34.Rxc2 Qxc2 35.Qh5+ Rf7



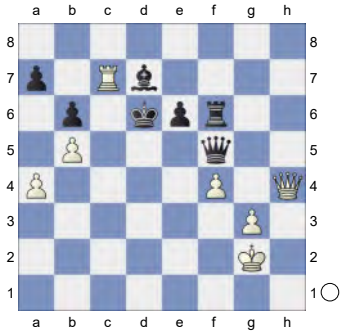
36.Qh8+ Ke7 37.Qh4+ Rf6 38.Re3 Qc1+ 39.Kh2 Qc7+ 40.g3 Qc2
(Diagram)



41.Rf3 Qg6 42.Kg2 Be8 43.Rc3 Bd7 44.Rc7 -4.61/20

[44.Qb4+ -3.14/19 was necessary. Ke8 45.Rc4]

44...Qf5 45.f4 Kd6



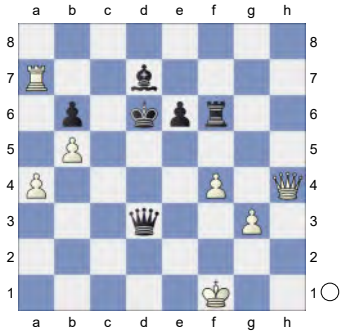
46.Rxa7 -6.86/23

[⌓46.Rc3 -4.72/18]

46...Qe4+ 47.Kg1 Qd4+ 48.Kg2 Qe4+ 49.Kf2 Qc2+ 50.Kf1? -6.54/21

[50.Ke3 -3.50/21 Qc3+ 51.Ke2 Qc2+ 52.Ke3 Qc3+ 53.Ke2]

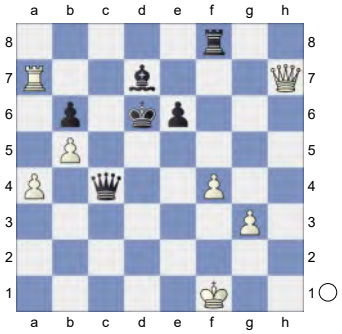
50...Qd3+



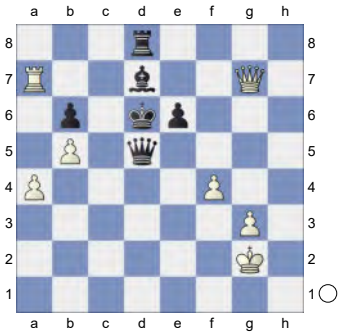
51.Kf2 Qd4+ 52.Kf1 Qc4+ 53.Kf2 Qd4+ 54.Kf1 Rf8? -0.28/23

[54...Rf7-+ -5.25/19 55.Qd8 Kc5]

55.Qh7!= Qc4+



56.Kf2 Rd8 57.Qg7 Qc5+ 58.Kg2 Qd5+ 59.Kh2 Qh5+ 60.Kg2 Qd5+



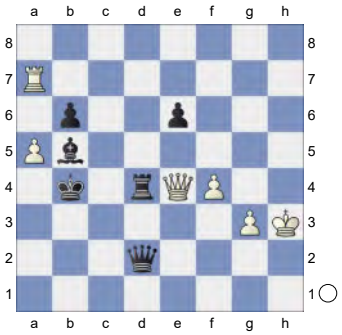
61.Kh2 Qd2+ 62.Kh3 Kc5? 6.76/31

[62...Qe3∓ -0.31/25]

63.Qe5+?? -2.93/19

[63.Qe7++- 6.76/31 Kc4 64.Qxd8]

63...Kb4-+ 64.a5 Bxb5 Strongly threatening ...Bb5-f1+. **65.Qe4+ Rd4**



66.Qxe6? -5.48/18

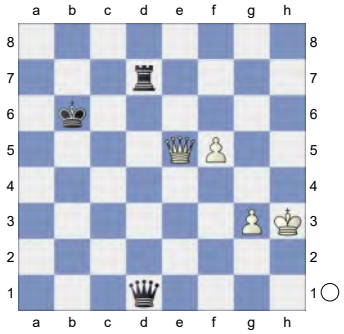
[66.Qb1+ -2.84/15 Kc5 67.axb6]

66...Bd7 Black is clearly winning.

[66...bxa5 67.Qb6 Rd5 *(67...a4 68.Qa5+* Deflection *Ka3 69.Qxb5=)* 68.Qxa5+ Kc4 69.Qxd2 Rxd2 70.f5∓]

67.Rxd7 Rxd7 68.axb6 Kb5 69.f5

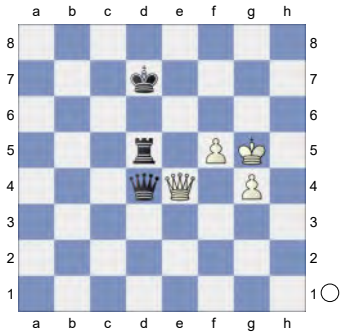
Qd1 70.Qe5+ Kxb6



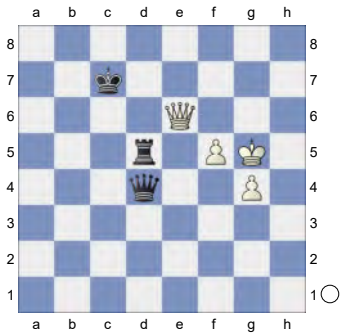
71.Qe6+ Kb7 (→ ...Qd1-h5+) **72.Qe4+ Rd5** And now ...Qd1-h5+ would win. **73.g4 Kc6 74.Kh4 Kd7** Prevents Qe4-e8+ **75.Kg5** -8.88/25

[⊿75.Qe6+ -4.27/21 Kc7 76.Qe7+ Kb6 77.Qe3+ Rd4 78.Qe6+ Rd6 79.Qe3+ Kc6 80.Qc3+ Kb5 81.Qb2+ Kc4 82.Kg5]

75...Qd4



76.Qe6+ Kc7



What a bad dream for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.57/Black=0.43

0-1

226 **C17**

□ **Moen,Andreas** **2589**

■ **Pitterson,J.** **2586**

ITA-chT4 corr (2.1) 19.09.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines

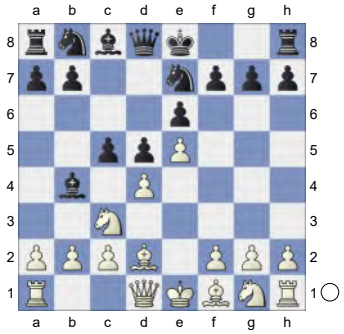
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N

[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]

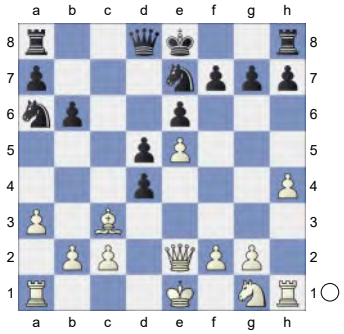
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

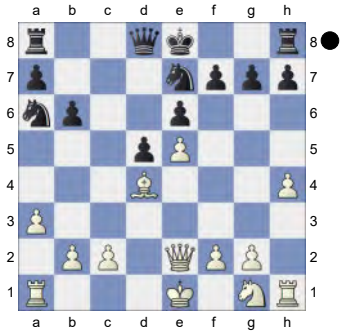
5.Bd2 Ne7



6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 b6 8.h4 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Qe2 White has an edge. **10...cxd4**



11.Bxd4

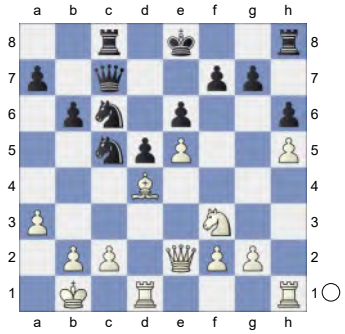


Qb5+ is the strong threat. **11...Nc5 12.Nf3**

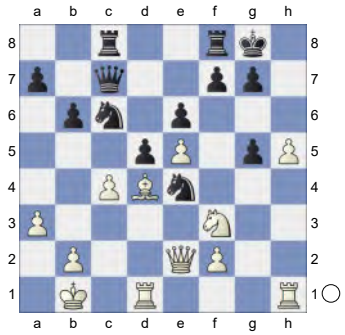
[Much worse is 12.Bxc5 bxc5 13.Qb5+ Qd7 14.Qxd7+ Kxd7∓]

12...Rc8 13.h5 h6 14.0-0-0 Nc6 15.Kb1 Qc7

(Diagram)

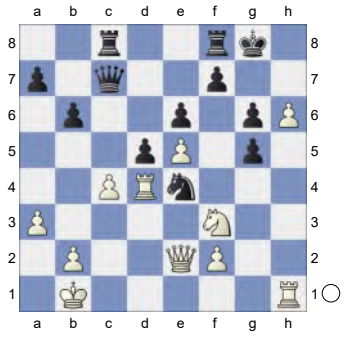


16.g4 Ne4 Prevents g5. **17.c4 0-0 18.g5 hxg5**



And now ...g4 would win. **19.h6** Hoping for hxg7. **19...Nxd4 20.Rxd4** Threatens to win with hxg7. **20...g6** 1.93/24

[20...f5± 0.47/20]



21.cxd5+- exd5 22.Rxd5 Qc4 1.85/25

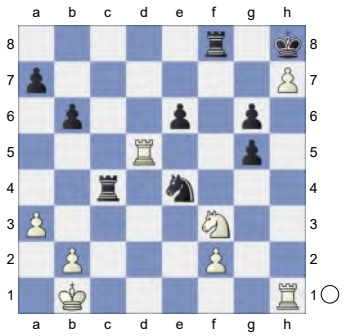
[22...g4± 1.53/22]

23.Qxc4 Rxc4 24.h7+? 0.40/22

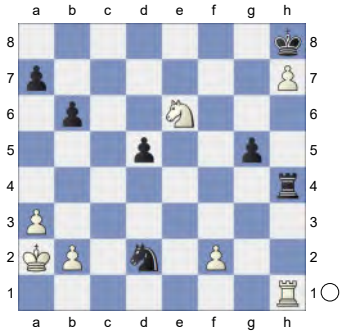
[White should play 24.e6+- 2.18/25 fxe6 25.Rd7]

24...Kh8± 25.e6! fxe6

(Diagram)



26.Ne5 White wants to mate with Rd7. **26...exd5 27.Nxg6+ Kg7 28.Nxf8** Endgame KRN-KRN **28...Nd2+ 29.Ka2 Rh4 30.Ne6+ Kh8**



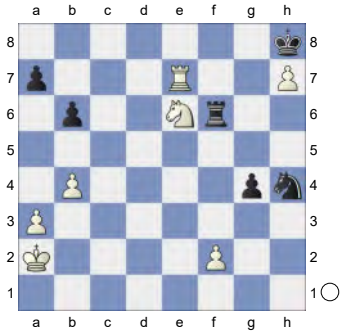
31.Rd1 Nf3 32.Rxd5 g4 33.Rd7 0.36/23

[⌓33.Nf8 0.70/23 Rh2 34.Nd7]

33...Rh6 34.Re7 Rf6! Inhibits Nf8. **35.b4** 0.01/23

[35.a4!⩲ 0.56/22]

35...Nh4=



36.Ng5 Rxf2+ 37.Kb3 Threatening mate with Re8+. **37...Ng6 38.Re8+** -0.01/24

[38.Re6!⩲ 0.43/25 is more appropriate. Nf8 39.Re4]

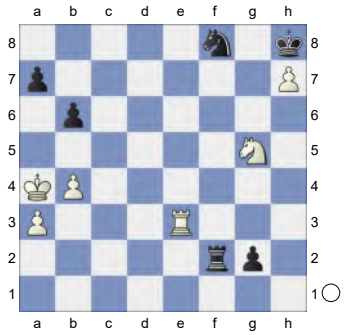
38...Nf8 0.40/24

[38...Rf8= -0.01/24 39.Re3 b5]

39.Ka4 -0.01/21

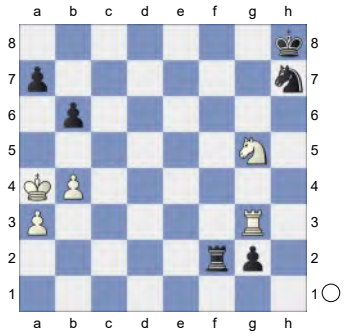
[39.Re4!⩲ 0.40/24]

39...g3 White must now prevent ...a6. The position is equal. **40.Re3! g2**



41.Rg3 Nxh7 0.58/23

[41...Ra2= -0.01/21]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise)

½-½

227 **C15**

□ **Bernadskiy,Vitaliy** **2589**

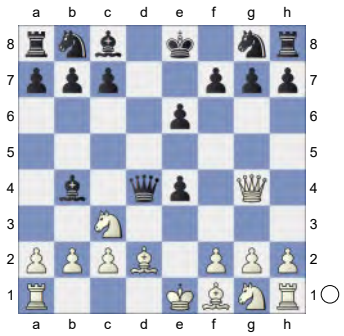
■ **Short,Nigel D** **2633**

Vergani Cup January (9.4) 09.01.2022

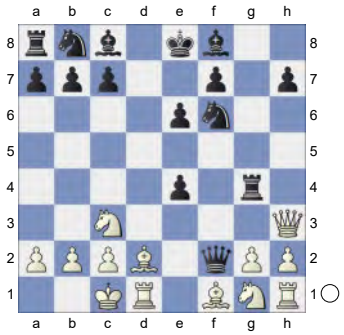
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves

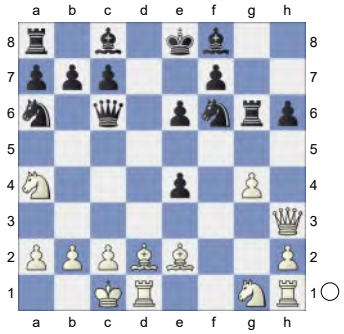
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd2 dxe4 5.Qg4 Qxd4



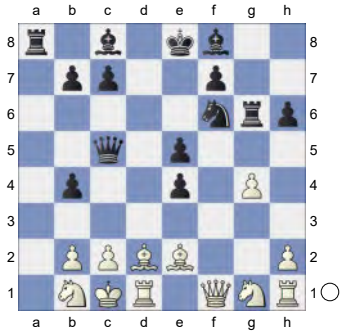
6.0-0-0 Nf6 7.Qxg7 Rg8 8.Qh6 Bf8 9.Qh4 Rg4 10.Qh3 With the idea Bg5!
10...Qxf2



11.Nb5 -0.79/19
[11.Be3= -0.04/20 Qf5 12.Nge2]
[11.g3 Qc5 12.Bg2 e3 13.Be1 Nc6 14.Nge2 Rc4 15.g4 e5 16.Qf3 Be7 17.g5 Bg4 18.Qf1 Nd4 19.Kb1 Nxe2 20.Nxe2 Rxc2 21.Bf3 Bf5 22.Bc6+ bxc6 23.Qxf5 Rxe2 24.gxf6 Bxf6 25.Rg1 Kf8 Castro Salguero,R (2515)-Hastings Variation,W (2361) Istanbul 2023 Fighting Chess MBM [Balson, BCM 1883 p91] 1-0 (33)]
11...Na6∓ 12.Be2N -1.36/19
[⚠12.Be3 -0.84/17 Qf5 13.Kb1]
[12.Kb1 Bd7 13.Be3 Qf5 14.Nd4 Qg6 15.Nb3 Nb4 16.Ne2 Nfd5 17.Nc3 Nxc3+ 18.bxc3 Nd5 19.Bd4 Rg5 20.g4 e5 21.Bf2 Bxg4 22.Rxd5 Bxh3 23.Bxh3 Rd8 24.Rxd8+ Kxd8 25.Rd1+ Bd6 26.Be3 f5 Mikhail Moiseevich The Sixth-56. Boleslavsky,I 27.Nc5 f4 28.Ne6+ Ke7 29.Bxa7 Rh5 ½-½ (29) Sokolov, I (2689)-Shirov,A (2709) Poikovsky 2006 CBM 112 [Golod,Vitali]]
12...Rg6
[12...Rxg2 13.Be3 e5 14.Bxf2±]
13.g4 Qb6 14.Nc3 h6 Inhibits g5.
15.Na4 -1.48/19
[White should play 15.Be3 -1.16/17 Bc5 16.Bxc5 Qxc5 17.Qg3]
15...Qc6

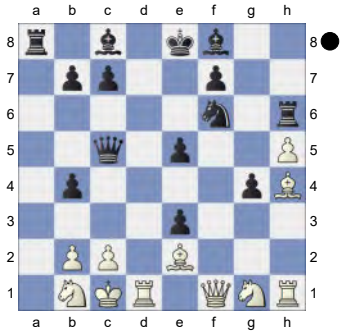


16.Nc3 Nb4
[16...e3 17.Bb5! exd2+ 18.Rxd2+-]
17.a3 a5 18.axb4 -2.47/20
[18.Be3∓ -1.24/18 Bd7 19.Bf2 *(19.axb4? axb4 20.Nb1 Nd5-+)*]
18...axb4-+ 19.Nb1 e5
[19...e3 20.Bxe3 b3 21.c3∓]
20.Qf1 Strongly threatening Bb5.
20...Qc5
[20...Bxg4 21.Bb5 Nd7 22.Bxc6+-]

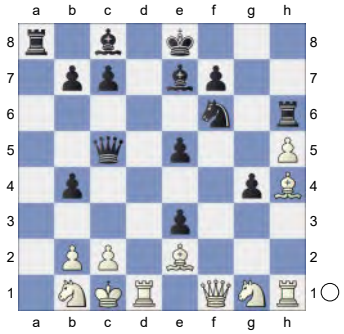


And now ...Be6 would win. **21.g5 hxg5 22.h4 e3 23.Be1 g4** Threatens to win with ...b3. **24.h5 Rh6→** ...Be6 is the strong threat. Black has strong attack.
25.Bh4 -3.04/19

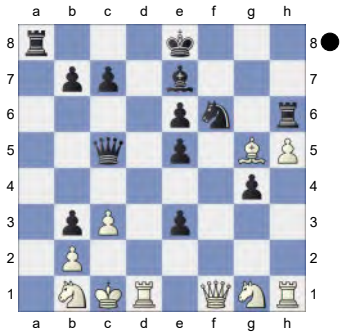
[⊿25.Bc4 -1.98/18 c6 26.Qd3]



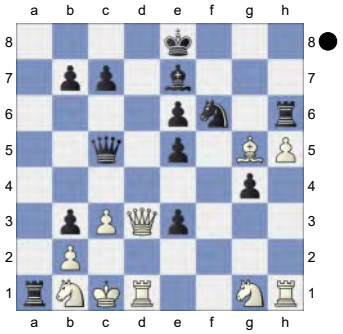
25...Be7 -1.77/18
[⊿25...b3! -3.04/19 26.c3 Nd5]



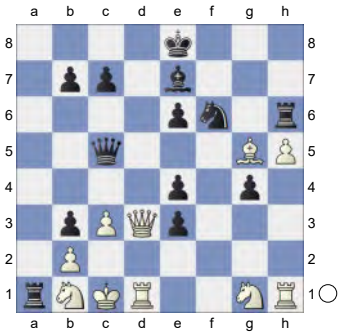
26.Bc4 Be6 27.Bxe6 fxe6 28.Bg5 b3
[And not 28...Rxh5 29.Rxh5 Nxh5 30.Qd3 Bxg5 31.Qg6+ Kf8 32.Qxg5∓]
29.c3 -4.98/21
[29.Qe2 -2.11/19 bxc2 30.Qxc2 Rxh5 31.Rxh5 Nxh5 32.Bxe7 Qxc2+ 33.Kxc2 Kxe7 34.Re1]



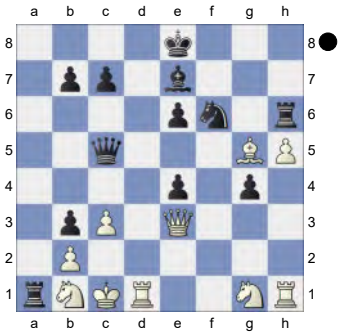
29...Ra1! (-> ...Qxc3+!) **30.Qd3**
[30.Bxh6? Qxc3+!! 31.bxc3 Ba3#]



30...e4!

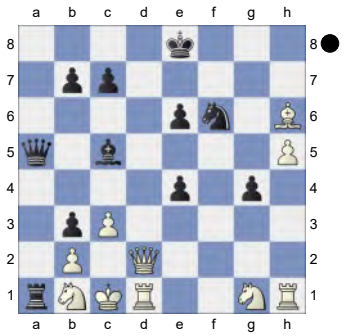


31.Qxe3

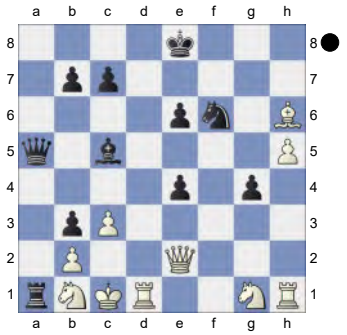


Qa5! 32.Bxh6 Black must now prevent Qg5. **32...Bc5?** -0.01/21
[32...Qa2-+ -4.66/22 33.Kd2 Qxb2+ 34.Ke1 Rxb1]
33.Qe2!
[33.Qd2?

(Diagram)



gets mated. Rxb1+! 34.Kxb1 Qa2+ 35.Kc1 Qa1#]

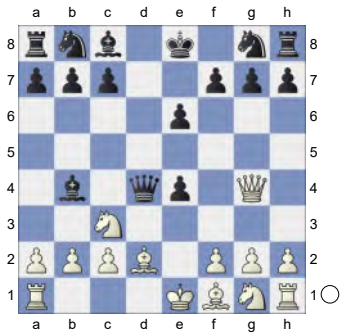


Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.30. Loss on time!?
1-0

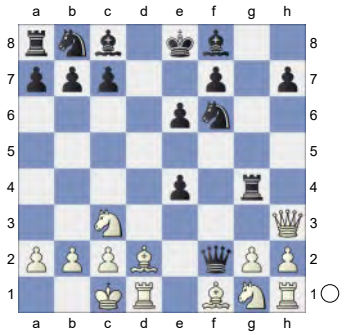
228 **C15**
□ **3.Bh4 Nh6!** **2589**
■ **Pink,J.** **2633**
Yerevan 45/(320) (9.4) 09.01.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd2 dxe4 5.Qg4 Qxd4

(Diagram)



6.0-0-0 Nf6 7.Qxg7 Rg8 8.Qh6 Bf8 9.Qh4 Rg4 10.Qh3 Qxf2



11.Nb5 -0.81/19
[11.Be3= -0.01/19 Qf5 12.Nge2]
[11.g3 Qc5 12.Bg2 e3 13.Be1 Nc6 14.Nge2 Rc4 15.g4 e5 16.Qf3 Be7 17.g5 Bg4 18.Qf1 Nd4 19.Kb1 Nxe2 20.Nxe2 Rxc2 21.Bf3 Bf5 22.Bc6+ bxc6 23.Qxf5 Rxe2 24.gxf6 Bxf6 25.Rg1 Kf8 Castro Salguero,R (2515)-Hastings Variation,W (2361) Istanbul 2023 Fighting Chess MBM [Balson, BCM 1883 p91] 1-0 (33)]
11...Na6 12.Be2N -1.26/19
[⌓12.Be3 -0.81/17 Qf5 13.Kb1]
[12.Kb1 Bd7 13.Be3 Qf5 14.Nd4 Qg6 15.Nb3 Nb4 16.Ne2 Nfd5 17.Nc3 Nxc3+ 18.bxc3 Nd5 19.Bd4 Rg5 20.g4 e5 21.Bf2 Bxg4 22.Rxd5 Bxh3 23.Bxh3 Rd8 24.Rxd8+ Kxd8 25.Rd1+ Bd6 26.Be3 f5 Mikhail Moiseevich The Sixth-56. Boleslavsky,I 27.Nc5 f4 28.Ne6+ Ke7 29.Bxa7 Rh5 ½-½ (29) Sokolov, I (2689)-Shirov,A (2709) Poikovsky

2006 CBM 112 [Golod,Vitali]]

12...Rg6

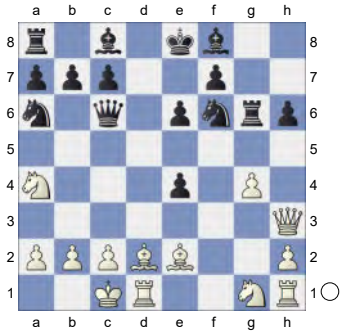
[12...Rxg2 13.Be3 e5 14.Bxf2±]

13.g4 Strongly threatening Be3.

13...Qb6 14.Nc3 h6 Against g5 **15.Na4** -1.50/20

[⊿15.Be3 -1.16/17 Bc5 16.Bxc5 Qxc5 17.Qg3]

15...Qc6



16.Nc3 Nb4

[16...e3? 17.Bb5! exd2+ 18.Rxd2+-]

17.a3 a5 18.axb4 -2.83/20

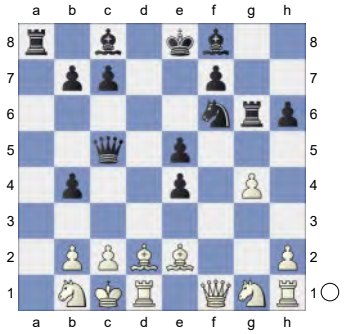
[18.Bf4∓ -1.35/17 Bd7 19.Be5 *(19.axb4? axb4 20.Nb1 Nd5-+)*]

18...axb4-+ 19.Nb1 e5

[19...e3 20.Bxe3 b3 21.c3∓]

20.Qf1 Hoping for Bb5. **20...Qc5**

[20...Bxg4 21.Bb5 Nd7 22.Bxc6+-]



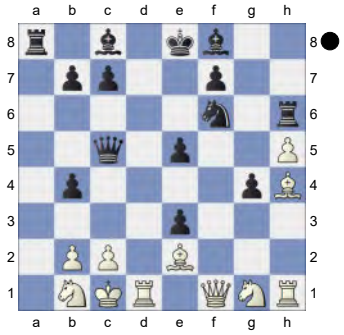
...Be6 is the strong threat. **21.g5?** -3.78/20

[21.Bc4 -2.10/18 is a better defense.]

21...hxg5 22.h4 e3 23.Be1 g4 Threatens to win with ...b3. **24.h5 Rh6→** White must now prevent ...b3.

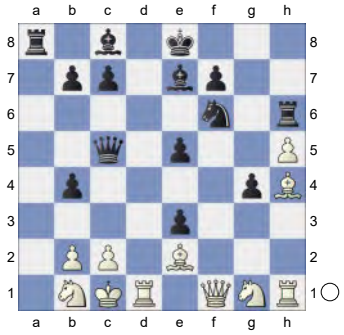
Black has strong attack. **25.Bh4** -3.33/20

[25.Bc4 -2.05/19 might work better. c6 26.Qd3]



25...Be7 -1.65/20

[⊿25...b3! -3.33/20 26.c3 Nd5]

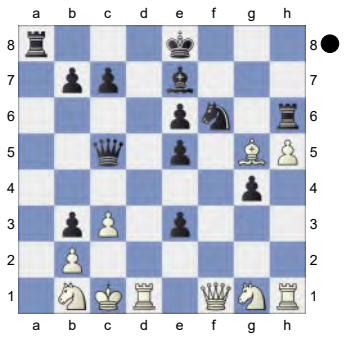


26.Bc4 Be6 27.Bxe6 fxe6 28.Bg5 b3

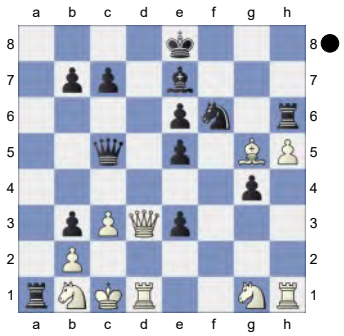
[Weaker is 28...Rxh5 29.Rxh5 Nxh5 30.Qd3 Bxg5 31.Qg6+ Kf8 32.Qxg5∓]

29.c3 -6.13/22

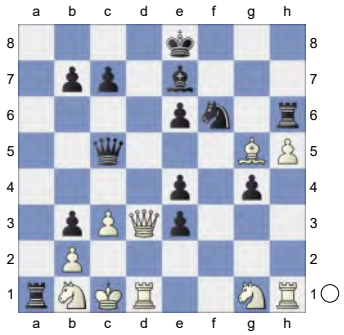
[29.Qe2 -2.36/20 bxc2 30.Qxc2 Rxh5 31.Rxh5 Nxh5 32.Bxe7 Qxc2+ 33.Kxc2 Kxe7 34.Re1]



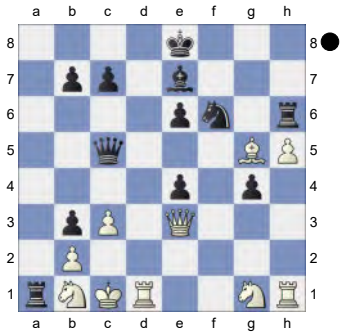
29...Ra1! (-> ...Qxc3+!) **30.Qd3**



e4!



31.Qxe3



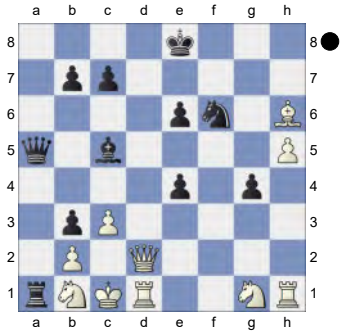
Qa5 32.Bxh6 aiming for Qg5. **32...Bc5?** -0.01/22

[Black should try 32...Qa2-+ -5.73/22 33.Kd2 Qxb2+ 34.Ke1 Rxb1]

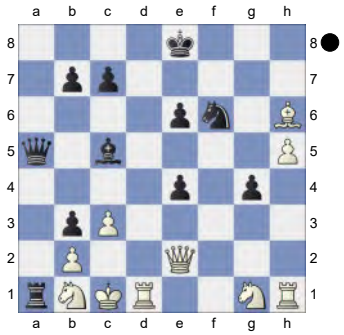
33.Qe2!

[33.Qd2?

(Diagram)



gets mated. Rxb1+! 34.Kxb1 Qa2+ 35.Kc1 Qa1#]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/ Black=0.37. Loss on time!?

1-0

229 **C16**

☐ **Bernadskiy,Vitaliy** **2589**

■ **Short,Nigel D** **2633**

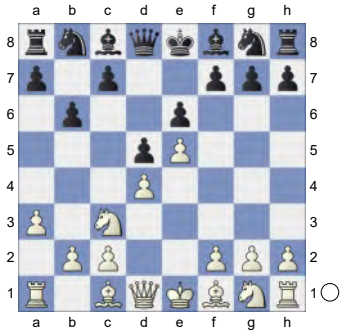
Vergani Cup January (9.4) 09.01.2022

[Kitty Kat]

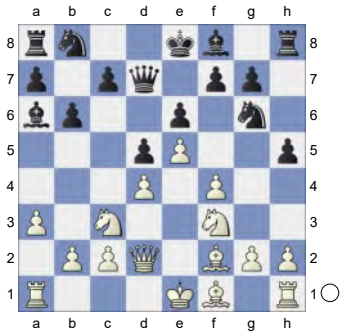
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8

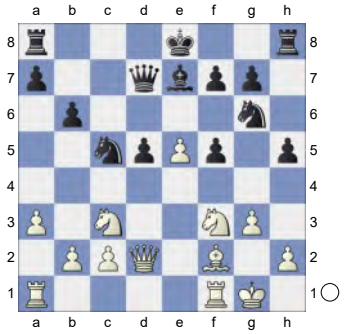
(Diagram)



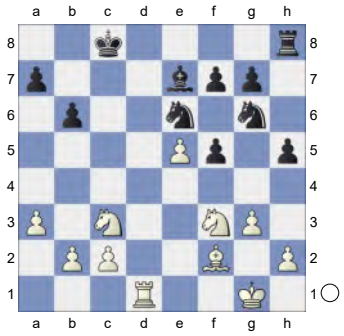
6.f4 Ne7 7.Nf3 Qd7 8.Be3 h5
[8...a5 9.h3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.g4 c5 12.Qe2 Nc6 13.0-0-0 c4 14.f5 Nc7 15.Rhf1 b5 16.fxe6 fxe6 17.Ng5 Nd8 18.Qf2 Be7 19.Qh4 b4 20.Nb1 Bxg5 21.Qxg5 Qe7 22.Qh5+ Nf7 23.g5 Ernst,T (2525)-Adams,M (2615) London 1991 CI1-130 [Ernst, Thomas] 1-0 (48)]
9.Bf2 Ng6N White is slightly better.
[9...Nf5 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Qd3 Nb8 13.Ne2 c5 C 16/15]
[9...Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.0-0-0 Nbc6 13.h3 Ng6 14.Ne2 h4 15.Kb1 0-0-0 16.c4 dxc4 17.Qxc4 Nce7 18.Be3 Nd5 19.Bc1 Nge7 20.g4 hxg3 21.Nxg3 g6 22.Ng5 Qe8 23.h4 Bh6 24.h5 6.Nge2 f6 7.Nf4 fe5 (2272)-Mikhailov, S (2547) Stockholm 2012 Lexikon09 [FS 12/1979 p311] 0-1 (57)]
10.Qd2 &Bianco is more active. **10...Ba6**



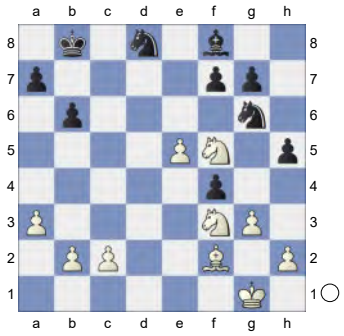
11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.0-0 Be7 13.g3 c5 14.dxc5 Nxc5 15.f5 exf5
(Diagram)



16.Qxd5 Rd8 17.Qxd7+
[17.Rad1 is more complex. Qc8 18.Qc4 0-0 19.Nd5]
17...Rxd7 18.Rad1 Ne6 1.08/19
[18...0-0!= 0.01/20 keeps the balance.]
19.Rxd7!± Kxd7 20.Rd1+ 0.28/21
[20.Nb5± 0.59/22]
20...Kc8

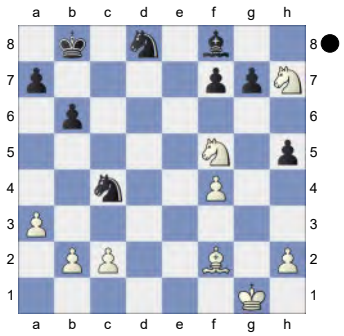


21.Nb5 Kb8 22.Rd7 0.09/22
[22.c4± 0.50/20]
22...Rd8!= 23.Rxd8+ Nxd8 24.Nbd4 f4 25.Nf5 Bf8

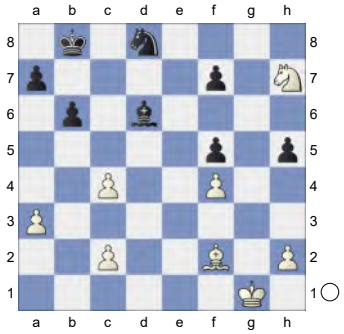


26.Ng5 Nxe5 27.gxf4 Nc4 28.Nh7

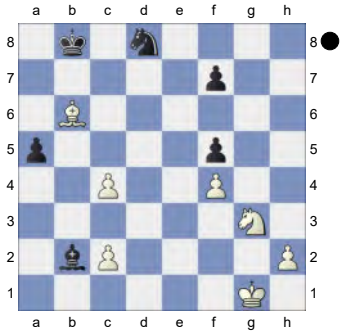
(Diagram)



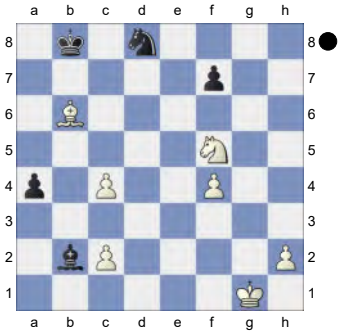
Bd6 0.02/19
[28...g6! -0.29/22 should be considered.]
29.b3 g6 30.bxc4 -0.65/22
[30.Nxd6= -0.06/22 Nxd6 31.Ng5]
30...gxf5



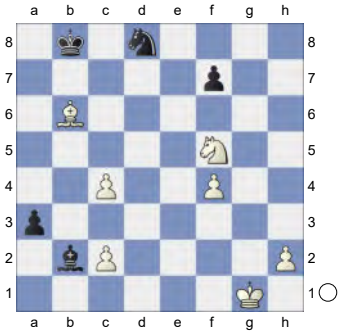
Endgame KBN-KBN **31.Nf6** -1.28/23
[White should try 31.c5∓ -0.38/22 bxc5 32.Nf6]
31...Bxa3∓ 32.Nxh5 -1.60/21
[⌓32.Kf1 -1.23/21]
32...Bb2 33.Ng3 a5 34.Bxb6



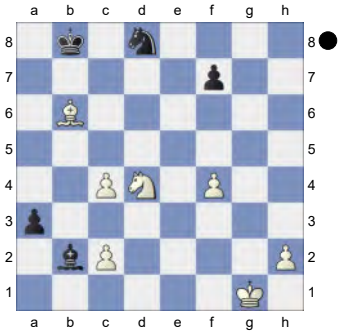
a4! 35.Nxf5? -8.16/22
[Don't blunder 35.Bxd8? a3 36.Kf2 a2-+]
[35.Bc5∓ -1.60/24]



35...a3!-+

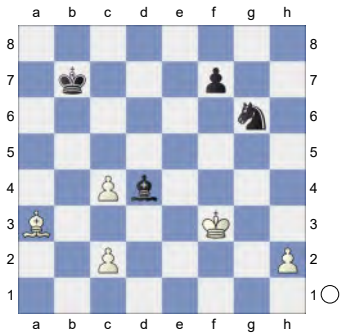


36.Nd4
[36.Bxd8 a2]



36...Kb7! 37.Bc5 Ne6? -1.49/22
[37...a2-+ -8.75/22 38.Nb3 Nc6]
38.Bxa3 -2.54/24
[38.Nb3∓ -1.49/22 is a better defense.]
38...Bxd4+
[Weaker is 38...Bxa3 39.Nxe6 fxe6 40.Kf2=]
39.Kg2 Nxf4+ 40.Kf3 Ng6

(Diagram)



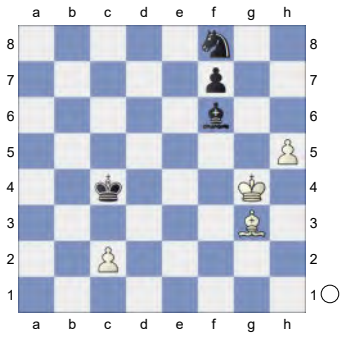
And now ...f5 would win. **41.Kg4** -3.03/23

[41.Ke4 -1.69/22 keeps fighting. Bf6 42.Kf5]

41...Bf6 42.Bd6 -2.31/24

[42.Bc1 -1.86/23 might work better.]

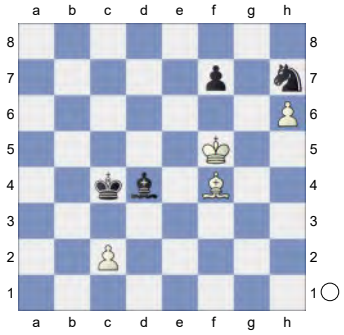
42...Kc6 43.Bg3 Kc5 44.h4 Kxc4 45.h5 Nf8



46.h6? -6.17/35

[46.Kf5 -2.70/25 Nh7 47.Be5]

46...Nh7 47.Kf5 Kd5 48.Bf4 Bc3 49.Be3 Kc4 50.Bf4 Bd4

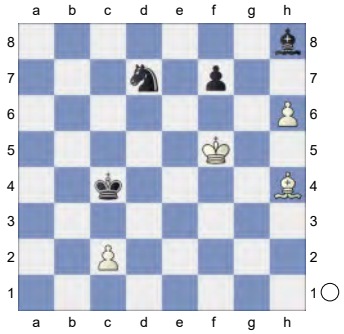


51.Bd2 Bh8 52.Be1 Nf8 53.Bh4 Nd7 Inhibits Bf6. **54.Be1 Nc5?** -0.01/30

[54...Kd5-+ -3.18/29 Hoping for ... Kd4. 55.Bh4 Kd4]

55.Bh4!= Strongly threatening Bf6.

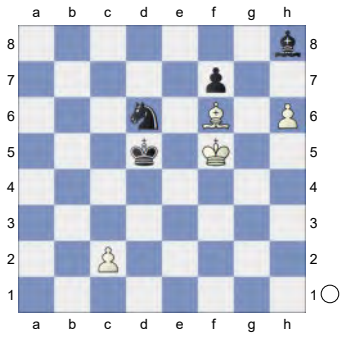
55...Nd7



Inhibits Bf6. aiming for ...Kc3. **56.Be1** This costs White the game. **56...Nb6 57.Bg3 Kd5** Against Be5 **58.Bh4 Nc4 59.Bf6?** -15.16/30

[59.Bg5 -2.65/22]

59...Nd6+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/ Black=0.30. Loss on time!?

1-0

230 **C18**

☐ **Gulko,Boris F** **2585**

■ **Nisipeanu,Liviu Dieter** **2575**

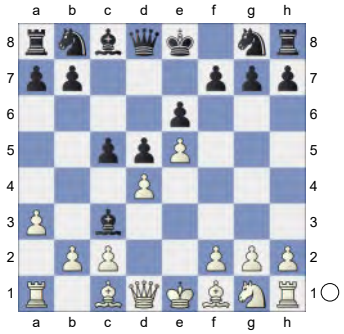
Olympiad-33 Elista (12.3) 11.10.1998

[Kitty Kat]

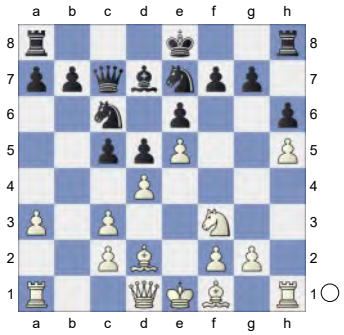
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

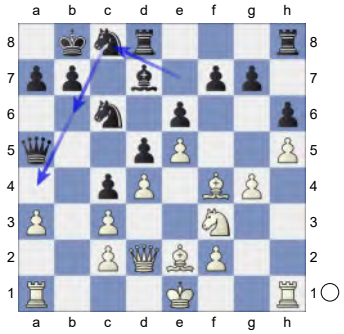
(Diagram)



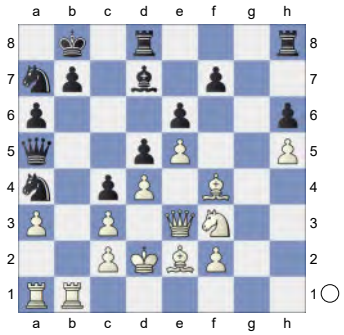
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7 8.h5 h6 0.42/16
[8...cxd4= 0.02/19 was preferrable. 9.cxd4 Qc3+ 10.Bd2 Qxd4]
9.Bd2
[9.Rb1 b6 10.Qg4 cxd4 11.Qxg7 Rg8 12.Qxh6 Qxe5+ 13.Ne2 dxc3 14.Qf4 Qxf4 15.Bxf4 Nbc6 16.Nxc3 e5 17.Bd2 Bf5 18.f3 Rd8 19.Kf2 f6 20.Bd3 Kf7 21.g4 Bxd3 22.cxd3 Nd4 23.Rhc1 Rc8 Deslandes,P (2835)-Panov Botvinnik Attack (2784) Uppsala 2020 CBM 051 Extra [Nyback/Meyer,CD] (69)]
9...Nbc6 10.Nf3N
[10.Qg4 Rg8 11.Bd3 c4 12.Be2 Bd7 13.Qf4 0-0-0 14.Nf3 Rdf8 15.a4 Qa5 16.0-0 f6 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Rfb1 a6 19.Ra2 Nf5 20.Rab2 Nd8 21.Rb4 Qc7 22.Qxc7+ Kxc7 23.Bf4+ Kc8 24.g3 Bc6 Martic,I (2274)-Zanan,E (2485) Vrnjacka Banja 2023 0-1 (68)]
10...Bd7



11.Bd3 c4 12.Be2 0-0-0 13.Bf4 Qa5 14.Qd2 Kb8 15.g4 Nc8

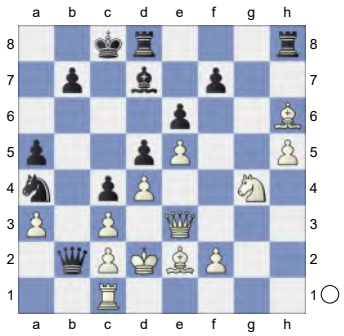


16.Qe3 Nb6 17.Kd2 Na4 18.g5 a6 19.gxh6 gxh6 20.Rhb1 Na7

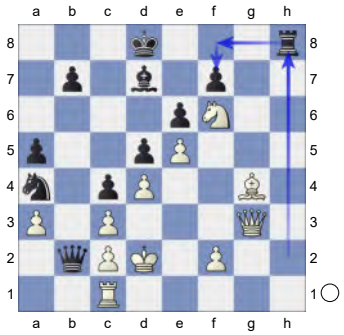


21.Nh2! Nb5 22.Rxb5 Qxb5
[Don't play 22...Bxb5?! 23.Ng4∓]
23.Ng4 Qb2 24.Rc1 -1.08/20
[24.Rh1= -0.03/21]
24...a5 -0.01/20
[24...b5∓ -1.08/20 25.Nxh6 Be8]
25.Bxh6 -0.92/21
[25.Nxh6= -0.01/20 Be8 26.Ng4]
25...Kc8 -0.01/19
[Of course not 25...Qxa3?! 26.Bg5 Rdf8 27.Nf6=]
[Better is 25...Bc6∓ -0.92/21 ...b5 is the strong threat. 26.Bg5 Rdg8]

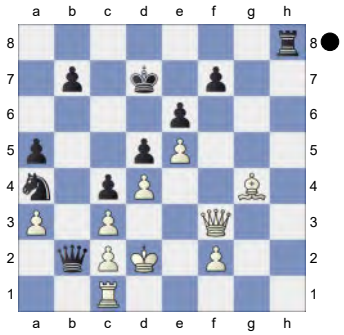
(Diagram)



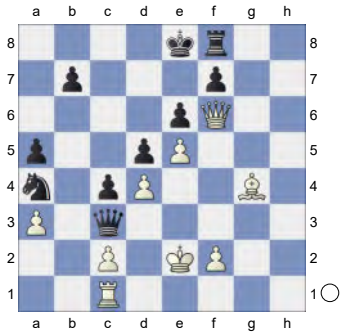
26.Bg5 -1.33/22
[26.Rh1!= -0.01/19 keeps the balance.]
26...Rxh5 -0.71/24
[⊿26...Rdg8 -1.33/22 27.Bh6 b5]
27.Bxd8∓ Really sharp! **27...Kxd8**
28.Nf6 Rh4 0.19/22
[⊿28...Rh2 -0.13/23]
29.Bg4 Rh2 Strongly threatening ... Nxc3! **30.Qg3 Rh8**



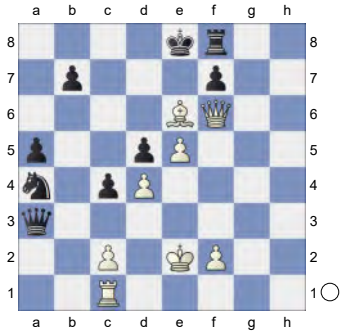
31.Nxd7 -0.21/23
[31.Bh5± 0.39/20 Qxa3 32.Bxf7]
31...Kxd7= 32.Qf3 -1.18/24
[32.Bxe6+!∓ -0.41/23 Kxe6 33.Qf3]



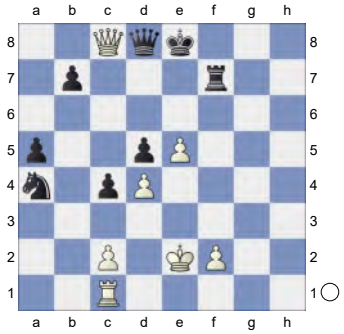
32...Ke8 -0.01/21
[Black should try 32...Kc8!∓ -1.18/24 White must now prevent ...Kb8. 33.Rg1 *(33.Qxf7? Qxc3+ 34.Ke2 Qxd4-+)* 33...Qxa3]
33.Qf6!⇄ White puts up resistance
33...Qxc3+ 34.Ke2 Rf8



35.Bxe6! Qxa3



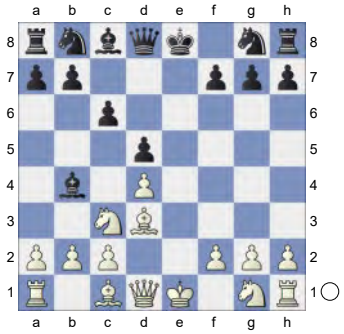
36.Bxf7+! Remove Defender, Decoy
36...Rxf7 37.Qe6+ Qe7 38.Qc8+ Qd8 39.Qe6+ Qe7 40.Qc8+ Qd8



Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.29 (precise) . Loss on time!?
1-0

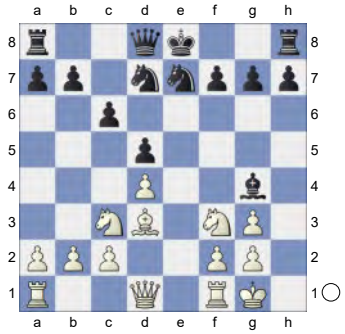
231 **C01**
□ **Nachtsheim,Franz** **2577**
■ **Walther,Franz** **2580**
corr CP LSS IECG (3) 13.03.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 c6

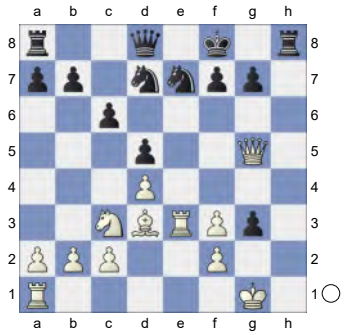


6.Nf3
[6.Nge2 Ne7 7.Ng3 0-0 8.0-0 Ng6 9.Nce2 Bd6 10.Nf5 Bxf5 11.Bxf5 Nd7 12.g3 Re8 13.Nc3 Ngf8 14.f4 Nf6 15.Qd3 Qb6 16.Bh3 Ne6 17.Ne2 c5 18.c3 cxd4 19.cxd4 Rac8 20.b3 Qc6 Nestorovic,N (2434)-Ganguly,S (2623) Cappelle la Grande FRA 2014 [John Watson] 0-1 (63)]
6...Bg4N
[6...Ne7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bf4 Bf5 9.a3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Bxc3 11.Qxc3 Ng6 12.Bg3 Nd7 13. Winawer Sidelines-4. exd5 (5.Bd3 6.Nf3)]
7.0-0 Ne7 8.Bf4 Bd6 The position is equal. **9.Bg3 Bxg3**
[9...h6 10.h3 Bxg3 11.fxg3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 0-0 13.Rae1 Nd7 14.Nd1 Nc8 15.Ne3 Hoping for Nf5. Nd6]
[9...a5 seems wilder. 10.Qe2 Na6 11.Rae1 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Nb4]
10.hxg3 Nd7

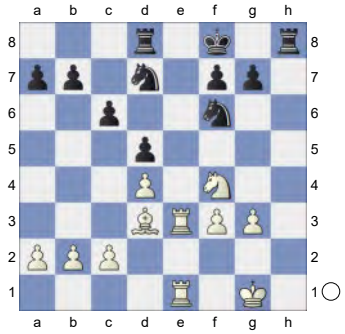
(Diagram)



11.Re1 h5 12.Qd2 Bxf3 13.gxf3 h4 14.Qg5 Kf8 15.Re3 hxg3

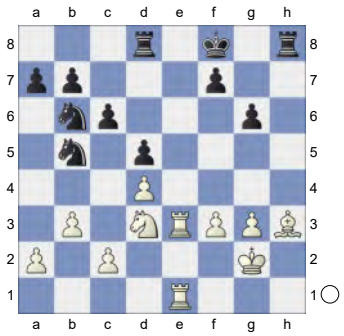


16.fxg3 Ng8 17.Qf4 Qb8 Inhibits Qd6+. **18.Ne2 Ngf6 19.Re1 Qxf4 20.Nxf4 Rd8**



21.Bf5 Nb6 22.b3 Inhibits Nc4. **22...Ne8 23.Kg2 Nd6 24.Bh3 g6 25.Nd3 Nb5** 1.02/22
[25...Nd7± 0.48/21]

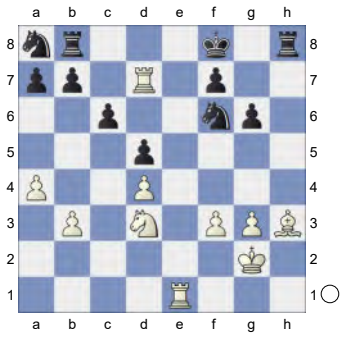
(Diagram)



26.Re7± **Rb8** **27.c3** 0.70/23 0x0. 001fbb6f3187dp-1022s more active pieces.

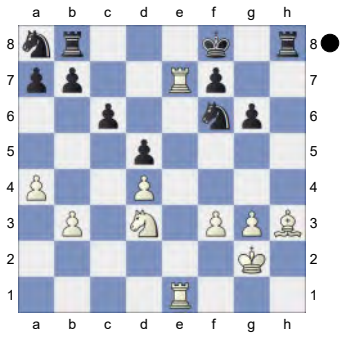
[White should try 27.a4± 1.12/22 Nxd4 28.Rc7]

27...Nxc3± **28.a4** Strongly threatening a5. **28...Ne4!** **29.Rc7** White has compensation. **29...Na8!** **30.Rd7** **Nf6**



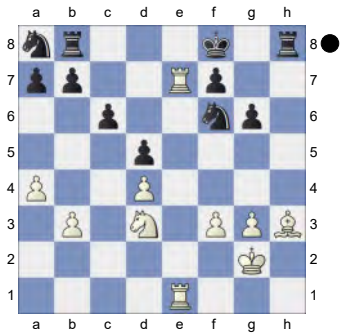
31.Rde7 -0.01/25

[31.Ne5!± 1.06/24 Nxd7 32.Nxd7+ Kg7 33.Nxb8 Rxb8 34.Re7]



31...Ne4! **32.Rd7↑** Black is under pressure. **32...Nf6** **33.Rde7**

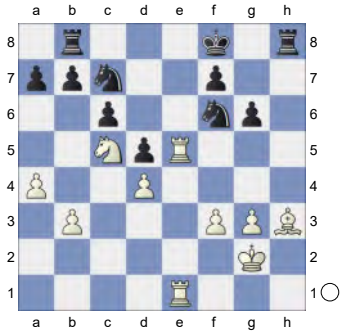
(Diagram)



Black must now prevent Nc5. **33...Ne4** **34.Re5**

[34.Rd7 Nf6]

34...Nf6 **35.Nc5** Re7 is the strong threat. **35...Nc7**



36.Re7 -0.99/21

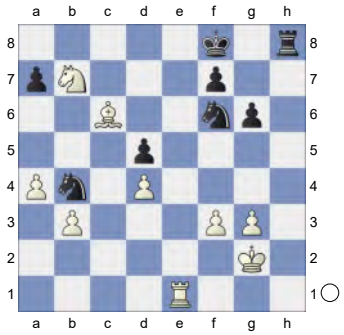
[Of course not 36.Nd7+ Nxd7 37.Bxd7 Rd8∓]

[36.b4= 0.01/20 remains equal.]

36...Re8? 1.01/26

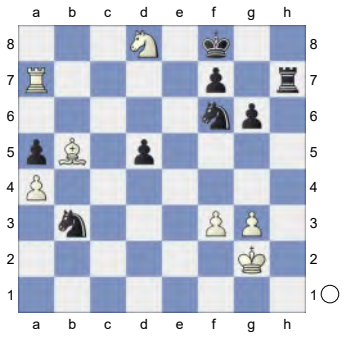
[36...Ne6!∓ -0.99/21 stays on course. 37.Rxb7 Rxb7 38.Nxb7 Nxd4]

37.Rxe8+± **Nfxe8** **38.Nxb7** **Na6** **39.Bd7** **Nf6** **40.Bxc6** **Nb4**

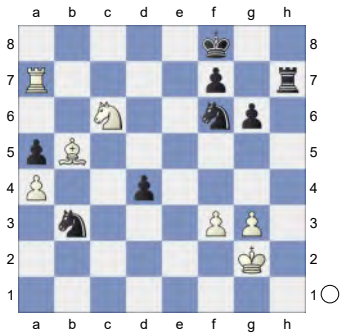


41.Bb5 **Nc2** **42.Rc1** **Nxd4** **43.Rc7** Threatens to win with Nd6. **43...Rh7**

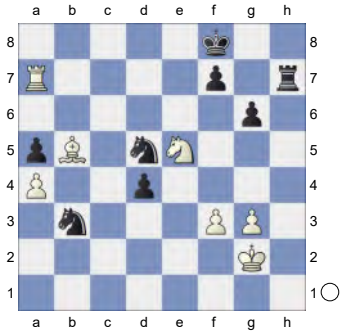
44.Nd8 a5 1.06/21
[⌓44...Nxb5 1.38/21 45.axb5 d4]
45.Ra7 Nxb3



46.Nc6 d4 2.21/22
[46...Ng8± 1.11/20 47.Nxa5 Nxa5]

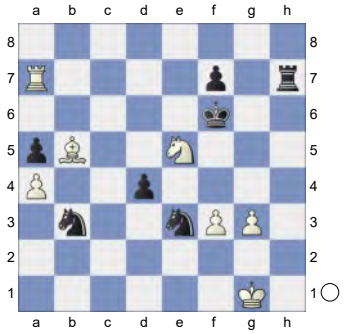


47.Ne5 0.93/21
[47.Bc4!+- 2.21/22 Nd2 48.Ba2 *(48.Nxa5 Nxc4 49.Nxc4 Rh5±)*]
47...Nd5

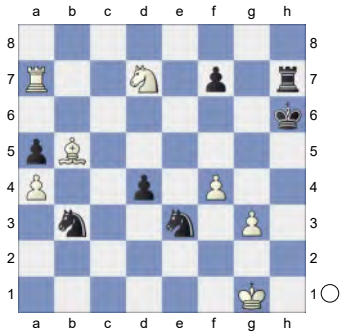


48.Nxg6+! Kg7 49.Ne5 Ne3+ 50.Kg1 Kf6

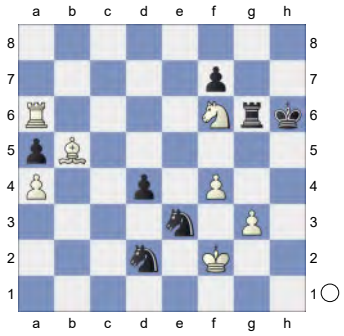
(Diagram)



51.Nd7+ Kg5 2.22/21
[51...Kg7± 1.49/22]
52.f4++- Kh6

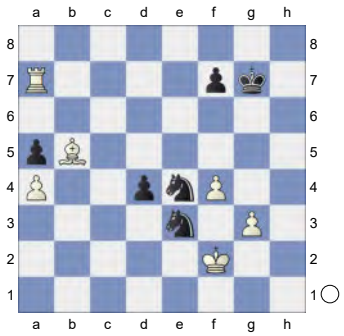


53.Nf6? 0.53/20
[53.Nf8!+- 2.65/20]
53...Rg7 1.76/22 This move loses the game for Black.
[Better is 53...Rh8± 0.53/20]
54.Kf2 Nd2? 5.06/24
[54...Nc5 1.93/20 is more resistant. 55.Rxa5 Rg6]
55.Ra6 White is clearly winning.
55...Rg6

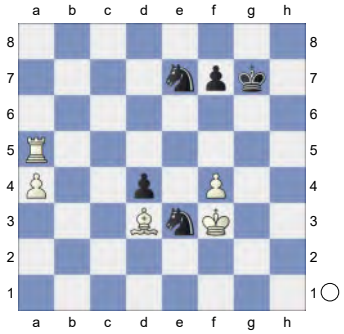


56.Bd3 Rxf6 57.Rxf6+ Endgame KRB-KNN **57...Kg7 58.Ra6 Nb3 59.Ra7 Nc5 60.Bb5 Ne4+** 6.74/21

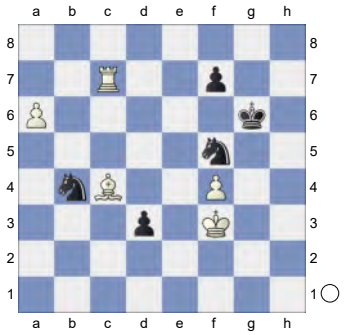
[⌓60...Nd1+ 4.40/20 61.Ke1 Nb2 62.Rxa5 d3]



61.Kf3 Nd2+ 62.Ke2 Ne4 63.Rxa5 Nxg3+ 64.Kf3 Ngf5 65.Bd3 Ne7

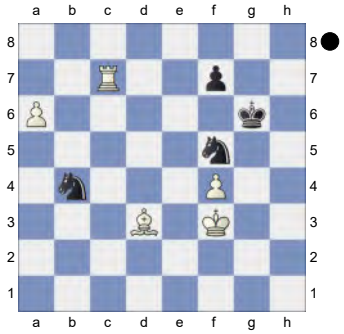


66.Ra7 Nc6 67.Rc7 Nb4 68.Bc4 Kg6 69.a5 Nf5 70.a6 d3



71.Bxd3

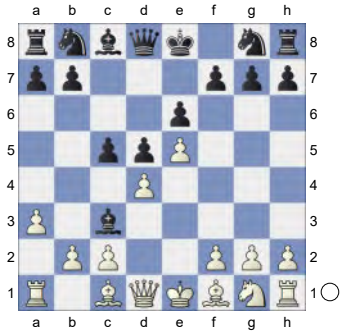
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.23 (precise)
1-0

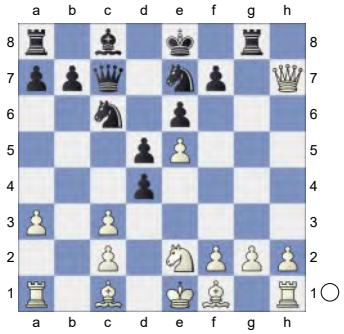
232 **C18**
□ **Bernadskiy,Vitaliy** **2570**
■ **Lupulescu,Constantin** **2603**
Geoagiu-154/156 2022
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Noel Blades and John Watson: 'A highly theoretical game annotated in considerable detail by Jose Blades. All of my own notes and analysis are prefaced by 'jw:'.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Ne2 Nbc6

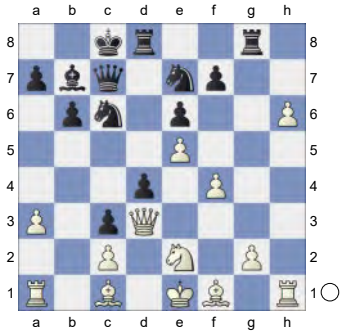
(Diagram)



11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 d4 13.h4 b6! 14.h5 Bb7! 15.h6

[Reject 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Bxg2 17.Bxg2 Rxg2∓]

15...0-0-0



16.h7 Rh8 17.Rh3

[17.Rb1!?]

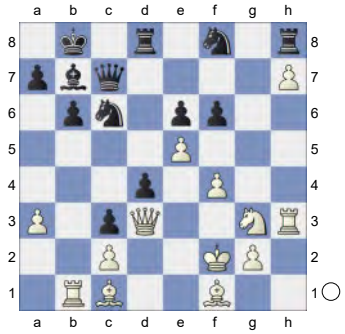
[17.Ng3 Ng6 18.Qc4 Kb8 19.Bd3 Qe7 20.Ne4 Na5 21.Qb5 Qc7 22.Rb1 Nc4 23.Ng5 Bxg2 24.Qxc4 Qxc4 25.Bxc4 Bxh1 26.Nxf7 Be4 27.Nxd8 Rxd8 28.Bxe6 Bxc2 29.Rb4 Nh4 30.f5 Bxf5 31.Bg5 Rh8 Glowatzky,T (2811)-Blades,J (2729) Chessworld.net 2013 [Noel Blades and John Watson] ½-½ (40)]

[17.Rh2 Nd5 18.Rb1 f5 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Ng3 Rxh7 21.Rxh7 Qxh7 22.Qxh7 Nxh7 23.Bd3 Nf6 24.Ne4 Nxe4 25.Bxe4 Ne7 26.Bxb7+ Kxb7 27.Ke2 Rh8 28.Rb4 Nc6 29.Rb5 Rh1 30.Bb2 Rb1 31.Rh5 cxb2 Gazineu Neto,R (1912)-Clawitter,C (2050) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (32)]

17...Ng6N

[17...Nd5 18.Rb1 f5 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Qg6 Rdf8 21.f5 Ne7 22.Qg3 e5 23.Nxd4 exd4 24.Qxc7+ Kxc7 25.Bf4+ Kd7 26.Rd1 Nxf5 27.Rxc3 Nd5 28.Bb5+ Ke6 29.Rf3 Rxh7 30.Kf2 Nde3 31.Be5 Kxe5 Chapter-Games Game 18 (31)]

18.Kf2 Nf8! 19.Ng3⇄ White is not keeping still **19...Kb8 20.Rb1 f6**



21.exf6 Rxh7 0.37/20

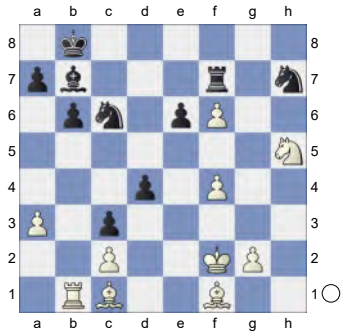
[21...Nxh7= -0.01/20 22.Ne4 Rdf8]

22.Rxh7 -0.01/21

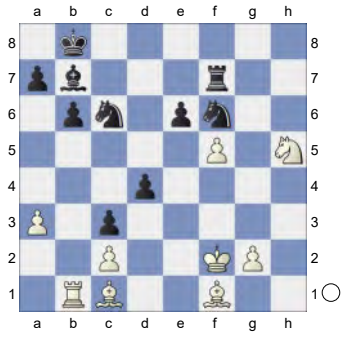
[22.Ne4!± 0.37/20]

22...Nxh7 23.Qg6 Threatening Bd3.

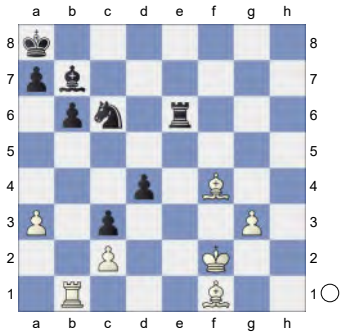
23...Rf8 24.Nh5 Qf7! 25.Qxf7 Rxf7



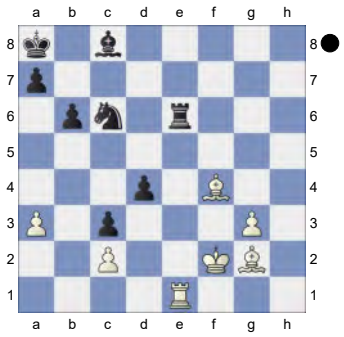
26.f5 Nxf6



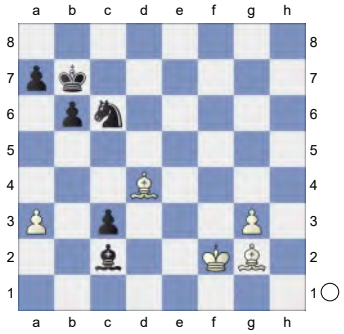
27.fxe6! Rf8
[27...Ne4+ 28.Kg1]
28.Bf4+ Ka8 29.Nxf6 Rxf6 30.g3
And now Re1 would win. **30...Rxe6**



31.Re1 Bc8 0.58/26
[31...Rxe1= 0.25/24 32.Kxe1 Bc8]
32.Bg2±

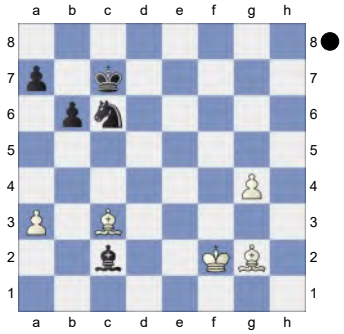


Black must now prevent Rxe6. White is slightly better. **32...Kb7 33.Rxe6! Bxe6 34.Be5! Bf5 35.Bxd4 Bxc2**



36.Bxc3 Kc7 37.g4

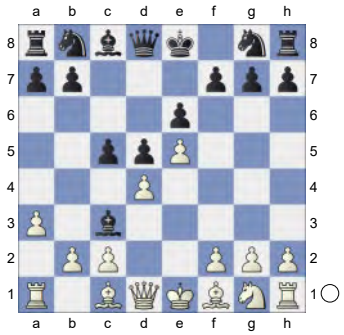
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
1-0

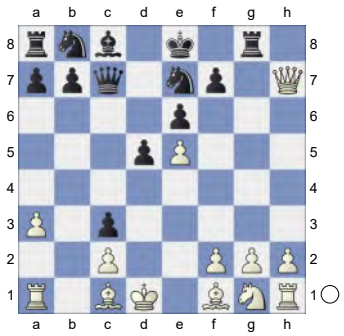
233	**C18**
☐ **Tari,Aryan**	**2570**
■ **Goganov,Aleksey**	**2635**
Sverige 132/114	2017
[Kitty Kat]	

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

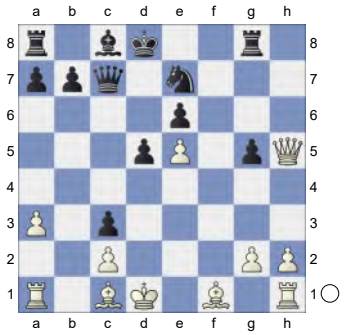


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Kd1 dxc3

(Diagram)



11.Nf3 Nbc6 12.Ng5 Nxe5 13.f4 f6 14.fxe5 fxg5 15.Qh5+ Kd8



The position is equal. **16.Bxg5** Black must now prevent h4. **16...Qc5**

17.Bd3 -0.46/21

[17.h4= 0.20/20]

[17.Qh4 Rxg5 18.Qxg5 Kc7 19.Bd3 Bd7 20.Qf4 d4 21.Rb1 Nd5 22.Qf7 Rd8 23.Qg7 Kc8 24.Qg3 Ne3+ 25.Ke2 Bc6 26.h4 Bxg2 27.Rhg1 Bc6 28.Rb4 a5 29.Rbb1 Ng4 30.Ke1 Nxe5 31.Rf1 Nxd3+ Schoneberg,M (2469)-Thorhallsson,T (2485) Camaguey 2001 ZUS C73 [Chess Pie 2; Harding] 0-1 (36)]

17...Kc7∓ 18.Qh4 -1.29/22

[18.Rf1∓ -0.31/19 Nc6 19.Rf7+ Bd7 20.Rxd7+ Kxd7 21.Qf7+ Ne7 22.Bb5+ Qxb5 23.Qxe7+ Kc8 24.Qxe6+ Kc7 25.Qd6+ *(25.Qf6? Raf8-+)* 25...Kc8 26.Qe6+ Kc7 27.Qd6+ *(27.Qf6 Raf8 28.Qd6+ Kc8 29.Qe6+ Kb8 30.Bh4 Qf1+ 31.Be1 Rxg2 32.Qd6+ Ka8)* 27...Kc8 28.Qe6+]

18...Nc6∓ 19.Qf4N -1.67/20

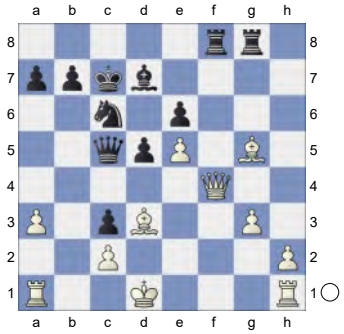
[19.Qg3∓ -1.13/18]

[19.Re1 Bd7 20.g4 Raf8 21.Bf6 Qd4 22.h3 Qf4 23.Re2 Qf1+ 24.Re1 Qf4 25.Re2 Qf1+ 26.Re1 Qf3+ 27.Re2 Rxf6 28.exf6 e5 29.g5 e4 30.Qf2 Qxh3 31.Qf4+ Kc8 32.Rh2 Qf5 33.Qxf5 Bxf5 Sisniega,M-Agdestein,S Taxco 1985 CI1-130 [Agdestein,Simen] 0-1 (40)]

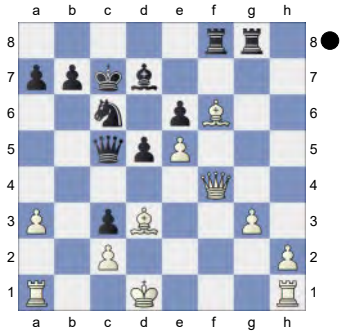
19...Bd7!-+ 20.g3? -4.07/22

[20.Qg3 -1.67/21 was called for.]

20...Raf8



21.Bf6



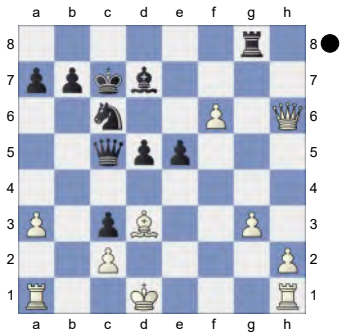
Rxf6! 22.exf6+

[22.Qxf6 Rf8]

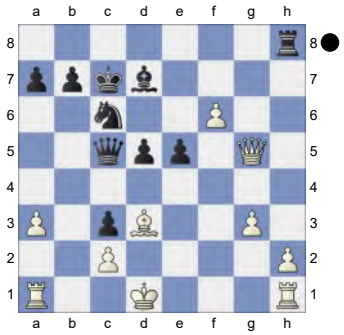
22...e5 23.Qh6 -13.77/17

[23.f7 leads to mate. exf4! 24.Kc1 Qe3+ 25.Kb1 Qb6+ 26.Kc1 Qb2+ 27.Kd1 Qxa1+ 28.Ke2 Nd4+ 29.Kf2 Qxh1 30.fxg8R Qxh2+ 31.Kf1 Bh3+ 32.Ke1 Qd2#]

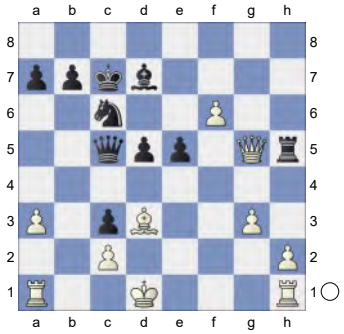
[⌓23.Qf1 -4.03/21 Bg4+ 24.Kc1 Qe3+ 25.Kb1 Qb6+ 26.Bb5]



23...Rh8!! 24.Qg5
[24.Qd2 cxd2]



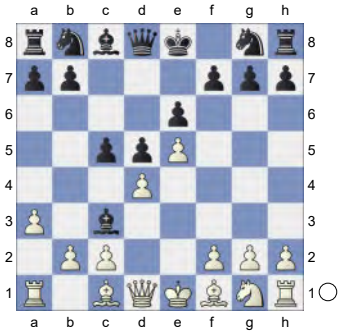
24...Rh5!!



Black took control after the opening.
Weighted Error Value: White=1.16/ Black=0.01 (flawless)
0-1

234 **C19**
□ **Afanasiev,Nikita** **2569**
■ **Ivanov,Oleg V** **2444**
153/5 Moscow 2022
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
Riazantsev,Alexander: 'Riazantsev,A: 'Inf 86/(306)" RK: '1990/91 ' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**
[5...Ba5 6.b4 cxd4 *(6...cxb4 7.Nb5 bxa3+ 8.c3)* 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.f4 Ne7! 9.Nf3 Bd7 10.Nxc7+ Qxc7+- 11.Bd3]



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.a4N
[7.Nf3]
[7.Qg4
A) 7...Qc7
A1) 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 Bd7 13.Qxc3 Nf5 14.Rb1 d4 15.Qd3 0-0-0 16.Rg1 Nce7 *(16...Na5 17.Rb4 Bc6 18.Ng3 Nxg3 19.hxg3 Rg6 20.Be2 Bd5 21.Rxd4 Nc6 22.Ra4 Bxg2 23.Qc3 Bd5 24.Be3 b6 25.Qb2 Ne7 26.Bf2 Rh8 27.Rd4 Nc6 28.Rd2 Na5 29.Rd3 Kb8 30.Rc3 Qe7 31.Bc5* Antoszkiewicz,G (2180)-Eisenacher,H Germany_103446

1991 UltraCorr3a [RK] 1-0 (33)) 17.Rb4 Nd5 18.Rc4 Bc6 19.Nxd4 Nb6 20.Rxc6 bxc6 21.Qa6+ Kb8 22.Nxf5 exf5 Renet,O (2480)-Huebner,R (2600) Cologne 1989 CBM 016 [Knaak,Rainer] 0-1 (31);

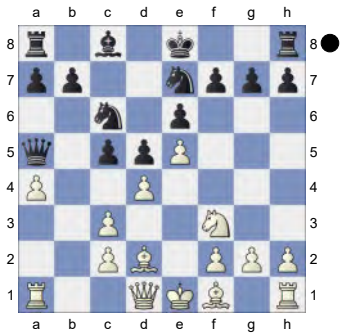
A2) 8.Bd3 cxd4 9.Ne2 dxc3 10.Qxg7 Rg8 11.Qh6 Nbc6 12.Bf4 Bd7 13.0-0 Ng6 14.Bg3 Ncxe5 15.Rab1 f5 16.Rb3 Qd6 17.Rxb7 Qf8 18.Qe3 Nxd3 19.cxd3 Lupi,F-12) Black Plays 8...b6 with 1 Bucharest 2014 200 Traps In The Opening [Sh Riga 11/1977];

B) 7...0-0 8.Bd3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Nbc6 10.Nf3 f5 11.exf6 Rxf6 12.Qh5 Nf5 13.c4 Qa4 14.cxd5 Ncxd4 15.Ng5 h6 16.Ne4 Rf8 17.0-0 b6 18.Ng3 Ba6 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.Bxa6 Qxa6 21.Rae1 Qb7 22.c3 Nijboer,F (2556)-Riazantsev,A (2543) Hoogeveen 2002 CI1-130 [Riazantsev,Alexander] ½-½]

[7.h4]

7...Nbc6 8.Nf3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Diagram

[9.Qd2 b6]

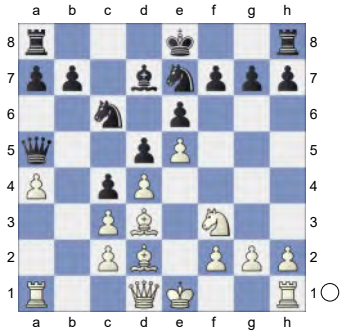


9...Bd7N 10.Bd3

[10.c4 Qc7 11.cxd5 exd5 12.c3 0-0 13.Be2 Bg4]

10...c4

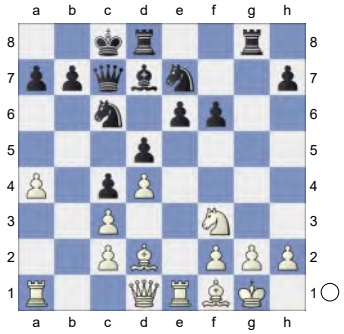
(Diagram)



11.Be2 f6 12.exf6

[△12.0-0 fxe5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.dxe5 0-0!]

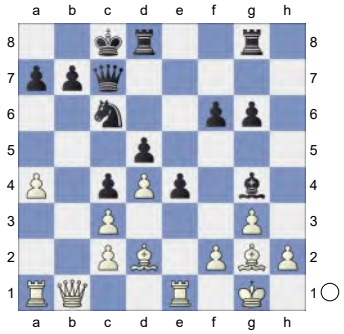
12...gxf6 13.0-0 0-0-0 14.Re1 Rhg8 15.Bf1 Qc7?



16.g3 White has an edge. **16...e5 17.Bg2**

[17.dxe5!? fxe5⩲]

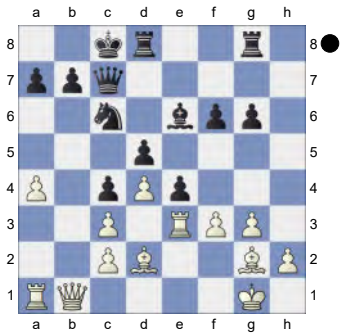
17...Bg4 18.Qb1! e4 19.Nh4 Ng6 20.Nxg6 hxg6 Diagram



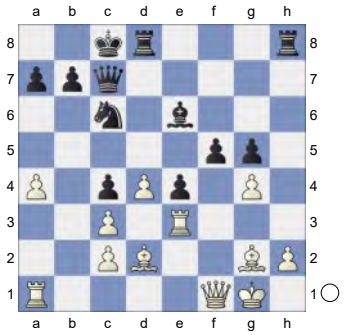
21.Re3!!+- Be6 22.Qf1 -0.35/21

[22.f3 Diagram

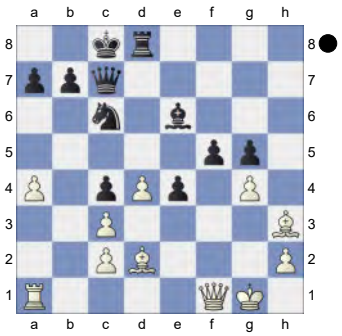
(Diagram)



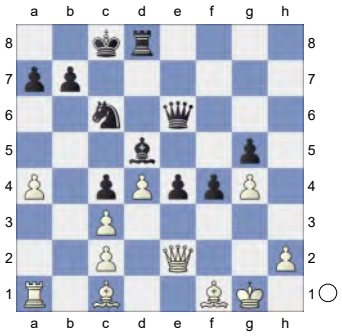
f5!!]
[22.a5= -0.01/20]
22...g5↑ Black has good play. **23.f3! f5 24.fxe4**
[24.Re2!]
24...dxe4 25.g4 -1.02/20
[25.Re2]
[25.Re2= -0.29/19 keeps the balance.]
25...Rh8∓



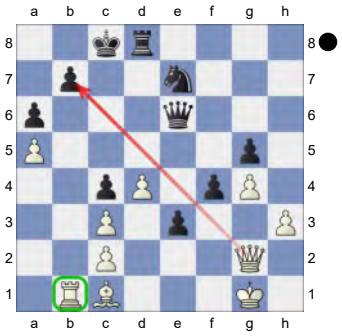
26.Rh3 -5.65/21 Loses the game.
[26.h3 f4 -0.12/20 *(26...fxg4∓* -0.98/20 *27.Bxe4 gxh3)* 27.Rxe4= Bd5 Strongly threatening ...Rdf8.
A) 28.Re2? -2.20/22 28.Rae1 0.01 f3! 29.Bxf3 Qg3+ 30.Bg2 -2.46/23 *(30.Qg2* -1.93/24 is a better defense. *Qxf3 31.Qxf3 Bxf3 32.Rh2)* 30...Rxh3!;
B) 28.Rae1 Rdf8 ...f3 is the strong threat. 29.Bf3 Bxe4 30.Rxe4 Qh7 0.45/19 *(30...Kb8=* -0.28/18 *)*]
[26.h3∓ -1.30/19 f4 27.Rxe4]
26...Rxh3-+ 27.Bxh3
(Diagram)



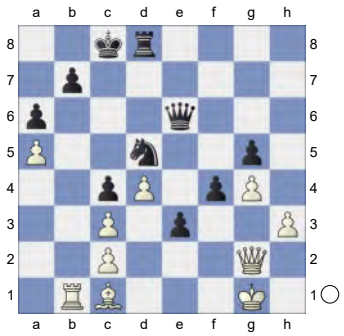
f4 -2.11/20
[⊏27...Ne5! -4.87/20 And now ...Nf3+ would win. 28.dxe5 Rxd2 29.gxf5 Qc5+ 30.Kh1 Bd5]
28.Qe2 -3.04/22
[⊏28.Re1 -2.11/20]
28...Bd5 29.Bf1 Qe7 30.Bc1! -4.54/21
[⊏30.Re1 -2.70/20]
30...Qe6



31.h3! Ne7 32.Rb1 a6 33.a5? -4.99/20
[33.Bg2 -2.88/20 was the only defense.]
33...e3 34.Bg2 Bxg2 35.Qxg2



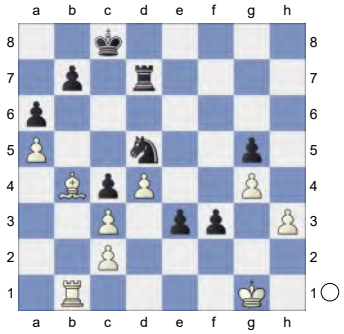
Nd5
(Diagram)



36.Qf3! Rd7 37.Bb2 Nf6 38.Ba3 -6.20/24

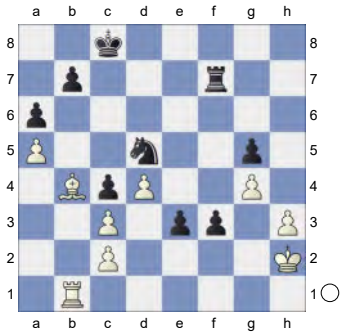
[⌓38.Re1 -3.93/21]

38...Qd5 39.Qxd5 # 39...Nxd5 40.Bb4 f3∞



White must now prevent ...Rh7. **41.Kh2 Rf7** -16.92/24

[⌓41...f2 -#12/20 42.Kg2 Rf7 43.Kf1 Rf3 44.Re1 fxe1Q+ 45.Kxe1 Rxh3 46.Bd6 Nxc3 47.Bh2 Rxh2 48.Kf1 Rxc2 49.d5 Nxd5 50.Ke1 Nf4 51.Kd1 Rc3 52.Ke1 Rc1#]



Weighted Error Value: White=1.03/ Black=0.28 (precise) . Loss on time!?

1-0

235 **C16**

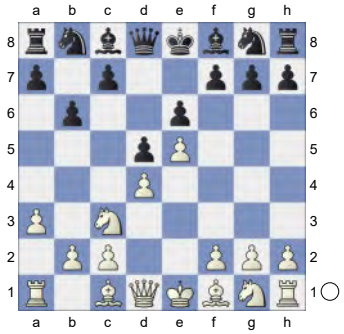
□ **Alekseev,Evgeny V** **2567**

■ **Swiercz,Dariusz** **2640**

Aimchess Play In op rapid (7) 12.06.23

[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8**



6.Nf3 Ne7 7.Bd3 0.68/22

[White should play 7.h4± 1.06/23 h5 8.Bg5 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.0-0 Qd7 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.Ne2 Nbc6 13.c4 dxc4 14.Qxc4 Nd5 15.Rac1 Nce7 16.Bxe7 Bxe7 17.Nc3 0-0-0 18.Nxd5 exd5 19.Qa6+ Kb8 20.e6 Qc8 21.Qxc8+ Kxc8 22.exf7 ½-½ Under the Radar,J (2585)-Pina,J (2605) Saint Petersburg 92/(240) 2004]

7...Ba6

[7...Qd7 8.b4 c6 9.Rb1 Ba6 10.b5 cxb5 11.Nxb5 Bxb5 12.Bxb5 Nec6 13.a4 a6 14.Bd3 Nb4 15.Be2 Qc7 16.0-0 Nd7 17.Bd2 Nc6 18.Bd3 Be7 19.Qe2 Qa7 20.c4]

8.Nb5!? White is much more active. Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.

[8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qd3 Nb8 10.0-0 c5 *(10...Nf5)*]

[8.0-0 Bxd3 9.cxd3 Nf5 10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Bf4 Nc6 12.Rc1 0-0-0 13.Rc3 Kb7 14.Qc2 Rc8 15.Rc1

Nb8 16.b4]

8...Nc8N

[8...Qd7 9.Qe2 Bb7 10.a4 Nbc6 11.c3 Na5]

[8...Nf5 9.g4 Ne7 10.Be3 Bb7 11.b4 a6 12.Nc3 c5 13.bxc5 bxc5 14.dxc5 Ng6 15.0-0 Nd7 16.Rb1 Bc6 Chapter-Najdorf - 7...Be7 9.Ng3, M 2023]

[8...Ng6 9.h4]

9.0-0 White is better.

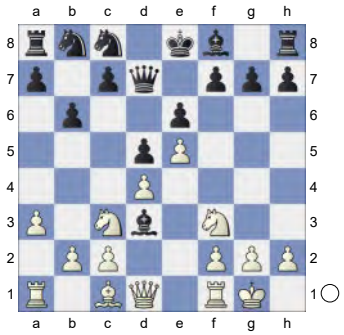
[9.Ng5 Qd7 10.Qh5 g6 11.Qf3 Bg7 *(11...h6 12.Nxe6 fxe6 13.Bxg6+ Kd8 14.Qf6+ Ne7 15.a4 Rg8 16.Bh7)* 12.h4 *(12.Qxf7+ Qxf7 13.Nxf7 Bxb5)* 12...h6 13.Qxf7+ Qxf7 14.Nxf7 Kxf7 *(14...Bxb5 15.Bxg6 0-0 16.Nxh6+)* 15.Nxc7 Bxd3 16.cxd3 Nc6 17.Nxa8 Nxd4]

9...Qd7 10.Nc3

[10.Qe2 c6 11.Nc7+ Qxc7 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.Qxa6 b5 14.a4 b4]

[10.a4 c6 11.Nc3 *(11.Na3 Bxd3 12.Qxd3 a5 13.Bd2 Na6)* 11...Bxd3 12.Qxd3 c5]

10...Bxd3



11.Qxd3 c5N 12.Ne2 c4

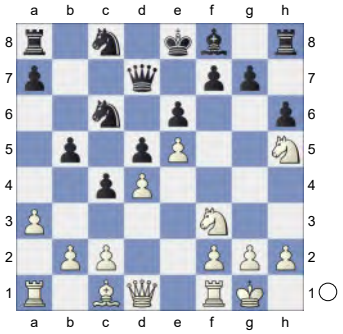
[12...Ne7 13.c4]

13.Qd1 b5 14.Ng3 h6

[14...g6 15.Bg5]

[14...Be7 15.Nh5 0-0 *(15...g6 16.Nf6+ Bxf6 17.exf6 Qd8 18.Bg5 h6 19.Bh4 Nd6 20.Ne5 g5 21.Bg3)* 16.Ng5 g6 17.Qg4 *(17.Nf6+ Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.Qf3 Nd7)* 17...f5 18.Qg3 *(18.exf6 gxh5)* 18...Nc6 *(18...gxh5 19.Nxe6+)* 19.Be3 Nb6 20.Nf4 Bxg5 21.Qxg5 Kh8 22.h4]

15.Nh5 Nc6



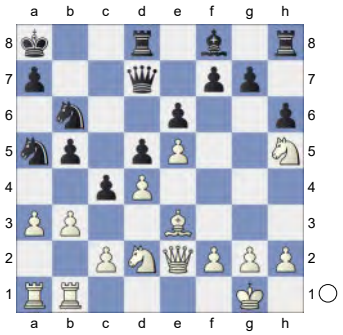
16.Be3 Nb6 17.Qe2 0-0-0

[17...a5 18.Nh4 *(18.b3 a4 19.b4 0-0-0)* 18...Kd8 19.f4 Be7 20.Nf3 Rg8 21.b3 Kc7 22.Rfb1 a4 23.bxa4 Nxa4 24.Qe1 *(24.Rxb5 Nc3)* 24...Kb6]

18.b3 Kb8 19.Rfb1 Ka8 20.Nd2

[20.a4 bxa4 21.bxa4 *(21.bxc4 Nxc4 22.Nd2 N6a5)* 21...Qc7 22.a5 Nd7 23.a6 Rb8]

20...Na5



21.Qe1 Qc6 0.98/22

[21...Rb8= 0.23/21 22.Nf3 *(22.Ne4 Nxb3 23.cxb3 dxe4; 22.a4 b4)* 22...Nc6 23.Bd2 g6 24.Nf6 Qc7]

22.Nf3± Nb7 23.Bd2

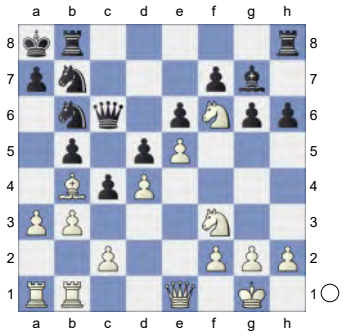
[23.a4 bxa4 24.bxa4 Rb8 25.Bd2]

23...Rb8

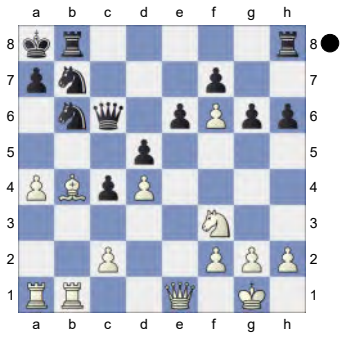
[23...g6 24.Nf6 Be7 25.Bb4 Bxf6]

24.Bb4 g6 Black is weak on the dark

squares **25.Nf6**
[25.Bxf8 Rhxf8 26.Nf6 Rfc8 27.Qd2 h5 28.Ng5]
25...Bg7

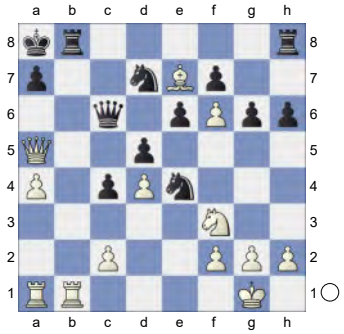


26.a4
[26.Ng4]
26...bxa4 27.bxa4 Bxf6 28.exf6

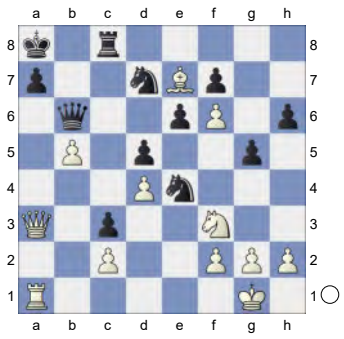


Threatens to win with Nf3-e5. **28...Nd7**
29.Be7
[29.Ne5 Nxe5 30.Qxe5 Nd8 31.h4 Rb7 32.Bc5 Qc7 33.Qxc7 Rxc7 34.a5 Nc6]
29...Nd6 30.Qa5 0.00/23
[30.Ne5± 0.50/20 Nxe5 31.dxe5 *(31.Qxe5 Rxb1+ 32.Rxb1)* 31...Nf5=]
30...Ne4=
[30...Rxb1+ 31.Rxb1 Ne4]

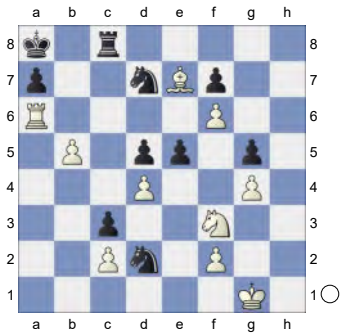
(Diagram)



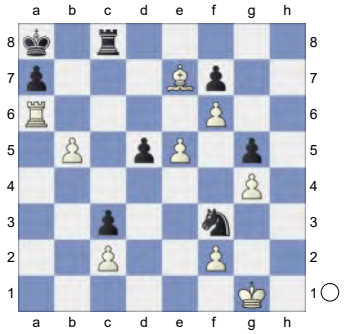
31.Rb5 Rhc8
[31...Rb6]
32.Rab1 -0.54/25
[32.Ne5= 0.00/23 Nxe5 33.dxe5]
32...Rxb5 0.03/21
[32...Qc7
A) 33.Qe1 c3 *(33...Nexf6 34.Bxf6 Nxf6 35.Ne5∓)*;
B) 33.Qxc7 Rxc7 34.Rxb8+ Nxb8 35.Ne5 Nc6 36.Nxf7 Nxf6 *(36...Nxe7 37.fxe7 Rxe7 38.Nxh6)* 37.Bxf6 Rxf7 38.Bh8 Rb7 39.Re1 Nb4 40.Rxe6 *(40.c3 Nd3)* 40...Nxc2]
33.axb5→ White is up to no good.
33...Qb6 34.Qa3 c3 0.25/22
[34...Nexf6? 35.Bxf6 Nxf6 36.Qe7±]
[⌓34...g5 -0.12/21 35.h3 Rb8 *(35...Nexf6 36.Bxf6 Nxf6 37.Qe7±)*]
35.Ra1 -0.13/26
[35.h3 0.25/22 is more appropriate.]
35...g5
[35...Nexf6? 36.Bxf6 Nxf6 37.Ne5+- *(37.Qe7 Ne4+-)*]



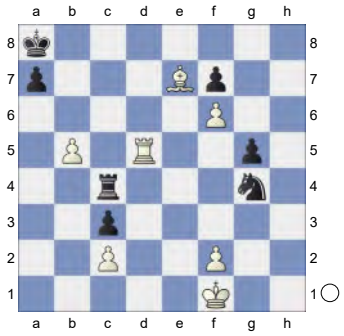
36.h3 h5
[36...Nexf6? 37.Bxf6 Nxf6 38.Ne5+- *(38.Qe7 Ne4+-)*]
37.g4 hxg4
[37...Qxb5 38.Qxa7#]
[37...Ndxf6? 38.Bxf6 hxg4 39.Ne5 Qxd4 40.Nxg4+-]
38.hxg4 e5 1.12/24
[38...Nd2= -0.17/24 39.Nxd2 *(39.Nxg5? Qxd4-+)* 39...cxd2 40.Qd3 *(40.c3 e5)* 40...Qc7 41.Qxd2 Rh8 42.Ra3 Qh2+ 43.Kf1 Qh1+ *(43...Nb6 44.Rxa7+ Kxa7 45.Qa5+ Kb7 46.Qa6+ Kc7 47.Qa7+ Kc8 48.Qxb6 Qh1+ 49.Ke2 Qe4+ 50.Kd2 Qf4+ 51.Ke2 Qxg4+ 52.Kd2 Qf4+ 53.Ke2)* 44.Ke2 Qe4+ 45.Qe3 Qxc2+ 46.Qd2 Qe4+ 47.Qe3 Qxg4+ 48.Kd2 Qf4 49.Qxf4 gxf4 50.Bc5]
[38...Ndxf6 39.Bxf6 Nxf6 40.Qe7+-]
39.Qa6
[39.dxe5? leads to mate. Qxf2+ 40.Kh1 Ng3#]
[39.Qa5 simplifies Qxa5 40.Rxa5 exd4 41.Nxd4 Kb7 42.f3]
39...Qxa6 40.Rxa6 Nd2? 2.96/25
[40...exd4± 0.89/21 is a better defense. 41.Nxd4 Ne5]



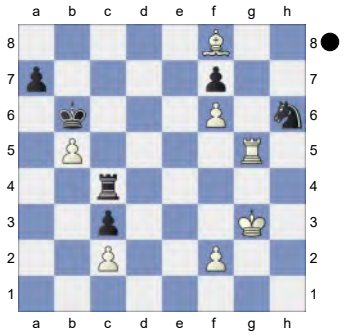
This costs Black the game. **41.Nxe5+-**
[Inferior is 41.Nxg5 exd4 42.Nxf7 d3 43.cxd3 c2=]
41...Nxe5 42.dxe5 Endgame. KRB-KRN
42...Nf3+



43.Kf1! e5-e6 would now be deadly.
[43.Kg2 Nxe5 44.Rd6 Nd3 45.Kf3 Nb4 ½-½ Alekseev,E (2626)-Savchenko,B (2551) Khanty-Mansiysk Top 16 GP rapid 2020 (15) 46.Ke2]
43...Nxe5 44.Rd6 Nxg4 45.Rxd5 Rc4? 3.97/22
[45...Rg8 2.04/20 46.Ke2 Rg6]



46.Rxg5 Predecessor: **46...Kb7 47.Kg2 Kb6** 5.01/21
[⌓47...Nh6 3.51/20 48.Kf3 Rc8]
48.Kg3 Nh6 49.Bf8

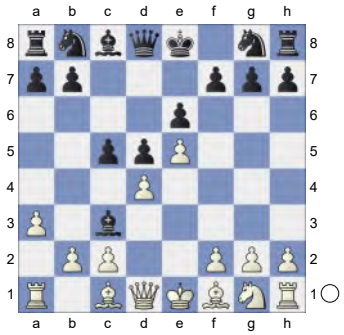


Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.25 (precise)
1-0

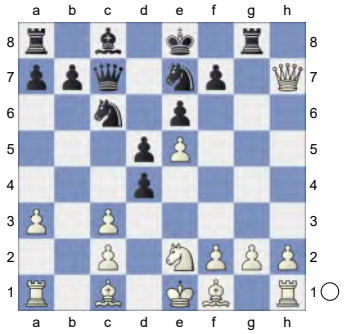
236 **C18**
□ **Papadiamandis,Elliot** **2562**
■ **Campos,Jose Felix** **2645**
RUS-ch Superfinal 60th (2.2) 11.10.2020
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

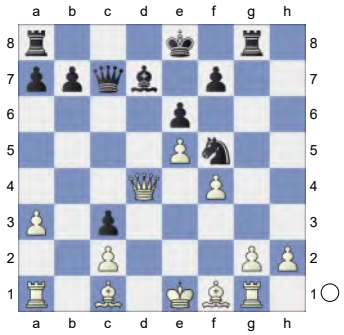
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Ne2 Nbc6



11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 d4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Bd7 15.Rg1 Nf5



16.Qf2 Bc6 0.88/20

[16...Qc6!⩲ 0.37/20 17.g4 *(17.Bd3 Qd5 18.Be3 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Rxg2 20.Rxg2 Qxg2 21.Be4 Qxh2 22.0-0-0 Bc6 23.Kb1 Bxe4 24.Qxe4 Qf2 25.Qa4+ Kf8 26.Qb4+ Kg7 27.Qxc3 Rd8 28.Rd6 Rh8 29.Rd3 Rh1+ 30.Ka2 Qf1 31.Kb3 Qxf4* Yoo,C (2455)-Livaic,L (2507) lichess.org INT 2020 [John Watson] 1-0 (50)*)* 17...Qe4+ 18.Qe2 Qa4 19.Rb1 Bc6 20.Kf2 Qd4+ 21.Be3 Nxe3 22.Qxe3 Qxe3+ 23.Kxe3 Rh8 24.h3 Rd8 25.Rb3 Rd1 26.Kf2 Rxf1+ 27.Rxf1 Rxh3 28.f5 Bd5 29.Rbb1 exf5 30.gxf5 b6 31.Rbe1 Ke7 5.Be2 0-0-0 6.Be3 (2677)-Hetenyi,G (2548) corr 2011 CBM 104 theory [Dragan Solak] 1-0 (49)]

17.Bd3 0.01/20

[17.g4± 0.88/20 Ne7 18.h4]

17...0-0-0N

[17...Rd8 18.a4 Qd7 19.Ra3 Bxa4 20.Qxa7 Bb5 21.Rxc3 Nd4 22.Kf2 Qd5 23.Be3 Rxg2+ 24.Rxg2 Qf3+ 25.Ke1 Qxe3+ 26.Kf1 Qc1+ 27.Kf2 Qxf4+ 28.Kg1 Qc1+ 29.Kf2 Qd2+ 30.Kg1 Qe1+ 0-1 (30) De Oliveira Guaraciaba,M (2130)-Wieczorek,O (2280) Pula 1994 ZUS C73 [John Watson]]

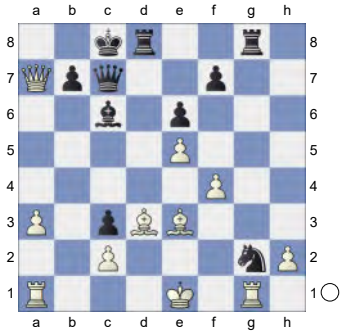
18.Qxa7 Nh4 0.80/20

[18...Rxg2= 0.25/21 keeps the balance. 19.Rxg2 Bxg2]

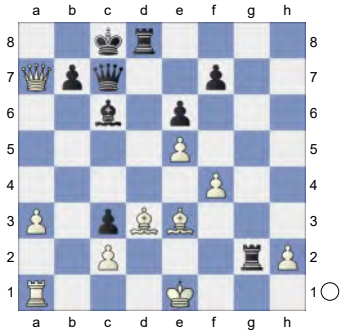
19.Be3!± And now Bb6 would win.

19...Nxg2+

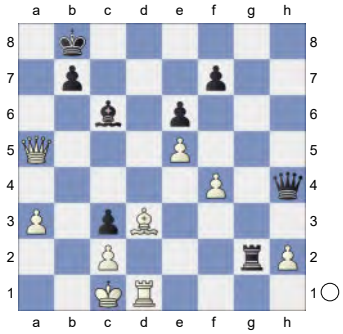
(Diagram)



20.Rxg2! Rxg2

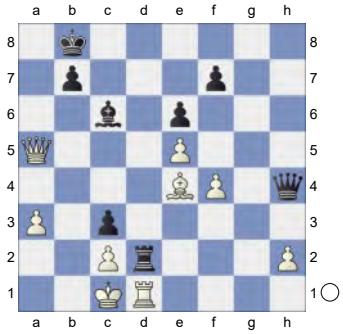


21.Bb6 A strong pair of Bishops.
21...Qe7 **22.Bxd8** Really sharp!
22...Qxd8 **23.0-0-0** Black must now prevent Qa8+.
[23.Qa8+?! Kd7 24.Qxd8+ Kxd8=]
23...Qh4 **24.Qa8+** **Kc7** **25.Qa5+!** **Kb8** 1.29/23
[25...Kc8± 0.69/24]

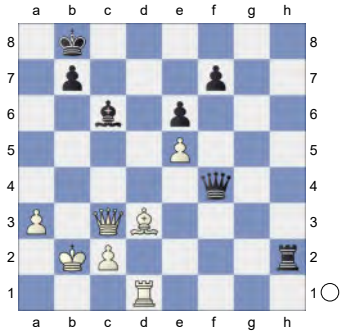


26.Qxc3 0.01/22
[26.Be4!± 1.29/23 Rd2 *(26...Bxe4 27.Rd8+)*

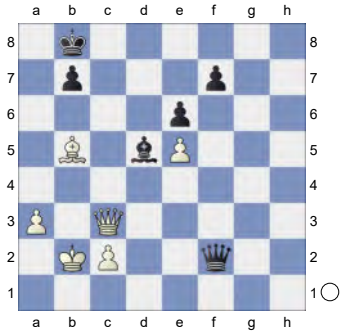
(Diagram)



27.Rg1! *(27.Bxc6? Qxf4 28.Qxc3 Rd3+ 29.Kb2 Rxc3-+)*]
26...Qxf4+= The position is equal.
27.Kb2 **Rxh2**

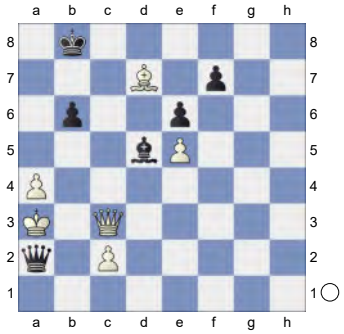


28.Bb5! Rd8+ would kill now. **28...Bd5**
[28...Bxb5 is a self mate. 29.Rd8+ *(29.Qc5 Bc6=)* 29...Ka7 30.Qc5+ b6 31.Qc7+ *(31.Qxb5 Rd2=)* 31...Ka6 32.Ra8#]
29.Rf1⇄ White is not holding back
29...Rf2 **30.Rxf2** **Qxf2**

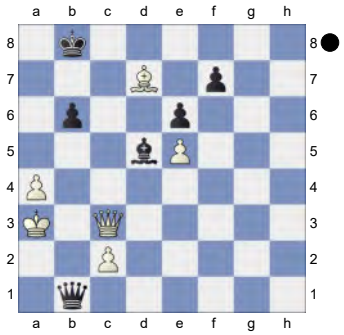


31.a4 **Qb6** **32.Ka3** **Qg1** **33.Kb4** **b6** **34.Bd7** **Qb1+** **35.Ka3** **Qa2+**

(Diagram)



36.Kb4 next Kb5 is good for White.
36...Qb1+ 37.Ka3

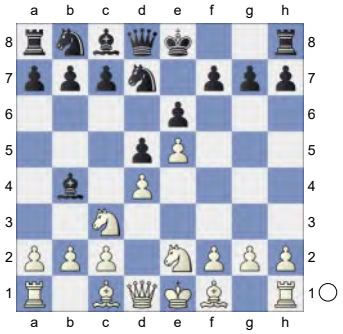


Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

237 **C15**
□ **Ibarra Jerez,Jose Carlos** **2559**
■ **Martinez Alcantara,Jose Eduardo**
Titled Tuesday intern op 16th Apr Late bl..
[Kitty Kat]

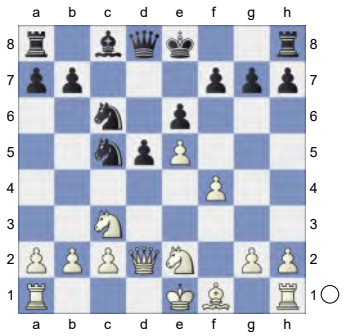
C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7!**

(Diagram)

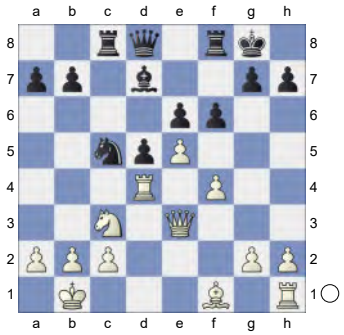


6.f4 Be7N An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante.
[6...Bxc3+ 7.Nxc3 *(7.bxc3 c5±)* 7...c5 8.dxc5±]
[6...0-0 7.a3 Ba5 8.g3 Bb6 9.Na4 c5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Nxc5 Nxc5 12.Bg2 Nc6 13.Be3 Nd7 14.0-0 Qc7 15.Nd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Nb8 17.Bf2 Bd7 18.Rc1 Rc8 19.Qd2 Rusakov,Y-2. ♘c3 d5 3.e5_25771 Budapest 1984]
[6...f5 7.a3 Be7 8.g4 fxg4 9.Ng3 h5 10.h3 Bh4 11.Qd3 Nf8 12.Bd2 gxh3 13.0-0-0 Nc6 14.Rxh3 g6 15.Be1 Be7 16.Be2 Qd7 17.Bf3 Kd8 18.Kb1 b6 19.f5 gxf5 20.Nxf5 exf5 21.Nxd5 1-0 Owen,J (2565)-Polakhare,A (2506) AVRO Amsterdam 1938 (4)]
7.Be3 c5N
[Vorgänger: 7...b6 1.65/20 7...0-0 0.41 8.f5! Nf8 9.Nf4 Bg5 10.Qf3 Bxf4 11.Bxf4 c6 2.01/21 *(11...exf5± 1.42/19 12.Qxd5 Qxd5 13.Nxd5 Ne6)* 12.Qg3+- Rg8 13.f6 Ng6 14.fxg7! 1-0 Mastrovasilis,D (2586)-Stoleriu,G (2392) Arad op 11th 2018 (3)]
8.dxc5 White is slightly better. **8...Nc6 9.Qd2 Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5**

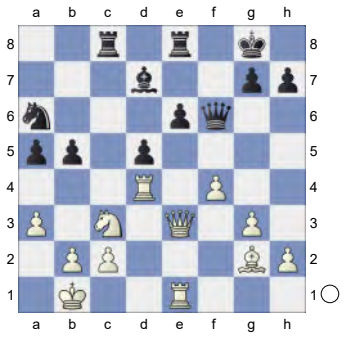
(Diagram)



11.Nd4 Bd7 12.0-0-0 0-0 13.Kb1 Rc8 14.Qe3 Nxd4 15.Rxd4 f6

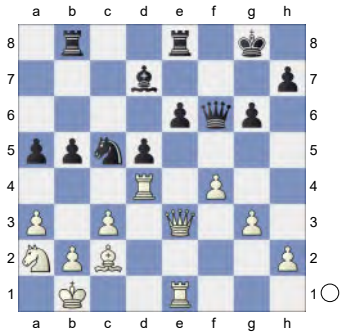


16.exf6! Qxf6 17.g3
[17.Be2!?]
17...Rfe8 0.86/19
[17...Be8⩲ 0.48/19 might be stronger.]
18.Bg2 0.42/20
[18.Be2± 0.86/19]
18...b5!⩲ 19.Re1 a5 20.a3 Na6 0.74/21
[20...Kh8= 0.21/19]

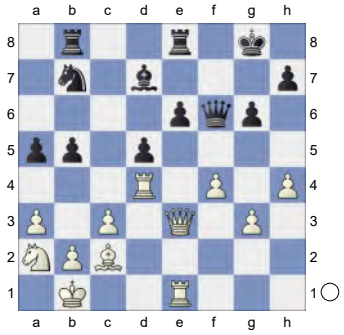


21.Bf1± Rb8 22.Bd3 0.02/21
[22.Ne4± 0.85/20 Qf8 23.Qd2]
22...Nc5= 23.Na2 Na4 0.38/21
[23...Rb6= 0.00/22]

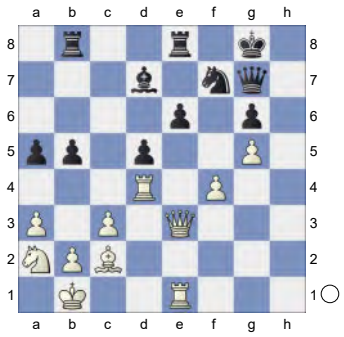
24.c3 Nc5 0.73/21
[24...Nb6= 0.17/19 keeps the balance.]
25.Bc2 g6 1.32/21
[Black should try 25...Nb7!⩲ 0.48/19]



26.h4 Nb7



27.h5! Nd6 28.hxg6! hxg6 29.g4 Nf7 1.90/20
[29...Nc4± 0.89/19 was necessary. 30.Qg1 Qg7]
30.g5+- Qg7



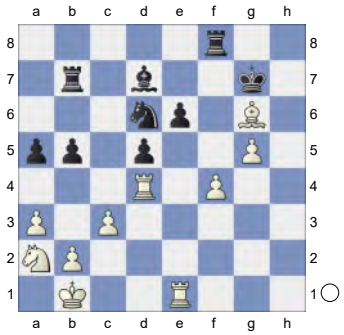
31.Rd2
[31.Nc1 Nd6]
31...Rb7? 3.08/20 Against Qe3-a7
[31...e5± 1.56/19 is a better

defense.]

32.Qd3 Rf8 33.Qxg6 1.04/21

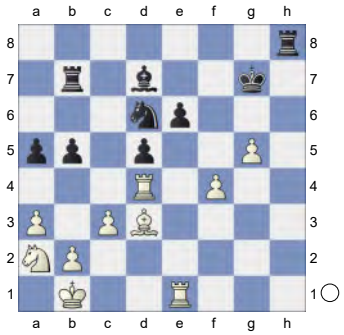
[33.Rh2+- 2.40/21 Strongly threatening Re1-h1! Rb6 34.Rf1 *(34.Qxg6 Qxg6 35.Bxg6 e5±)*]

33...Qxg6± 34.Bxg6 Nd6 35.Rd4!↑ Black is under strong pressure. **35...Kg7**



36.Bd3 Rh8 1.78/21

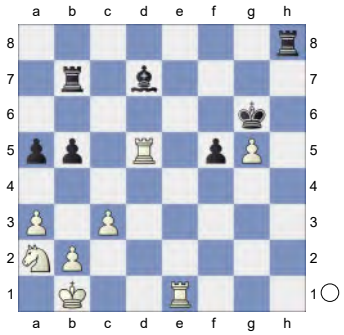
[36...Nc4± 1.27/22]



37.f5? 0.08/21 **Nxf5= 38.Bxf5 exf5 39.Rxd5** And now Re1-e7+ would win.

39...Kg6 1.25/18

[39...Be8= 0.00/22]

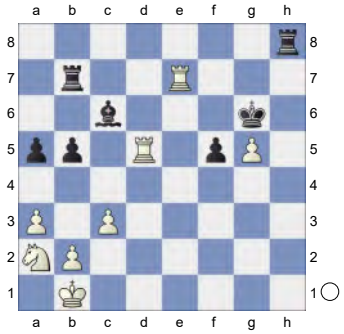


40.Re7? -0.41/21

[White should play 40.Rd6+!± 1.25/18 Kxg5 41.Rg1+ Kf4 42.Nc1]

40...Bc6? 3.29/25

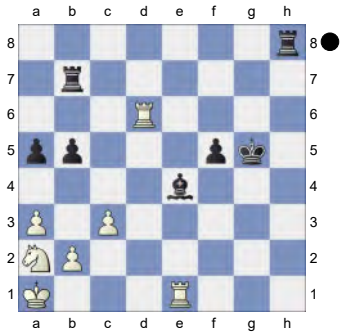
[40...Bc8∓ -0.41/21 keeps the upper hand. 41.Ree5 Rh1+ 42.Kc2 *(42.Nc1 Rd7=)* 42...Rh2+ 43.Kb1 f4]



41.Rd6+?? -1.97/26

[41.Re6++- 3.29/25 is the narrow road to win. Kxg5 42.Rxc6]

41...Kxg5-+ 42.Re1 Be4+ 43.Ka1



Rh2 -1.50/18

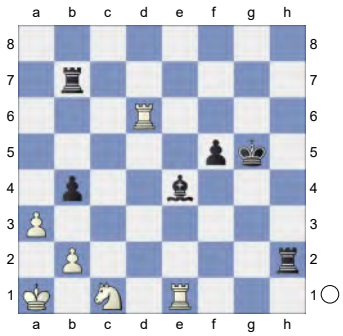
[43...Rbh7!-+ -2.74/21 ...Rh7-h1 would now be deadly. 44.Rdd1 Rh1 45.Rg1+ Rxg1 46.Rxg1+ Kf4]

44.Nc1∓ b4 -0.33/23

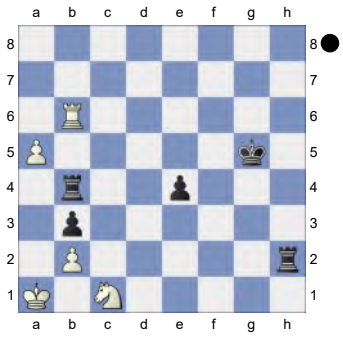
[44...Rbh7-+ -1.82/18 aiming for ...a5-a4. 45.a4 bxa4 46.Rg1+ Rg2 47.Rxg2+ Bxg2]

45.cxb4∓ axb4

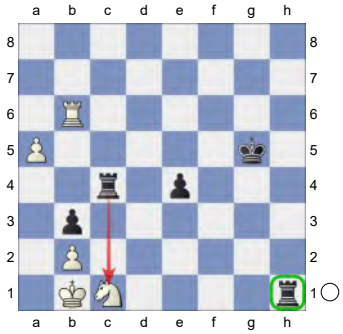
(Diagram)



46.a4 -2.50/18
[46.Rg1+= -0.28/21 and White is okay. Rg2 47.Rxg2+ Bxg2 48.Rd2]
46...b3-+ 47.a5? -6.06/20
[47.Rd4 -3.75/20 Rc2 48.a5]
47...Rb4 (→ ...Rb4-a4+) **48.Rxe4 fxe4 49.Rb6**

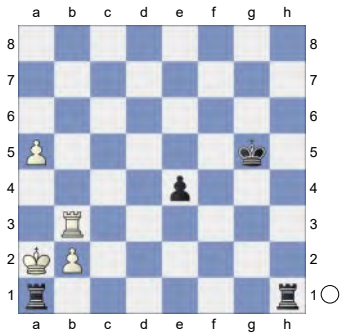


Rh1! Black mates. **50.Kb1**
[50.Rc6 e3]
50...Rc4



51.Rxb3 Rcxc1+ 52.Ka2 Ra1#

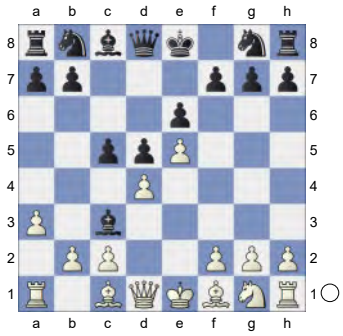
(Diagram)



What a bad dream for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.66/Black=0.49
0-1

238 **C18**
□ **Velilla Velasco,Francisco De Asis**
■ **Loeschnauer,Ruediger** **2480**
corr CCO20/F 01.09.2016
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
John Watson: 'It's true that White outrates Black by 600+ points in this game, but we see how he can create chances in this main-line variation, as well as how Black, who plays very competently in the opening, can dig up his own ways to progress.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



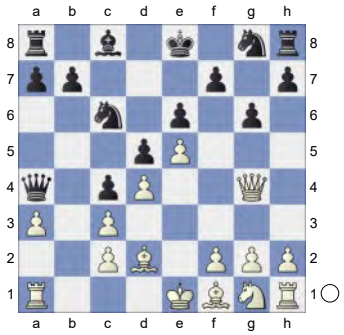
6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qb1
[8.Rb1 c4 9.Ra1 Nc6 10.Ra2 Nge7 11.h4 Bd7 12.h5 h6 13.Nf3 0-0-0

14.g3 f6 15.Bf4 g5 16.exf6 gxf4 17.fxe7 Nxe7 18.gxf4 Rhf8 19.Qd2 Rf6 20.Ne5 Rdf8 21.Rh4 Nf5 22.Rg4 Be8 Moreno Carnero,J (2525)-Matveeva,S (2496) playchess.com INT 2004 [ChessCalisthenics] 0-1 (42)]

8...c4 9.Qd1

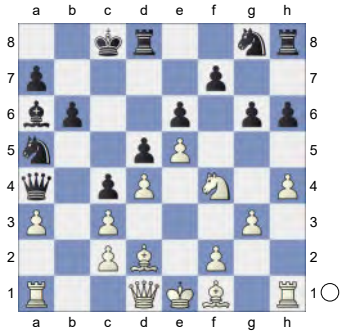
[9.Nh3 Nc6 10.Nf4 Bd7 *(10...Nge7 11.g3 Bd7 12.h4 0-0-0 13.Bh3 Kb8 14.h5 h6 15.0-0 Nc8 16.Re1 Nb6 17.Qc1 Qa5 18.Ng2 Na4 19.Nh4 Ne7 20.Re3 Rdf8 21.Rf3 Qd8 22.Qe1 Ka8 23.Rb1 Qe8 24.Qe2 g6 25.Ng2* Yu,Y (2626)-Iskandar,B (2010) Zaozhuang CHN 2012 [John Watson] 1-0 (39)*)* 11.g3 0-0-0 12.Bh3 f5 13.g4 fxg4 14.Bxg4 Re8 15.h4 Re7 16.Rg1 Qa5 17.Bh3 Nh6 18.Nh5 Be8 19.Nxg7 Rg8 20.Kf1 Rgxg7 21.Rxg7 Rxg7 22.Bxh6 Qxc3 23.Bxe6+ Bd7 Korneev,O (2638)-Timofeev,A (2657) Montreal 2006 CBM 114 [Ftacnik,Lubomir] 0-1 (38)]

9...Nc6 10.Qg4N g6



11.Qd1 White is slightly better. **11...h6 12.Nh3 b6 13.Nf4 Ba6 14.g3 0-0-0 15.h4 Na5**

(Diagram)



16.Bg2 Qe8 17.a4 Bb7 18.Qc1 Qf8 19.Qd1 0.01/16

[19.Qa3± 0.75/16]

19...Bc6 0.88/17

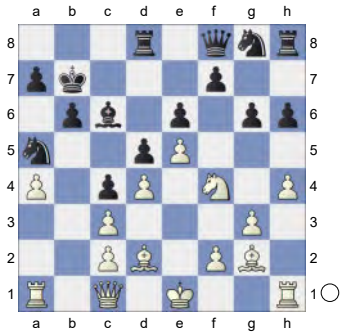
[19...Qe8!= 0.01/16 keeps the balance.]

20.Qc1 -0.01/17

[20.Bc1± 0.88/17]

20...Kb7 0.69/17

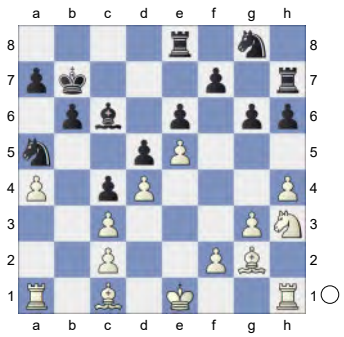
[20...Bb7!= -0.01/17]



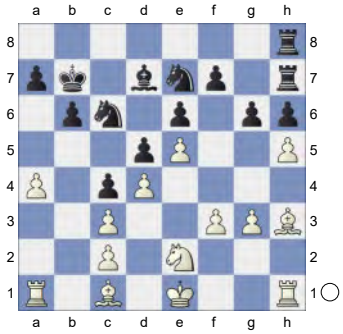
21.Nh3 Rh7 22.Bf4 Qe8 23.Qa3 Qf8 24.Qxf8

[24.Qb4 feels hotter. Ne7 25.g4 Bd7 26.f3]

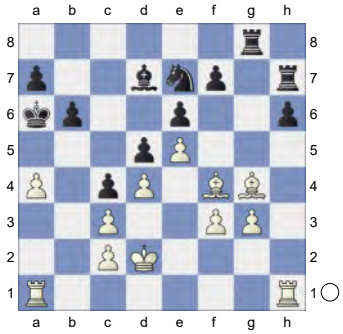
24...Rxf8 25.Bc1 Re8



26.Nf4 Bd7 27.Bh3 Rd8 28.f3 Ne7 29.Ne2 Rdh8 30.h5 Nac6



31.hxg6 Nxg6 32.Nf4 Nxf4 33.Bxf4 Ka6 34.Kd2 Rg8 35.Bg4 Ne7



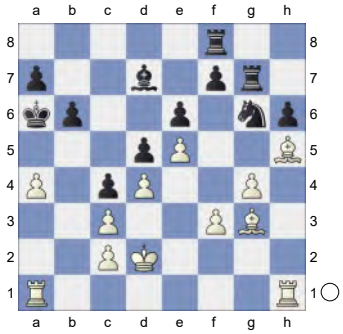
36.Bh5

[36.Bxh6? Rgh8 37.Rh4 Rxh6-+]

36...Ng6 0.75/23

[36...Ka5± 0.44/22]

37.Be3!± Ne7 38.Bf2 Rf8 39.g4 Ng6 40.Bg3 Rg7

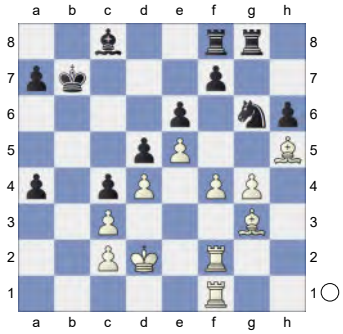


41.Rh2 Rgg8 42.Rf2 Bc8 43.Raf1 Kb7 44.a5 bxa5 45.f4 aiming for f5.

45...a4 1.14/20

[Better is 45...f5!± 0.57/22]

(Diagram)



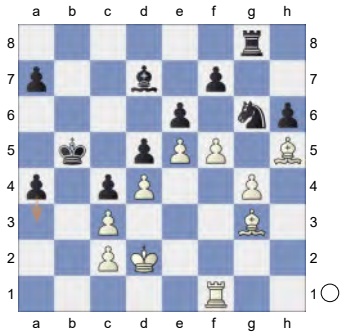
46.Rb1+ 0.67/21

[46.f5 exf5 47.gxf5 *(47.Rb1+ Ka6=)* 47...Ne7±]

[46.Ra1± 1.14/20]

46...Ka6± 47.Rb8 &Bianco is more active. **47...Bd7 48.Rxf8 Rxf8 49.Rf1! Rg8 50.f5** White has compensation. White now steadily converts the win.

50...Kb5



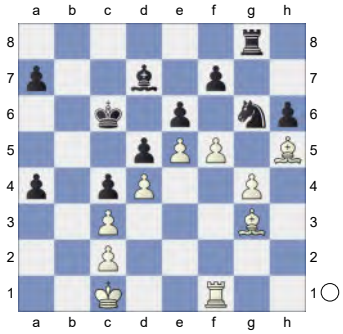
51.Kc1

[51.fxg6 fxg6 52.g5 *(52.Rb1+ Kc6=)* 52...gxh5 53.Rb1+ Kc6 54.gxh6 h4 55.Bxh4 Rg2+ 56.Kc1 *(56.Ke3 Rg6∓)* 56...Rh2∓]

51...Kc6 1.69/21

[51...a3± 1.36/20]

(Diagram)



52.Kb2!+-

[52.fxg6 fxg6 53.g5 gxh5 54.gxh6 Rh8=]

52...Be8 2.12/25

[⌓52...Kb5 1.67/19 53.Bxg6 *(53.fxg6 fxg6 54.g5 gxh5=)* 53...fxg6]

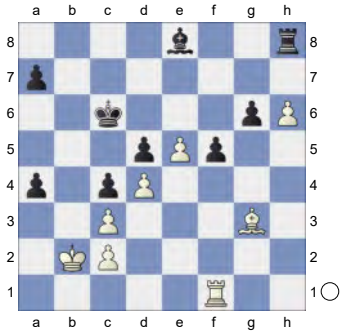
53.g5

[Stronger than 53.fxg6 fxg6 54.Rf6 Kd7=]

53...exf5 54.gxh6 Rh8 55.Bxg6

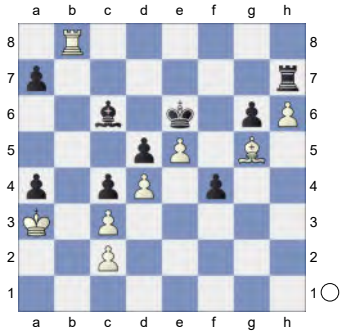
[Less strong is 55.Rxf5 Rxh6 56.Rf6+ Kb5±]

55...fxg6 Endgame



KRB-KRB **56.Bf4** And now e6 would win. **56...Kd7 57.Ka3 Ke6 58.Rb1 Bc6 59.Bg5 Rh7 60.Rb8** Black must now prevent Rf8. **60...f4**

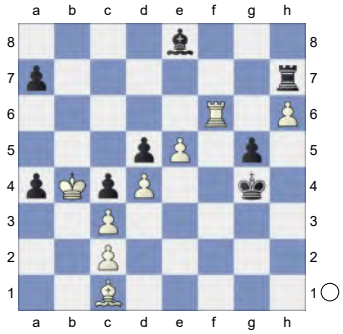
(Diagram)



61.Bxf4 Hoping for Bc1.

[Weaker is 61.Rf8 Rf7 62.Rg8 *(62.Rxf7 Kxf7 63.Bxf4 a5=)* 62...f3 63.Rxg6+ Kf5±]

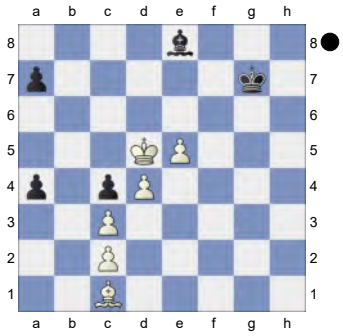
61...Kf5 62.Rf8+ Kg4 63.Rf6 Bd7 64.Bc1 Be8 65.Kb4 g5



66.Kc5 Kh5 67.Rf5 White is clearly winning. **67...Kxh6 68.Rxg5** Rg8+ is the strong threat. **68...Rg7** 8.46/28

[⌓68...Bg6 4.97/19 69.Rg1+ Kg7 70.Kxd5 Rh2]

69.Rxg7+ Kxg7 70.Kxd5



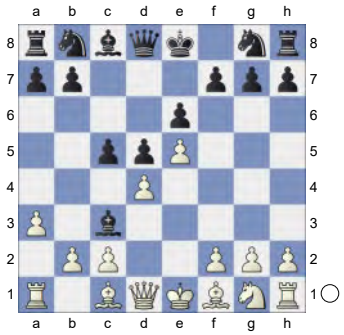
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.12 (very precise)

1-0

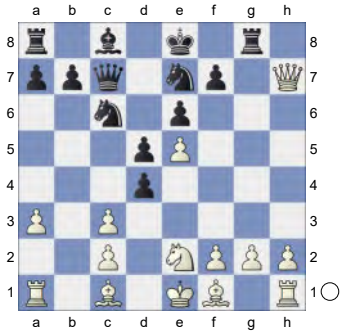
239 **C18**
□ **Kuybokarov,Temur** **2549**
■ **Ganguly,Surya Shekhar** **2633**
Lindores Abbey Tal Mem blitz (8.37)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6



11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 0.19/20
[12.h4± 0.61/19]

12...b6 0.60/20
[12...d4!= 0.19/20 might be stronger. 13.Rb1 b6 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.Qxd4 Bb7 16.Qd6 Qxd6 17.exd6 Nf5 18.Rb3 Nxd6 19.Rxc3 Kd7 20.Rg1 Rac8 21.Rxc8 Kxc8 22.g4 Nf5 23.Bg2 Nd4 24.Bxb7+ Kxb7 25.Rg2 Rh8 26.Kd1 Nf3 27.Ke2 Nxh2 4.Ng5 d5/5...b5 6.Bb5 (2218)-7...Bg4 (2204) corr ICCF 2013 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (45)]

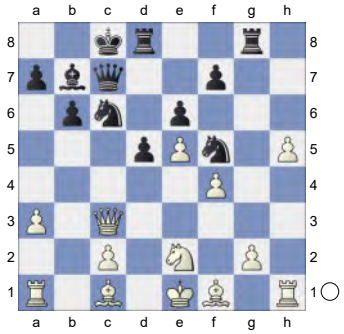
13.h4N 0.29/21
[13.Nxc3± 0.60/20 is more appropriate. Nf5 14.Nb5 *(14.Bb2 Ncd4 15.0-0-0 Bb7 16.Rg1 Rc8 17.g4 Qc5 18.Bh3 Nf3 19.Rgf1 N5d4 20.Kb1 Rh8 21.Bg2 Nxh2 22.Rh1 Nc6 23.Nb5 Qf2 24.Nd6+ Kd7 25.Bxd5 exd5 26.Qf5+ Kd8 27.Qf6+ Kd7 28.Qxf7+ Ne7* Lutz,C (2610)-Blees,A (2431) Tel Aviv 1999 CBM 071 [Psakhis,Lev] 1-0 (33) *)*]

13...Bb7 0.68/20
[13...d4!= 0.29/21]

14.h5 0.27/19
[14.Nxc3± 0.68/20 deserves consideration. Nf5 15.Nb5 *(15.Nxd5 exd5 16.Qxf5 Nd4=)*]

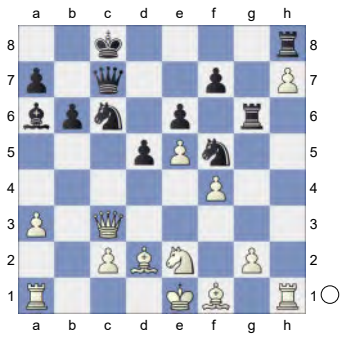
14...0-0-0 0.93/20
[14...d4!= 0.27/19]

15.Qxc3 Nf5

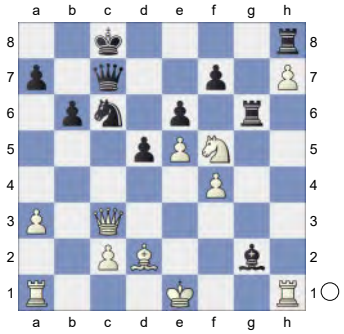


16.h6 Rg6 17.h7 Rh8! 18.Bd2 0.09/20
[18.Qd3± 0.75/18]

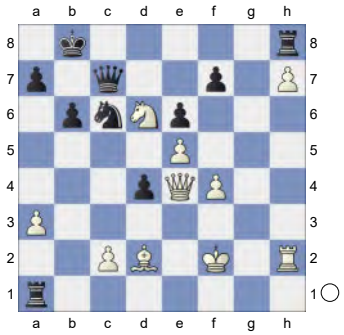
18...Ba6!=



19.Nd4!↑ White has some pressure.
19...Bxf1 20.Nxf5
[20.Qxc6? Bxg2 21.Qa8+ Qb8 22.Qxb8+ *(22.Qc6+? Kd8-+)* 22...Kxb8 23.Nxf5 *(23.Nc6+? Kc7-+)* 23...Bxh1-+]
[20.Nxc6 Bc4 21.Nd4 Nxd4 22.Qxd4 Rxg2∓]
20...Bxg2

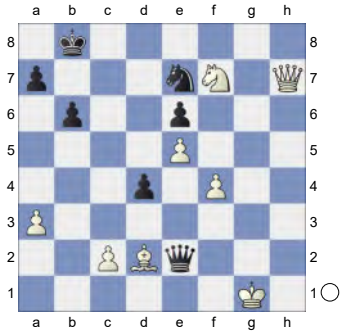


21.Nd6+ Kb8 22.Rh2 d4 23.Qd3 Be4? 3.29/22 A mistake that costs the game. **24.Qxe4+- Rg1+ 25.Kf2 Rxa1**

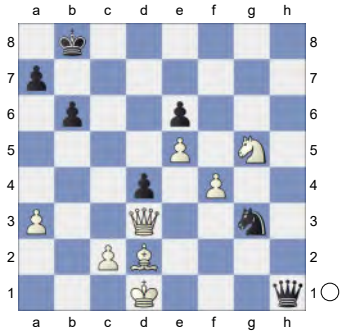


26.Rg2 Active counter play! **26...Ne7** Prevents Rg8+. **27.Nxf7 Qc4 28.Rg1** Inhibits Rf1+.
[Much less strong is 28.Nxh8 Rf1+ 29.Kg3 Rh1+-]
28...Rxg1 29.Kxg1 Dancing on a razor blade. **29...Rxh7 30.Qxh7 Qe2**

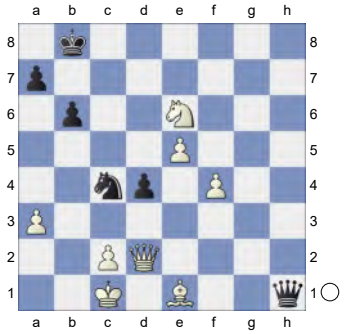
(Diagram)



31.Qd3 Qg4+ 32.Kf1 Nf5 6.29/21
[⊼32...Nd5 4.17/22 33.Ng5 *(33.Qxd4 Qh3+ 34.Kf2 Qh2+ 35.Kf1 Qh3+ 36.Kf2 Qh2+ 37.Kf1 Qh3+±)* 33...Nxf4 34.Bxf4 Qxf4+ 35.Nf3 Kc7]
33.Ng5 Ng3+ 34.Ke1 Qh4 35.Kd1 Qh1+

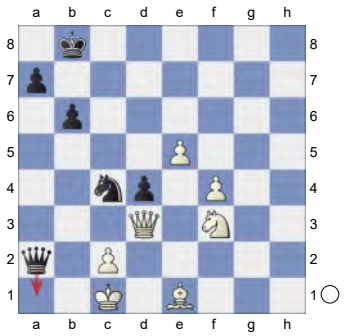


36.Be1 Nf5 37.Nxe6 Ne3+ 38.Kd2 Qg2+ 39.Kc1 Qh1 40.Qd2 Nc4

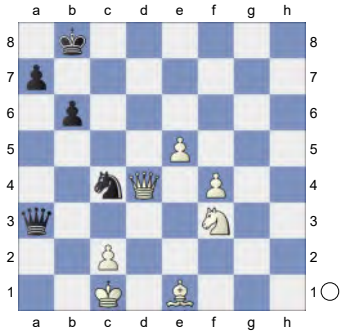


41.Qe2 Qd5 42.Ng5 Nxa3 43.Qd3 Qa2 44.Nf3 Nc4

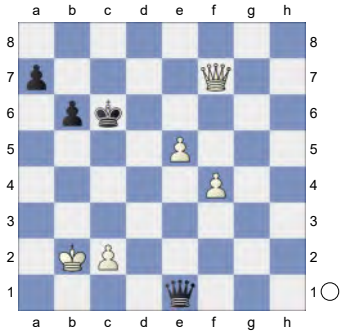
(Diagram)



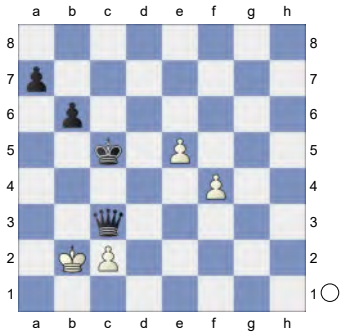
45.Qxd4 Qa3+



46.Kb1 Qxf3 47.Qxc4 Qd1+ 48.Kb2 Qxe1 Endgame KQ-KQ **49.Qg8+ Kb7 50.Qf7+ Kc6**



51.Qe6+ Kc5 52.Qd6+ Kc4 53.Qd3+ Kb4 54.Qb3+ Kc5 55.Qc3+ Qxc3+



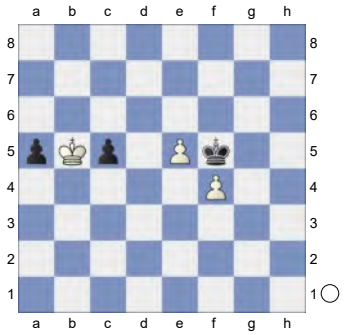
56.Kxc3 K3P-KPP **56...Kd5 57.Kb4 a5+ 58.Kb5** White wants to mate with c4+. **58...Ke6 59.c4**

[59.Kxb6 is a self mate. a4 60.Kc5 a3 61.Kc4 a2 62.Kd3 a1Q 63.Ke3 Qc3+ 64.Ke4 Qxc2+ 65.Kd4 Qa4+ 66.Ke3 Qc4 67.Kd2 Qb3 68.Ke2 Qc3 69.Kd1 Kf5 70.e6 Ke4 71.Ke2 Qc2+ 72.Ke1 Kf3 73.Kf1 Qf2#]

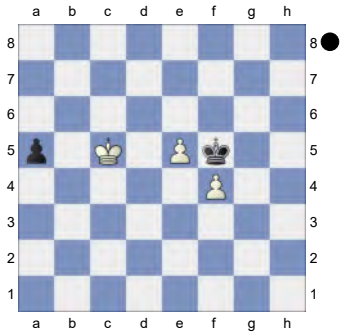
59...Kf5 60.c5

[Weaker is 60.Kxb6 a4 61.c5 a3=]

60...bxc5



61.Kxc5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.44

1-0

240 **C18**

□ **Zunker,Reinhard** **2549**

■ **Gonzalez,J.** **2633**

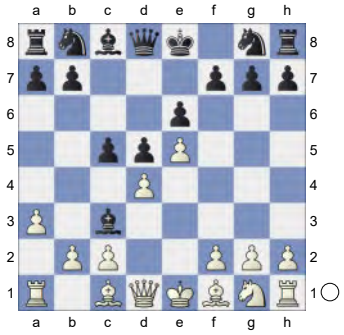
TCh-RUS Premier 2018 (8.37) 08.11.2021

[Kitty Kat]

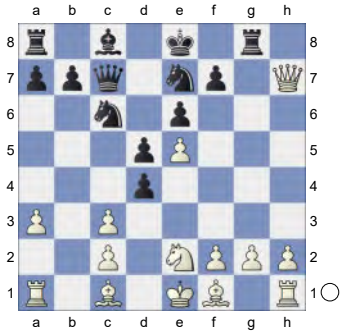
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4

and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6



11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 0.18/21

[12.h4!⩲ 0.70/20]

12...b6 0.52/18

[12...d4= 0.18/21 13.Rb1 b6 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.Qxd4 Bb7 16.Qd6 Qxd6 17.exd6 Nf5 18.Rb3 Nxd6 19.Rxc3 Kd7 20.Rg1 Rac8 21.Rxc8 Kxc8 22.g4 Nf5 23.Bg2 Nd4 24.Bxb7+ Kxb7 25.Rg2 Rh8 26.Kd1 Nf3 27.Ke2 Nxh2 4.Ng5 d5/5...b5 6. Bb5 (2218)-7...Bg4 (2204) corr ICCF 2013 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (45)]

13.h4N 0.17/20

[13.Nxc3⩲ 0.52/18 Nf5 14.Nb5 *(14.Bb2 Ncd4 15.0-0-0 Bb7 16.Rg1 Rc8 17.g4 Qc5 18.Bh3 Nf3 19.Rgf1 N5d4 20.Kb1 Rh8 21.Bg2 Nxh2 22.Rh1 Nc6 23.Nb5 Qf2 24.Nd6+ Kd7 25.Bxd5 exd5 26.Qf5+ Kd8 27.Qf6+ Kd7 28.Qxf7+ Ne7* Lutz,C (2610)-Blees,A (2431) Tel Aviv 1999 CBM 071 [Psakhis,Lev] 1-0 (33) *)*]

13...Bb7 0.94/20

[13...d4!= 0.17/20 keeps the balance.]

14.h5 0.33/20

[14.Nxc3± 0.94/20 Black must now prevent Nb5. Nf5 15.Nb5 *(15.Nxd5 exd5 16.Qxf5 Nd4=)*]

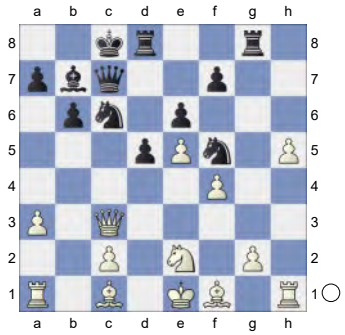
14...0-0-0 0.87/21

[14...d4⩱ 0.33/20]

15.Qxc3 0.55/19

[White should play 15.Nxc3± 0.87/21 Threatens to win with Nb5. Nxe5 16.fxe5 Qxe5+ 17.Kf2 *(17.Qe3 Qxe3+ 18.Bxe3 d4=)*]

15...Nf5



16.h6 Rg6 17.h7 Rh8 18.Bd2 0.30/19

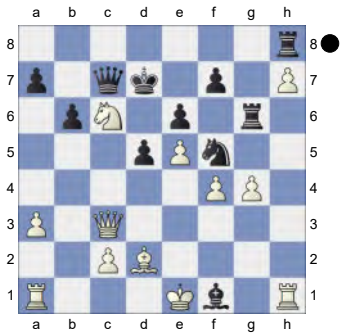
[Better is 18.Qd3± 0.73/19]

18...Ba6 19.Nd4 -0.01/21 **Bxf1= 20.Nxf5**

[20.Qxc6? Bxg2 21.Qa8+ Qb8 22.Qxb8+ *(22.Qc6+? Kd8-+)* 22...Kxb8 23.Nxf5 *(23.Nc6+? Kc7-+)* 23...Bxh1-+]

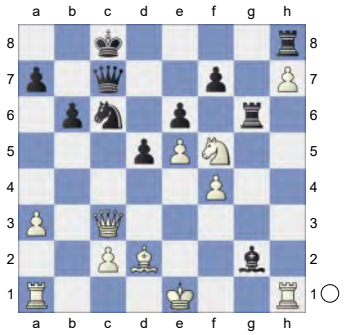
[20.Nxc6 Kd7 21.g4 *(21.Kxf1? Ng3+ 22.Qxg3 Rxg3-+; 21.Rxf1 Qxc6 22.Qxc6+ Kxc6∓)*

(Diagram)

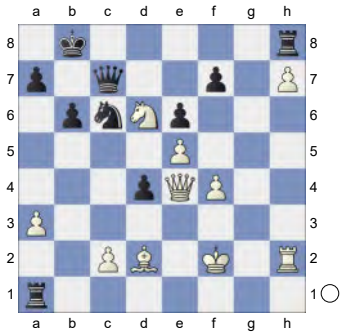


21...Rxg4!-+]

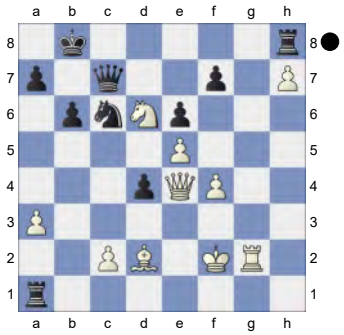
20...Bxg2



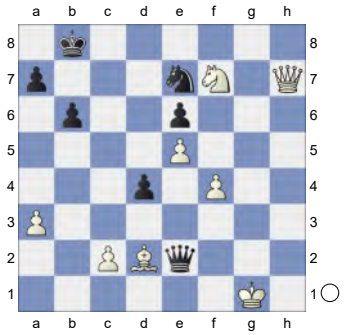
21.Nd6+ Kb8 22.Rh2 Hoping for 0-0-0.
22...d4 23.Qd3 Be4? 4.15/21 This costs Black the game. **24.Qxe4+- Rg1+ 25.Kf2 Rxa1**



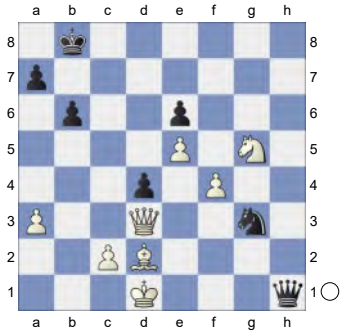
26.Rg2



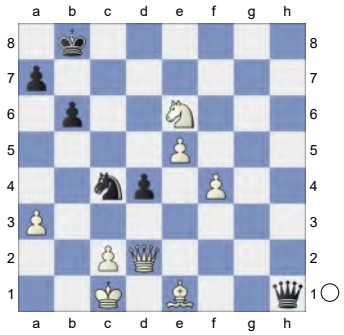
White threatens Rg8+ and mate. Active counter play! **26...Ne7** Prevents Rg8+.
27.Nxf7 Qc4 28.Rg1
[28.Nxh8 Rf1+ 29.Kg3 Rh1+-]
28...Rxg1 29.Kxg1 Chess con chili.
29...Rxh7 30.Qxh7 Qe2



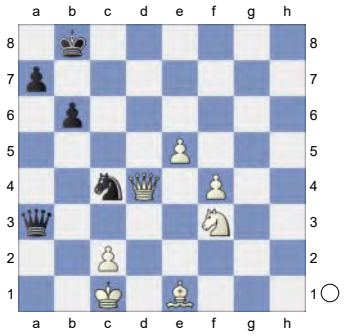
31.Qd3 Qg4+ 32.Kf1 Nf5? 6.37/22
[32...Nd5 3.83/20 33.Ng5 *(33.Qxd4 Qh3+ 34.Kf2 Qh2+ 35.Kf1 Qh3+ 36.Kf2 Qh4+ 37.Ke2 Qh5+ 38.Kd3 Qxf7±)* 33...Nxf4 34.Bxf4 Qxf4+ 35.Nf3 Kc7]
33.Ng5 Ng3+ 34.Ke1 Qh4 35.Kd1 Qh1+



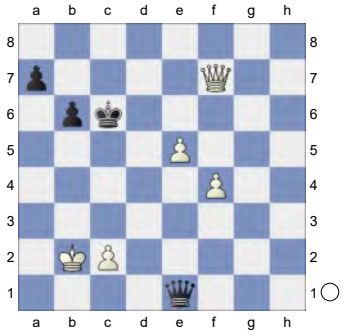
36.Be1 Nf5 37.Nxe6 Ne3+ 38.Kd2 Qg2+ 39.Kc1 Qh1 40.Qd2 Nc4



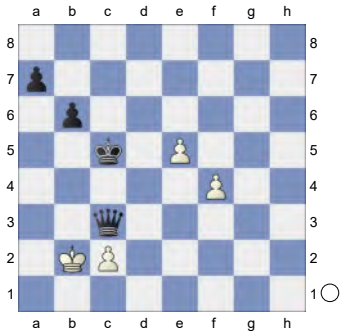
41.Qe2 Qd5 42.Ng5 Nxa3 43.Qd3 Qa2 44.Nf3 4.00/18
[⌓44.e6 8.84/19]
44...Nc4 45.Qxd4 Qa3+



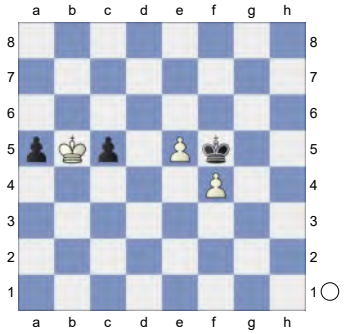
46.Kb1 Qxf3 47.Qxc4 Qd1+ 48.Kb2 Qxe1 Endgame KQ-KQ **49.Qg8+ Kb7 50.Qf7+ Kc6**



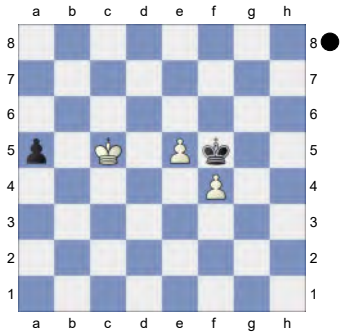
51.Qe6+ Kc5 52.Qd6+ Kc4 53.Qd3+? 3.18/21
[53.e6 12.23/23]
53...Kb4? 12.78/21
[53...Kc5 3.18/21 54.Qd6+ Kc4]
54.Qb3+ Kc5 55.Qc3+ Qxc3+



56.Kxc3 K3P-KPP **56...Kd5 57.Kb4 a5+ 58.Kb5 Ke6 59.c4** Threatening mate with c5.
[59.Kxb6 leads to mate. a4 60.Kc5 a3 61.Kd4 a2 62.Ke4 a1Q 63.f5+ Kf7 64.e6+ Kf6 65.Kd5 Qe5+ 66.Kc4 Qxf5 67.Kd4 Qxc2 68.e7 Kxe7 69.Ke3 Ke6 70.Kf3 Qd3+ 71.Kg2 Kf5 72.Kh2 Kf4 73.Kg2 Qc2+ 74.Kg1 Kg3 75.Kh1 Qh2#]
59...Kf5 60.c5
[And not 60.Kxb6 a4 61.c5 a3=]
60...bxc5



61.Kxc5

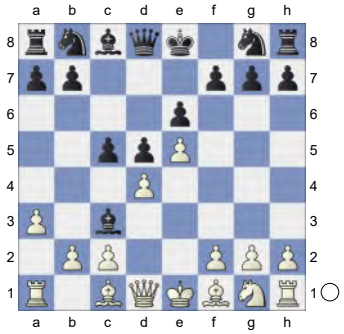


Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.49
1-0

241 **C18**
□ **Goryachkina,Aleksandra** **2546**
■ **Kosteniuk,Alexandra** **2484**
FIDE Women GP Monaco 2024-25 (2.1)
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 1min
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 **1.e4** 8 **e6** 5 **2.d4** 37 **d5** 4

3.Nc3 1:15 **Bb4** 9 **4.e5** 2:07 **c5** 7 **5.a3** 29 **Bxc3+** 5



6.bxc3 4 **Ne7** 16 **7.h4** 2:24 **Qc7** 1:49 **8.Bd2** 6:46

[8.h5 h6 9.Rb1 b6 *(9...Nbc6 10.Qg4 Nf5 11.Bd3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Ncxd4 13.Bb2 Qc5 14.Ne2 Nxe2 15.Qxe2 Bd7 16.Kf1 0-0-0 17.Rh3 Bc6 18.Bxf5 exf5 19.Rc3 Qb6 20.Rb3 Qc5 21.Rc3 Qb6 22.Qd3 d4 23.Rb3 Qc5 24.Rb4* 1-0 Bulmaga,I (2416)-Degraeve,R (2467) Bastia op 2023 (7) *)* 10.Qg4 cxd4 11.Qxg7 Rg8 12.Qxh6 Qxe5+ 13.Ne2 dxc3 14.Qf4 Qxf4 15.Bxf4 Nbc6 16.Nxc3 e5 17.Bd2 Bf5 18.f3 Rd8 19.Kf2 f6 20.Bd3 Kf7 21.g4 Bxd3 22.cxd3 Nd4 Caruana,F (2835)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2784) chess24.com (Int.-rapid) 147/(88) 2020]

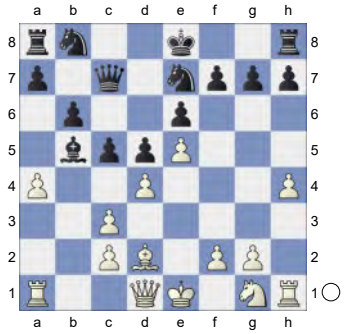
8...b6 2:11 **9.Bb5+N** 5:24

[9.h5 h6 10.Qg4 Rg8 *(10...Kf8 11.Bd3 Ba6 12.Nf3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bxd3 14.cxd3 Qc2 15.Ke2 Nbc6 16.Qf4 Qa4 17.g4 Ke8 18.Rhc1 Rf8 19.Bb4 Nxb4 20.axb4 Qxb4 21.Rc7 Qb2+ 22.Qd2 Qxd2+ 23.Nxd2 f5 24.exf6 gxf6 25.f4* 1-0 Roser,K (2436)-Shirazi,K (2369) Syre Memorial op 34th Issy les Moulineaux 2011 (5) *Rf7 26.Nf3 Nc8 27.Rc6 Re7 28.Rac1 Kd7 29.g5 hxg5 30.fxg5 fxg5 31.h6 g4 32.Ng5 Nd6 33.Rc7+ Kd8 34.h7 Re8 35.R1c6 Rc8 36.Nf7+ Nxf7 37.Rxc8+ Ke7 38.Rxe8+ Kxe8 39.Rc8+* 1-0 Hawranke,D (2554)-Naegelein,F (2190) Leuven (blitz) 133/(94) 2017 (6) *)* 11.Bd3 Nf5 12.Ne2 Nc6 13.Rh3 Nce7 14.Qf4 c4 15.Bxf5 exf5 16.f3 Be6 17.a4 a5 18.Bc1 Qd7 19.Qh4 Nc8 20.Rg3 Kf8 21.Ba3+ Ke8 22.Qf6 Qxa4 23.Rxg7 Rxg7 1-0 De Silva,L (2085)-Subrota,B (2268) Asia zt 3.2 Online Tornelo INT 2021 (5)]

9...Bd7 5 **10.a4** -0.88/21 1:04

[10.Bd3= 0.01/20 remains equal.]

10...Bxb5∓ 5:01



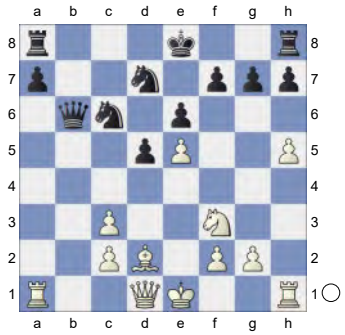
11.axb5 6 **Qd7** 0.22/19 17

[Black should try 11...cxd4∓ -0.53/21 12.cxd4 Qc4]

12.dxc5 -0.37/21 7:16

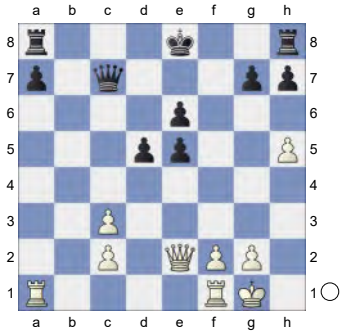
[12.Qb1= 0.22/19]

12...Qxb5∓ 16:13 **13.cxb6!** 57 **Qxb6** 16 **14.h5** 1:46 **Nd7** 7:46 **15.Nf3** 1:28 **Nc6** 4:11

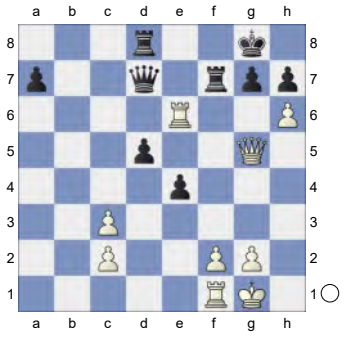


16.Qe2 9:38 **Qc7** 4:21 **17.0-0** -0.45/23 3:17

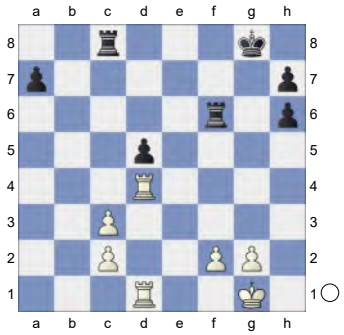
[17.c4= 0.01/20]
17...Ndxe5 0.01/21 14:11
[17...Ncxe5∓ -0.45/23 18.Nxe5 Qxe5]
18.Nxe5 1:43 **Nxe5** 0.33/23 25
[18...Qxe5= -0.19/23 19.Qb5 Rc8]
19.Bf4± 5:03 **f6** 5 **20.Bxe5** 5:21 **fxe5** 32



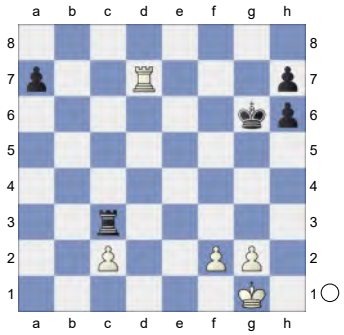
21.Ra6 2:06 **0-0** 1:10 **22.Rxe6** 23 **e4** 4:34 **23.h6** 7:53
[23.c4 simplifies Qxc4 24.Qxc4 dxc4 25.Rxe4 a5 26.Ra1]
23...Rf7 0.64/23 10:32
[23...Qxc3= 0.23/22 is more appropriate. 24.Re7 gxh6]
24.Qh5↑ 3:43 White has strong initiative.
24...Rd8 1:46 **25.Qg5** 46 **Qd7** 7:04



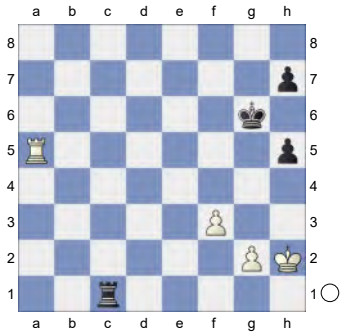
26.Re5 5:38 White is more active.
26...Qd6 11:36 **27.Rd1** 3:49 **Qf6** 1:39
28.Qxf6 1:52
[28.Rexd5? perishes. Qxg5 *(28...Qxf2+ 29.Kh2=)* 29.Rxd8+ Rf8 30.Rxf8+ Kxf8-+]
28...Rxf6 43 **29.Rxe4** 4:46
[29.c4 is interesting. d4 30.hxg7 Rc6 31.c5]
29...gxh6 0.73/20 2:10 Endgame. KRR-KRR
[29...Rxh6= 0.29/24 might be stronger. 30.c4 Rhd6 31.cxd5 Rxd5 32.Rxd5 Rxd5]
30.Red4 8:19 **Rc8** 48



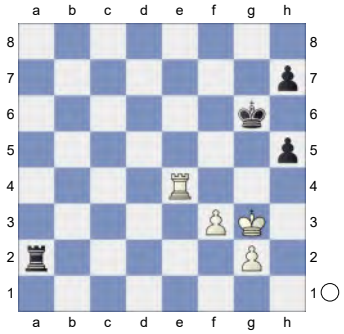
31.Rxd5 1:08 **Rxc3** 6 **32.Rd8+** 3:18 **Kg7** 29 **33.R1d7+** 1:29 **Rf7** 5 **34.Rxf7+** 5 **Kxf7=** 3 KR-KR **35.Rd7+** 5 **Kg6** 3



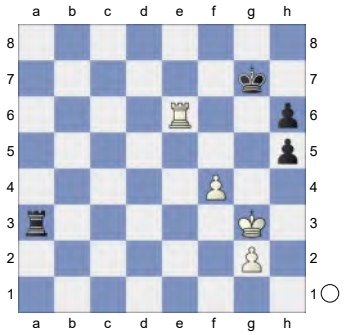
36.Rxa7 7 **Rxc2** 4 **37.Ra6+** 45 **Kg5** 26
38.f3 1:10 **h5** 3:31 The position is equal.
39.Kh2 28 **Rc1** 1:02 **40.Ra5+** 0 **Kg6** 0



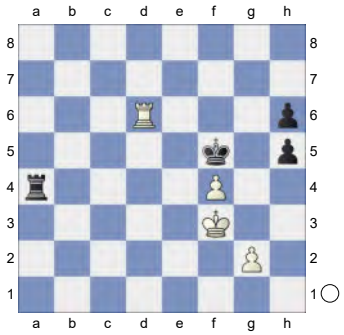
41.Kg3 2:21 **Rc4** 1:15 **42.Ra6+** 50 **Kg5** 48 **43.Re6** 1:20 **Ra4** 31 **44.Re5+** 1:19 **Kg6** 6 **45.Re4** 1:14 **Ra2** 9:33



46.Kh3 56 **h6** 47 **47.Re8** 53 **Rb2** 1:10 **48.Re6+** 3:36 **Kg7** 5:08 **49.Kg3** 28 **Ra2** 46 **50.f4** 46 **Ra3+** 2:13



51.Kf2 43 **Rb3** 2:19 **52.Re3** 44 **Rb4** 25 **53.Kf3** 32 **Kf6** 11 **54.Rd3** 1:18 **Ra4** 21 **55.Rd6+** 29 **Kf5** 41

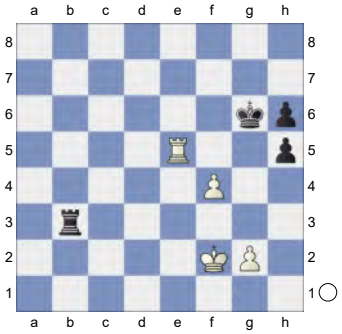


56.Rd5+ 37

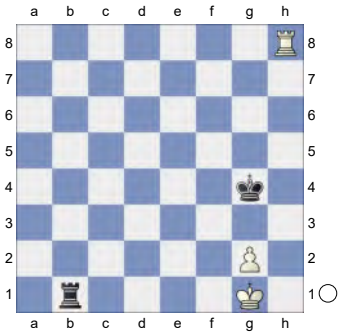
[56.g3!? Ra3+□ 57.Kg2=]

56...Kg6 1 **57.Ke3** 1:51 **Ra2** 52 **58.Kf3** 59 **Ra4** 43 **59.Re5** 32 **Ra3+** 1:24 **60.Kf2** 1:23 **Rb3** 1:32

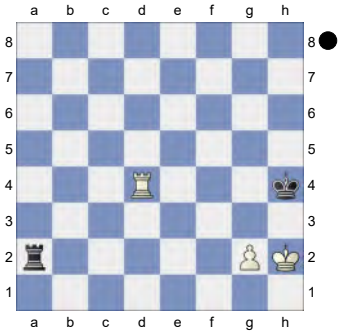
(Diagram)



61.Re6+ 3:30 **Kf5** 14 **62.Rxh6** 24 **Kxf4** 28 **63.Rxh5** 22 **Kg4** 41 **64.Rh8** 18 **Rb2+** 13 **65.Kg1** 10 **Rb1+** 17



66.Kh2 7 **Rb2** 4 **67.Rg8+** 8 **Kh4** 9 **68.Rd8** 17 **Ra2** 3:24 **69.Rd4+** 25



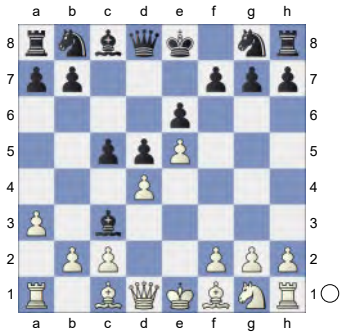
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.09 (flawless)

½-½

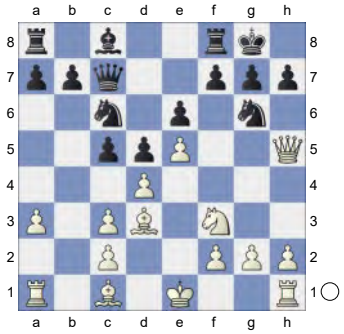
242 **C18**
□ **Berg,E.** **2545**
■ **Sjodahl,Pontus** **2414**
Paskturneringen Open 2015 (5.5)04.04.15
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

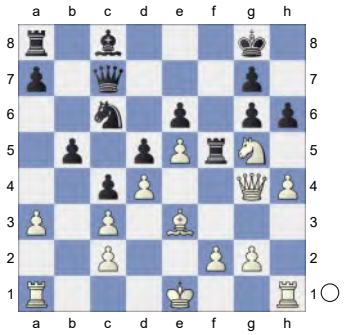
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7



11.Be3 c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 b5 14.h4 Rf5 15.Ng5 h6



White is slightly better. **16.h5! Qe7**

[16...hxg5? 17.hxg6 Ne7 18.Qh5 Nxg6 19.g4+-]

17.Nh3 gxh5 18.Qg3 h4 19.Qg4

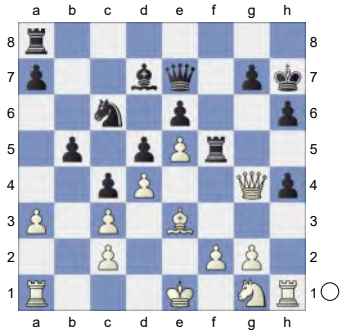
Black must now prevent Bxh6. **19...Kh7**

20.Ng1

[20.a4 b4 21.Nf4 Bd7∓]

20...Bd7N

[20...g5? 21.f4±]



21.Rxh4 Be8 22.Kd2 0.60/21

[22.Qh3± 0.94/20]

22...Bg6 1.09/20

[22...Qf8!≱ 0.60/21 should be considered.]

23.Ne2± Strongly threatening Rah1.

23...Qf8? 2.89/22 Loses the game.

[23...Nd8± 1.12/19 might work better.]

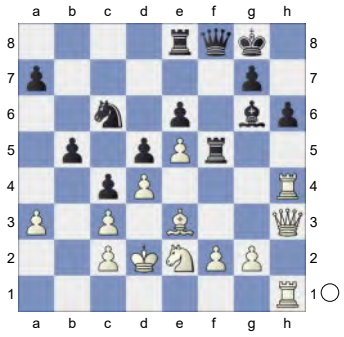
24.Rah1+-

[Not 24.Nf4 Qf7±]

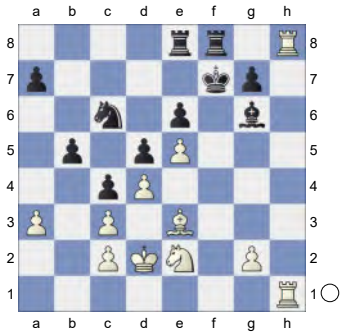
24...Re8 25.Qh3

[But not 25.Nf4?! Rxf4 26.Qxf4 *(26.Bxf4 Ne7±)* 26...Ne7 27.Qxf8 Rxf8]

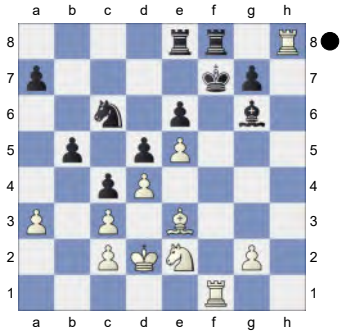
25...Kg8



26.Bxh6! Rxf2 27.Be3 Qf5 28.Qxf5 The board is on fire. **28...Rxf5 29.R4h3** And now g4 would win. **29...Rff8** 4.81/25
[⌓29...Kf8 3.08/25 30.Rh8+ Ke7]
30.Rh8+ Kf7



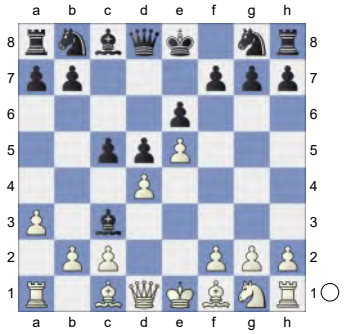
31.Rf1+



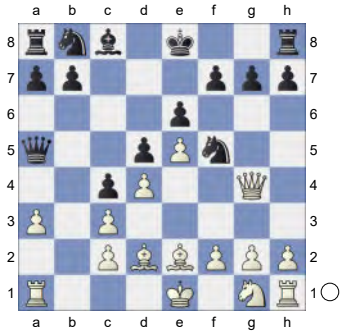
Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.29 (precise)
1-0

243 **C18**
☐ **6.Bd2 c5_54370** **2542**
■ **Jimenez Villena,Francisco Jose**
ROM-chT Romania (8.1) 25.02.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
John Watson: 'John Watson,MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Bd3 c4 9.Be2
[9.Qxg7? Rg8 10.Qxh7 cxd3 11.Qxd3 b6-+]
9...Qa5 10.Bd2
[10.Qxg7? Qxc3+ 11.Bd2 *(11.Kf1? Rg8-+)* 11...Qxa1+-+]
10...Nf5



11.a4 Nc6 White is slightly better.
12.Nf3
[12.Qh3 b5 13.Bg4 bxa4 14.Bxf5 exf5 15.Qg3 Rg8 16.Ne2 a3 17.0-0 Rb8 18.e6 fxe6 19.Qd6 Qb6 20.Nf4 Kf7 21.Qxa3 Rd8 22.Qc1 Ne7 23.Qd1 Kg8 24.Qh5 Rf8 25.Qg5 Rb7 26.Bc1 Rf6 Gutierrez Delgado,Y (2311)-Caballero Ramos,G (2247) Merida 2024 ½-½ (56)]
12...Bd7 13.Nh4 Strongly threatening Nxf5.
[13.0-0 0-0-0 14.Rfb1 f6 15.h4 Rdf8 16.h5 h6 17.Qh3 fxe5 18.dxe5 Qc7 19.Qh2 Rhg8 20.Bc1 g5 21.hxg6 Rxg6 22.Ba3 Rfg8 23.Bf1 d4 24.Bd6 Qa5 25.Ra3 Qd5 26.Qh3

Nxd6 27.exd6 e5 Karjakin,S (2752)-Livaic,L (2507) chess.com INT 2020 [John Watson] 0-1 (33)]

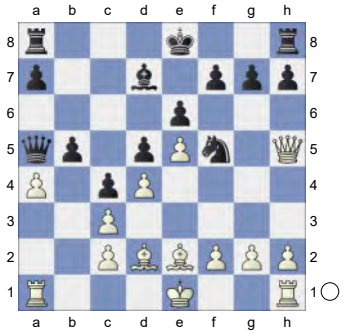
13...Nce7N

[13...0-0 14.Nxf5 exf5 15.Qg3 f6 16.f4 b5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5: 7.Qg4 Qc7 -11.a4 with 12. Nf3 #2]

14.Nxf5 Nxf5 15.Qh5 0.07/20

[15.h4± 0.47/20]

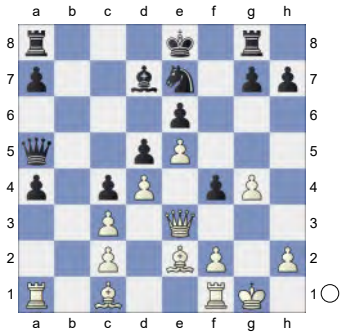
15...b5



16.g4 Ne7 17.0-0 bxa4 18.Qg5 Rg8 19.Qe3 White has compensation. **19...f5 20.Bc1** 0.11/19 &Bianco is more active.

[White should try 20.Rfb1± 0.70/17]

20...f4=



21.Qh3 Ng6 22.Ba3 Rb8 23.g5 Kf7 0.39/21

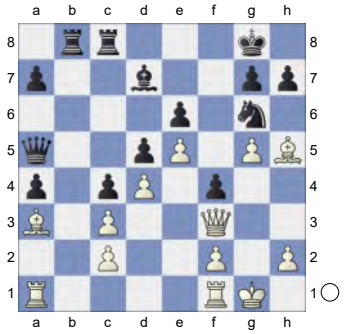
[23...Qd8= 0.01/22]

24.Bh5↑ White is more active.

[24.Qxh7? Rh8 25.Qxh8 Rxh8-+]

24...Rgc8 25.Qf3 Kg8

(Diagram)



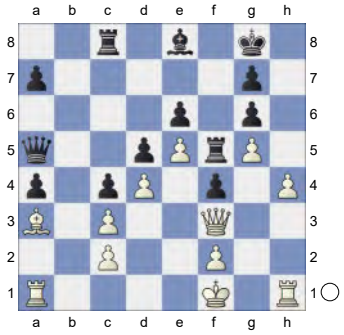
26.Bxg6 hxg6 27.h4 Be8 28.Kg2

[Much weaker is 28.Qxf4 Qxc3 29.Rfc1 Qh3∓]

28...Rb7 29.Rh1

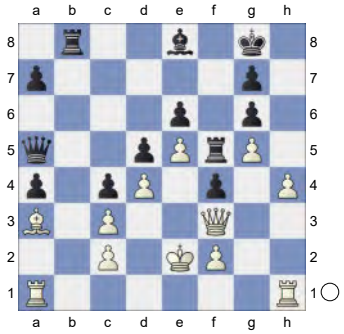
[But not 29.Qxf4 Qxc3 30.Ra2 Rcb8∓]

29...Rf7 30.Kf1 Rf5



31.Ke2 Rb8 1.15/23

[31...Qd8= 0.26/21 keeps the balance.]

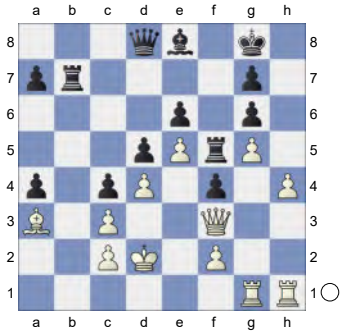


32.Kd2 0.20/24

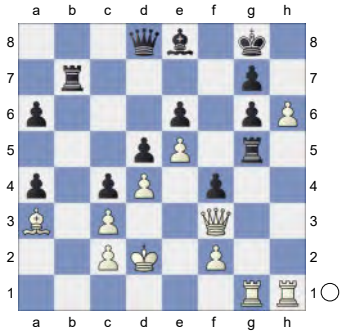
[32.Rag1!± 1.15/23]

32...Qd8!= 33.Rag1 Rb7? 2.29/23

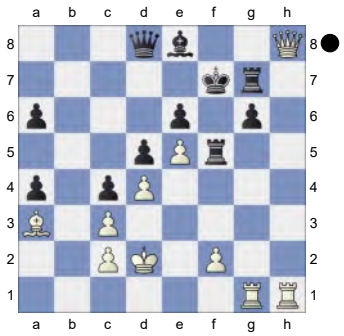
[33...a5= 0.30/22 and Black has nothing to worry.]



Loses the game. **34.h5!+- a6?** 5.67/23
[34...gxh5 1.88/22 35.g6 Bxg6]
35.h6 Threatening mate with hxg7.
35...Rxg5



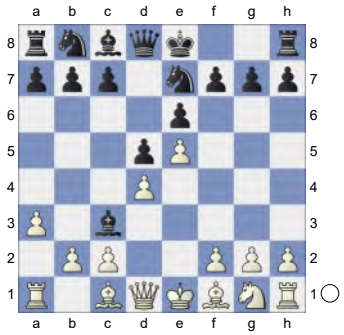
36.hxg7 White mates.
[36.Qxf4 Rf5 37.Qe3 Rh5=]
36...Rxg7 37.Qxf4 Rf5 38.Qh6
[Weaker is 38.Qh2 Rh5 39.Qf4 Bc6=]
38...Kf7 39.Qh8



Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.60
1-0

244 **C18**
□ **Omuku,Emmanuel** **2540**
■ **Gligoric Taimanov Variation,W**
Budapest (11.1) 09.08.2022
[Kitty Kat]

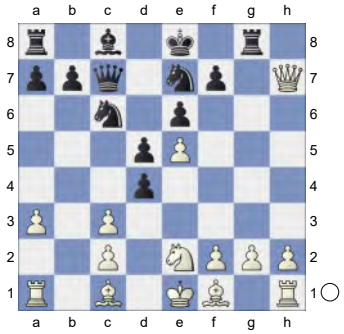
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5*

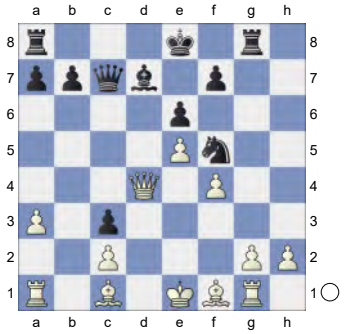
Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6



11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 d4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Bd7 15.Rg1 Nf5 0.78/23

[15...a6± 0.35/20]



16.Qf2!± Qc6!

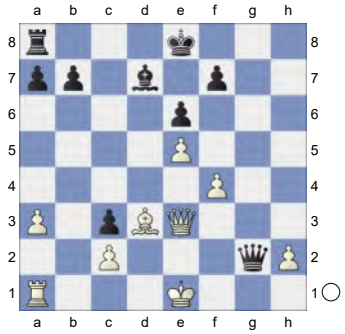
[16...Bc6 17.g4 *(17.Bd3* 0.01/22 17.g4 0.61 *0-0-0!)* 17...Ne7! 18.h4 Qa5! Inhibits Qc5. 19.Rb1 0-0-0 20.Rb4 Nd5 1.18/21 *(20...Qd5±* 0.48/21 *21.Bd3 b6)* 21.Rc4]

17.Bd3! Threatens to win with g4.

17...Qd5 White is slightly better. **18.Be3**

[18.Rb1 Bc6 19.Rb3 0-0-0 20.Rxc3 Kb8 21.g4 Nd4 22.Rg3! Qh1+ 23.Bf1 *(23.Qf1!?)* 23...b6! 24.Bb2 Rh8 25.h3! Be4! 26.Bc1 Rd5 0.12/24 *(26...Rd7±* 0.52/26 deserves consideration.*)* 27.Rg1= Nf3+ 28.Rxf3 Qxf3 29.Qxf3 Bxf3 30.Bd2 a5 31.Rg3 Rhd8! 32.Bxa5 bxa5 33.Rxf3 Rd2 34.h4 Rxc2 35.h5 Rdd2! 36.Rh3 Kc7 37.g5 Rb2 38.h6 Rdc2 39.Kd1 Rd2+ 40.Kc1 Rbc2+]

18...Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Rxg2 20.Rxg2 Qxg2



21.Be4 Qxh2 22.0-0-0! Bc6

[22...0-0-0 0.99/24 22...Bb5 0.44 23.Qxc3+

A) 23...Bc6 24.Bxc6 Bh1+ would kill now.

A1) 24...Rxd1+! 25.Kxd1 Qg1+ 26.Ke2 Qh2+? 5.33/24 *(26...bxc6±* 0.87/25 *27.Qxc6+ Kd8)* 27.Bg2+;

A2) 24...Rxd1+± 0.80/27 is a better chance. 25.Kxd1 Qg1+ 26.Ke2 bxc6;

A3) 24...Qxf4+? 4.83/27 25.Kb2+- Rxd1 26.Bf3+;

B) 23...Bc6± 0.98/31 24.Bxc6 Rxd1+ 25.Kxd1 Qg1+ 26.Ke2 bxc6;

C) 23...Kb8? 9.63/25 24.Qb4+- Qxf4+ 25.Kb1 b6 26.Qd6+ Kc8

27.Bc6]

23.Bxc6+ -0.01/26

[23.Kb1 Bxe4 24.Qxe4 Qf2! 25.Qxb7 *(25.Qa4+* 0.01/25 25.Qxb7 0.50 *Kf8 26.Qb4+ Kg7 27.Qxc3 Rd8 28.Rxd8 Qb6+ 29.Qb4 Qxd8 30.Qxb7 Qd4)* 25...Qb6+ 26.Qxb6 axb6]

[23.Kb1± 0.59/28]

23...bxc6± Endgame KQR-KQR **24.Qd4** Inhibits Rd8.

[24.Qe4!? Kf8 25.Qb4+ Kg7 26.Kb1±]

24...a5!

[24...Qe2 0.64/28 24...a5 0.31

A) 25.Rg1 0.13/28 25.Qd7+ 0.77 Qd2+! 26.Qxd2 cxd2+ 27.Kxd2 Kd7;

B) 25.Rh1 Qd2+! 26.Qxd2 cxd2+ 27.Kxd2 Kd7;

C) 25.f5 Qb5 26.Qxc3 Rb8;

D) 25.Qd7+! Kf8 Hoping for ... Qe3+. 26.Qb7? -0.33/25 *(26.Qxc6±* 1.49/27 *Qe3+ 27.Kb1 Qb6+ 28.Qxb6 axb6 29.Ka2)* 26...Qe3+∓ 27.Kb1 Qb6+;

E) 25.Qxc3 Qe4]

[24...Qg2 25.Qd7+ Kf8 26.Qb7 Re8 27.Qxa7 Qf3 28.Qd4]

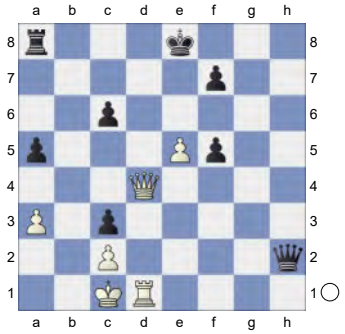
[24...Kf8 25.Kb1! Rb8+ 26.Ka1 Qxc2? 16.49/25 *(26...Re8±* 1.59/25 *)* 27.Qd6++- Kg7 28.Rg1+ Kh7 29.Qxb8]

25.f5↑ White has some pressure.

[25.Rg1 0.01/27 25.Qd7+ 0.37 Qd2+! 26.Qxd2 cxd2+ 27.Kxd2 And now Rg8+ would win. Kd7]

25...exf5

[25...Qh6+ 0.61/25 25...exf5 0.22 26.Kb1 exf5 27.Ka1 *(27.e6* 0.01/26 27.Ka1 0.47 *fxe6 28.Qd7+ Kf8)* 27...Qe6 28.Rh1! White wants to mate with Rh8+. Ke7 29.Qc5+ Kd7 30.Rd1+ Kc7 31.Rd6 Qe8]



26.Kb1 Kf8

[26...Qh6]

[26...Rb8+? 27.Ka1 Qd2 *(27...Qxc2* leads to mate. *28.Qd7+ Kf8 29.Qd6+ Kg7 30.Rg1+ Kh7 31.Rh1+)* 28.Rxd2+-]

27.Qd6+ White has compensation.

[27.Ka1 Re8! 28.Qc5+ Kg7 next ...Re6 is good for Black. 29.Rg1+! *(29.Qe3* -0.35/21 29.Rg1+ 0.01*)* 29...Kh7 White must now prevent ...f4. 30.e6 Rxe6 *(30...Qxc2!? 31.Rh1+ Kg6 32.Qg1+ Kf6 33.Rh6+ Ke5 34.Qc5+ Ke4 35.Rh4+ Kf3 36.Rh3+ Kg4 37.Rxc3 Qd2+-)* 31.Qxf5+ Kh8 32.Qc5 *(32.Rf1!? Qh4 33.Qxf7 Re1+ 34.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 35.Ka2=)* 32...Kh7! 33.Rf1 Kg7 34.Qg5+ Kf8 35.Qf5 Re7 36.Qc8+ Kg7 37.Qxc6 Re6 38.Qd7 Qh5! 39.Qc7

A) 39...Kf8

A1) 40.Qc8+ Kg7 41.Qd7 Kg8 0.29/22 *(41...a4* -0.06/21 might be stronger. *)*;

A2) 40.a4 Kg8 41.Qd7;

B) 39...Rh6 40.Qxc3+ Kf8 0.33/23 *(40...f6=* -0.01/19 *)* 41.Rb1± Re6 42.Qc4 Qe5+ 43.Ka2 Qe4 44.Qc8+]

[27.Qc5+ Kg7 28.Qxc3 e6+ is the strong threat. Kg8]

27...Kg8? 2.89/29 This costs Black the game.

[27...Kg7

A) 28.Qf6+ Kf8 29.Qxc6 Re8;

B) 28.Rf1 Re8 29.Qf6+ Kf8 30.Qxf5 *(30.Rxf5 Re7 31.Qxc6 Qd2)* 30...Re7;

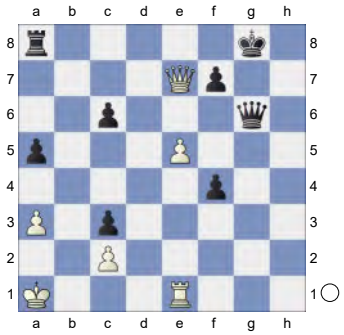
C) 28.Qe7 c5 29.Ka1 *(29.Qf6+ Kf8 30.Ka1 Re8 31.Qxf5 Qxe5 32.Qh7 Qf6)* 29...Ra6 30.Qg5+ Rg6 31.Qxf5 Rg1 32.Qf6+ Kg8 *(32...Kg8!? 33.Qd8+ Kh7=)* 33.Rxg1+ -0.55/5 *(White should play 33.Qd8+= -0.01/26 Kh7 34.e6)* 33...Qxg1+∓ 34.Ka2]

[27...Kg7± 0.32/29]

28.Qe7+- Qf2? 5.21/28

[28...Kg7? 6.04/26 28...Qh5 0.54 29.Ka1 a4]

[28...Qh5 29.Re1 f4 30.Ka1! Qg6

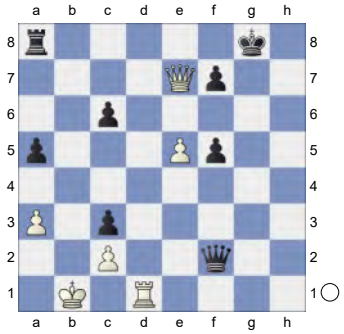


31.e6! Rf8 *(31...fxe6 32.Rxe6 Qg7* aiming for ...Qxe7. *33.Qd6)* 32.Qc5]

[28...Qg3 29.Rh1 f4 30.e6 Rf8 31.exf7+ Rxf7 32.Qd8+ Rf8 33.Qd4]

[28...Qh5 2.28/26 was necessary. 29.Rg1+ Kh7]

(Diagram)

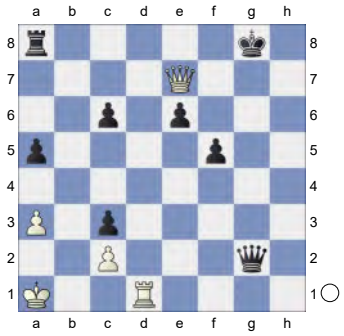


29.Ka1! Qg2

[29...Qa7 30.Rd8+]

30.e6 fxe6

[30...Rf8 31.exf7+ Rxf7 *(31...Kg7 32.Qe5+)* 32.Rd8+ Kg7 33.Qe5+ Rf6 34.Rd7+ Kg6 35.Qe8+ Kh6 36.Qh8+ Kg5 37.Rg7+ Rg6 38.Rxg6+ Kxg6 39.Qg8+]



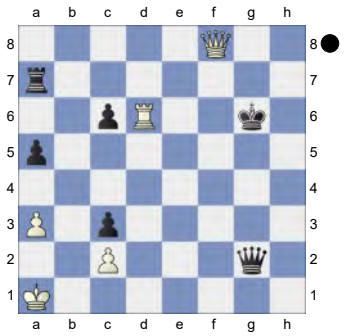
31.Qxe6+ Kh8 32.Qxf5

[32.Rd7 White threatens Qf6+ and mate. Qg5 Against Qf6+]

[32.Qf6+ Kg8 33.Rd7? -0.01/32 *(33.Qd4+-* 6.98/27 *Kh7 34.Rg1 Qxg1+ 35.Qxg1)* 33...Qf1+= 34.Ka2 Qc4+]

32...Ra7 33.Rd8+ Kg7 34.Qf8+ Kg6 35.Rd6+

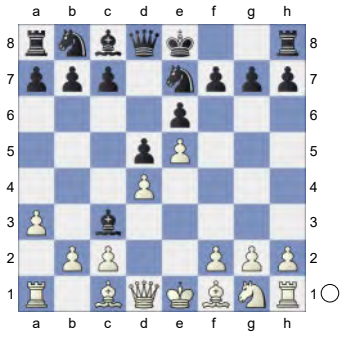
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.78
1-0

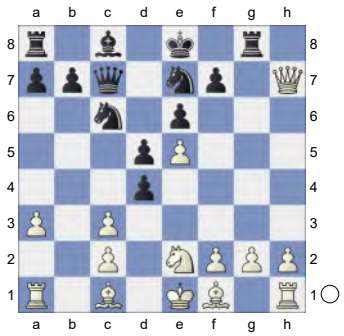
245 **C18**
□ **Muzychuk,Mariya** **2540**
■ **Kashlinskaya,Alina** **2505**
Olympiad Women-44 (11.1) 09.08.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



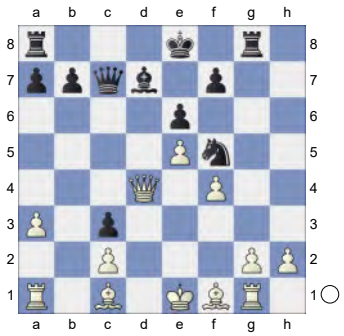
6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6

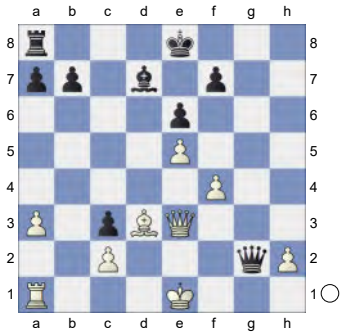


11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 d4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Bd7 15.Rg1 Nf5

(Diagram)



16.Qf2 Qc6! 17.Bd3! Against Qe4+ **17...Qd5!** White is slightly better. **18.Be3 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Rxg2 20.Rxg2 Qxg2**



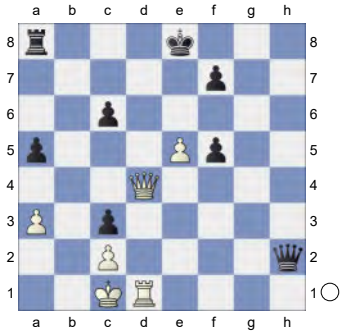
21.Be4 Qxh2 22.0-0-0 Bc6 23.Bxc6+ 0.26/25

[23.Kb1± 0.59/25]

23...bxc6± Endgame KQR-KQR **24.Qd4** Inhibits Rd8. **24...a5 25.f5** 0.01/24

[25.Qd7+± 0.33/23 feels stronger. Kf8 26.Qd4]

25...exf5=

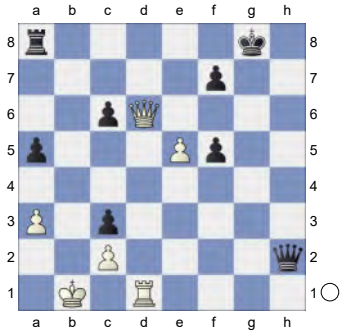


26.Kb1 Qd6 is the strong threat. **26...Kf8**

[26...Rb8+? 27.Ka1 Qd2 28.Rxd2+-]

27.Qd6+ Kg8 0.84/27

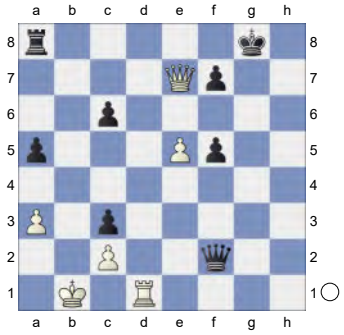
[27...Kg7!= 0.01/27 keeps the balance.]



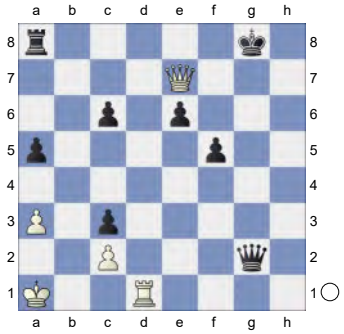
28.Qe7!± Black must now prevent Ka1. **28...Qf2?** 5.46/26

[28...Rb8+ 29.Ka1 Qh6 30.Rg1+ Kh8 31.Qxf7+-]

[28...Qh5!± 0.66/22 29.Qd7 Qh6]

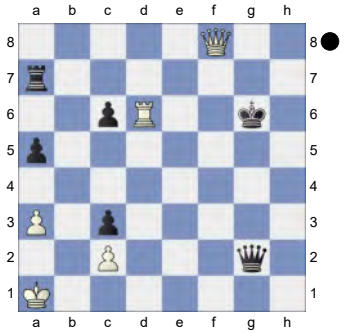


A mistake that costs the game. **29.Ka1!+-** Threatening mate with Qg5+. **29...Qg2** Against Qg5+ **30.e6 fxe6**



31.Qxe6+ Kh8 32.Qxf5 Ra7 33.Rd8+ Kg7 34.Qf8+ Kg6 35.Rd6+

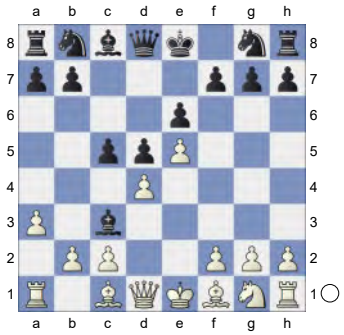
(Diagram)



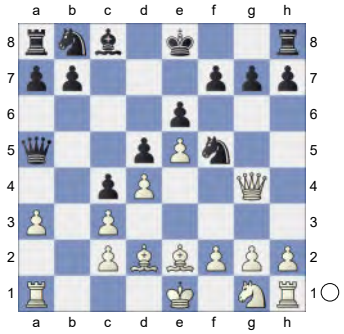
Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.72
1-0

246 **C18**
□ **Perunovic,Milos** **2535**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2731**
Titled Tue 5th Mar Early blitz (3) 5.3.24
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Apicella,Manuel: 'Apicella,M: 'Inf 53/(280)" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

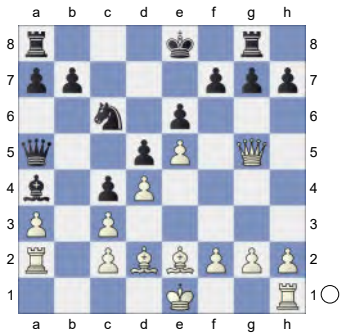


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Bd3 c4 9.Be2
[9.Qxg7? Rg8 10.Qxh7 cxd3 11.Qxd3 b6∓]
9...Qa5 10.Bd2
[10.Qxg7? Qxc3+ 11.Bd2 *(11.Kf1? Rg8-+)* 11...Qxa1+-+]
10...Nf5

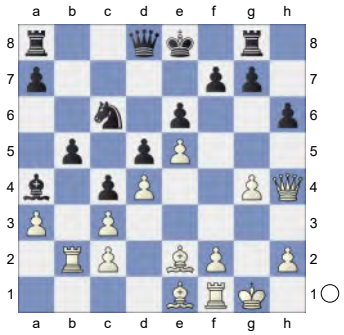


11.Nf3 Bd7 White is slightly better.
[11...Nc6 12.Qh5 h6 13.0-0 Bd7 14.Rfb1 0-0-0 15.Qxf7 g5 16.Be1 g4 17.Nd2 Rhg8 18.h3 Rdf8 Uyanga,B (2655)-Peter,W (2620) Givatayim 1996 Telechess CBM 89 [Anil Kumar Anand]]
[11...Qa4 12.h4 Nc6 13.Qf4 h6 14.h5 Bd7 15.Bd1 Rg8 16.Nh4 Nfe7 17.Rh3 0-0-0 18.Rf3 Rdf8 19.g4 Nb8 20.Qh2 Rh8 21.Qg3 Rhg8 22.Qh2 Rh8 23.Qg3 Rhg8 24.Qh2 Rh8 25.Qg3 Rhg8 ½-½ (25) Yonal,T (2162)-Zerey,D (2296) Izmir 2024]
12.Nh4N
[12.0-0 Ba4 13.Ra2 Nc6 14.Qh3 h6 15.g4 Nfe7 16.Be1 0-0-0 17.Nh4 g5 18.Ng2 Szalanczy,E (2410)-Apicella, M (2455) Budapest 1991 CI1-130 [Apicella,Manuel]]
12...Nxh4 13.Qxh4 Ba4 14.Qg5 0.23/22
[14.Qg3± 0.57/21]
14...Rg8 0.63/19
[14...0-0= 0.23/22 feels stronger.]
15.Ra2± Nc6

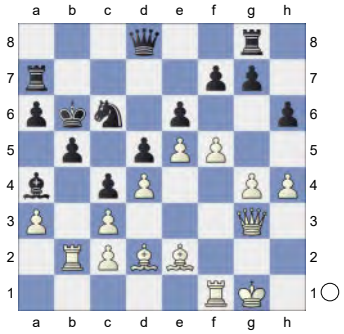
(Diagram)



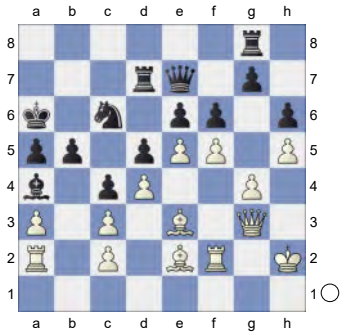
16.0-0 h6 17.Qh4 Ne7 18.Rb2 b5 19.g4 Nc6 20.Be1 Qd8



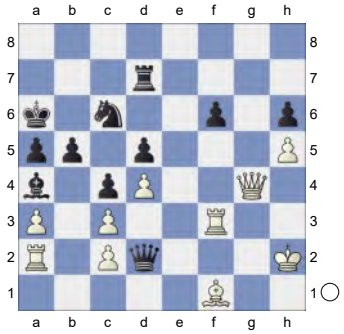
21.Qg3 0.25/18
[21.f4± 0.67/19]
21...Kd7 22.f4 Kc7 0.86/18
[22...f6± 0.46/18 is more appropriate.]
23.f5± Kb6 24.Bd2 0.80/20
[⌓24.Qe3 1.17/19]
24...a6 25.h4 Ra7



26.Kh2 a5 27.Be3 0.37/16
[27.f6± 1.39/18]
27...Ka6 1.49/19
[27...Qe7± 0.37/16]
28.h5 1.17/20
[⌓28.f6 1.49/19]
28...Qe7 29.Ra2! f6 30.Rf2 0.86/20
[⌓30.exf6 1.30/20 gxf6 31.Bd1 *(31.Bxh6 exf5 32.Bd1 fxg4±)*]
30...Rd7 1.53/22
[⌓30...Rf8 0.86/20]



31.Bf1 0.30/21
[White should play 31.exf6± 1.53/22 gxf6 32.fxe6 *(32.Bxh6 exf5 33.Qf4 Rh8±)* 32...Qxe6 33.Bxh6]
31...exf5= 32.exf6
[32.Rxf5 Re8=]
32...gxf6 1.25/22
[32...Qxf6= 0.11/23 33.Rxf5 Qd8]
33.Rxf5± Threatens to win with Bg2.
33...Rxg4? 4.44/19 **34.Qxg4+- Qxe3 35.Rf3** 2.45/20
[⌓35.Rxf6 4.64/20 Rc7 36.Bg2]
35...Qd2+

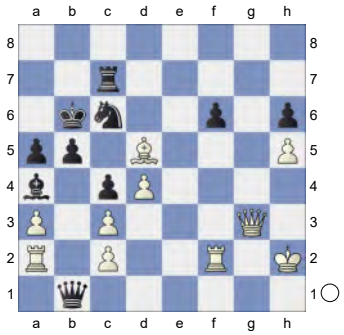


36.Bg2 Rc7 5.20/22
[36...Rd6 2.66/23 37.Qc8+ Kb6]
37.Qg3 Kb6 38.Rf2 2.21/21 Against Qe2
[⌓38.Rxf6 4.37/19 Qe2 39.Rxh6]
38...Qc1? 5.65/22

[38...Qd1 2.21/21 is tougher. 39.Rxf6 Qxh5+ 40.Qh3 Qxh3+ 41.Kxh3 Rd7 42.Rxh6 Kc7]

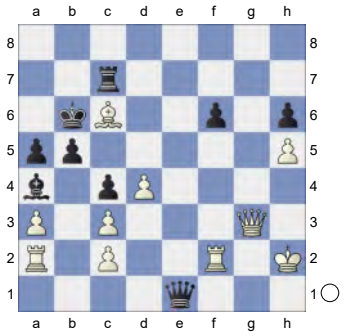
39.Bxd5 Qb1 13.41/23

[⊿39...Qd1 4.41/21 40.Bf3 Qc1]



40.Qd6 5.06/21

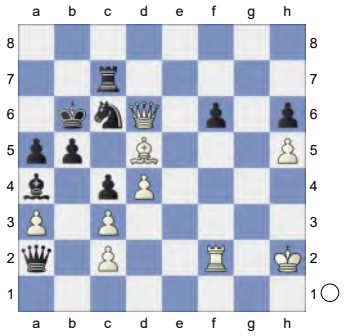
[⊿40.Bxc6! 13.41/23 Qe1 *(40...Rxc6 41.Qb8+)*



41.Bxb5!]

40...Qxa2 9.96/23

[⊿40...Kb7 5.06/21 41.Rxf6 b4 42.Bxc6+ *(42.Bxc4 b3±)* 42...Bxc6]



41.Qc5+? 3.81/23

[41.Bxc6 9.96/23 Bg2+ would kill now. Rxc6 42.Qb8+ Ka6 43.Qa8+ Kb6 44.d5]

41...Kb7 42.Re2? -0.01/20

[42.Be4+- 1.93/20 Qb1 43.d5 *(43.Rxf6 b4=)*]

42...b4!= 43.axb4 Qa3

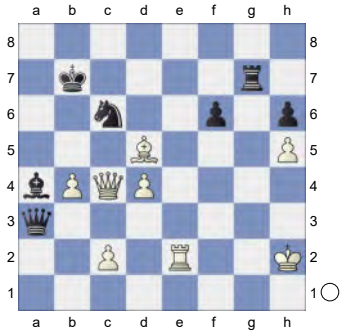
[Much less strong is 43...axb4 44.Qxb4+ *(44.cxb4 Qb1=)* 44...Ka7 45.Qd6±]

44.Qxc4 And now b5 would win.

44...axb4 45.cxb4 Black must now prevent b5.

[But not 45.Re6? Qxc3 46.Qxc3 bxc3-+]

45...Rg7



46.c3? -1.77/21

[46.Rg2= -0.01/23 and White is okay. Rxg2+ 47.Kxg2 *(47.Bxg2 Qe3=)*]

46...Qc1-+ (-> ...Qg1+) **47.Rg2** Prevents Qg1+. **47...Qf4+ 48.Kh1?** -6.02/20

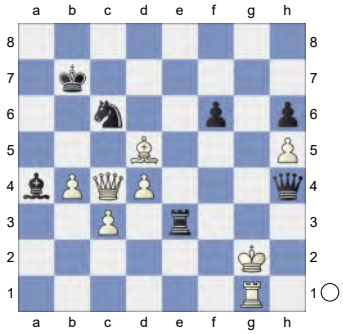
[48.Kg1 -1.98/20 Re7 49.Qf1]

48...Re7 49.Rg1 Prevents Re1.

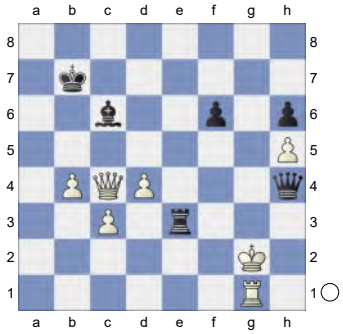
49...Qh4+ 50.Kg2 Re3? -3.79/25

[50...Rg7+ -#10/18 mates 51.Kf1 Qf4+ 52.Ke2 Rxg1 53.Bxc6+ Bxc6 54.Qf7+ Kb6 55.Qa7+ Kxa7 56.Kd3 Qf1+ 57.Ke3 Qf3+ 58.Kd2 Rg2+ 59.Ke1 Qe2#]

(Diagram)



51.Bxc6+? -#7/16
[51.Bf3-+ -3.79/25 Qf4 52.Rf1 Qg5+ 53.Kh1]
51...Bxc6+

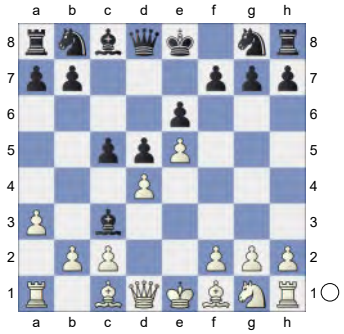


Quite a comeback for Black.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.99/ Black=0.58
0-1

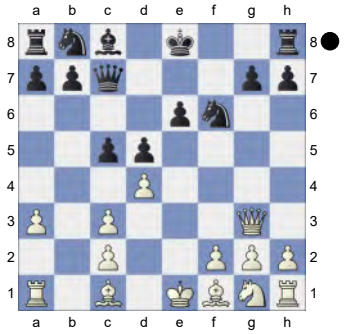
247 **C18**
☐ **Kulaots,Kaido** **2534**
■ **Christiansen,Johan Sebastian**
NOR-chT Elite 2324 (8.53) 09.03.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Neil McDonald: 'Shirov,A: 'Inf 78/314" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f6 7...f5 is not played anymore. 7…f5 wird inzwischen seltener gespielt. **8.exf6 Nxf6 9.Qg3** -0.75/20
[9.Qf4!∓ -0.31/21 Qa5 10.Bd2]

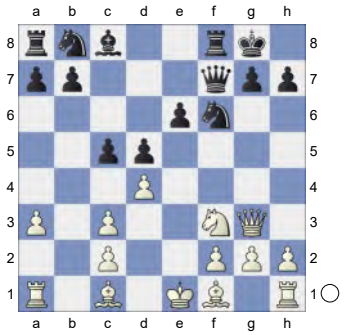


9...Qf7N 0.29/21 Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
[9...Qa5!∓ -0.75/20 10.Bd2 0-0]
[9...Qe7 10.Bg5 *(10.Bf4 Nh5 11.Qg4 Nxf4 12.Qxf4 c4 13.Nf3 Nc6 14.g3 Qf6 15.Qe3 0-0 16.Bg2 Bd7 17.0-0 Rae8 18.Rae1 b6 19.Qd2 Re7 20.Ne5 Nxe5 21.Rxe5 Ref7 22.f4 Qh6 23.h4 Rf5 24.Re3 Qg6* 1-0 Shirov,A (2750)-Short,N (2680) Sarajevo Bosnia 30th 2000 (5) *)* 10...Nc6 11.Nf3 0-0 12.Bd3 Bd7 13.Ne5 c4 14.Be2 Qe8 15.f3 Nh5 16.Qh4 h6 17.Bd2 Nxe5 18.dxe5 g5 19.Qg4 Nf4 20.h4 Qb8 21.g3 Nxe2 22.f4 Nxg3 23.Qxg3 g4 24.Qxg4+ ½-½ Ionescu Ilie,V (2600)-Mcelroy,E (2341) Tsaghkadzor (wtc) 124/(137) 2015 (5)]

[9...Qxg3 10.hxg3 cxd4 11.cxd4 Nc6 12.Nf3 Bd7 13.Bd3 0-0 14.Rb1 b6 15.Bf4 g6 16.c3 Rac8 17.Ng5 Kg7 18.Bb5 h6 19.Nf3 g5 20.Be5 Nb8 21.Be2 Rxc3 22.Nh2 Nc6 23.Bb5 Kf7 24.Bxc6 0-1 Van Roon,S (2260)-Wuijts,J (2021) Eindhoven WLC op 13th 2023 (2)]

10.Nf3= 0-0N

[Vorgänger: 10...Ne4 11.Qh4 c4 Inhibits Bf1-d3. 12.Bxc4 Black must now prevent Bc4-d3. Qg6 1.00/20 *(12...Qc7!=* 0.10/23 *13.Nd2 Nxd2 14.Bb5+ Bd7 15.Bxd7+ Nxd7 16.Bxd2 0-0)* 13.Be2± Threatens to win with 0-0. 0-0 1.52/21 *(⌓13...Nxc3* 1.05/22 *14.Ne5 Qe4 15.Qxe4 Nxe4)* 14.0-0± Nc6 15.Kh1 1.05/22 *(15.Ne5+-* 1.74/21 *Qf6 16.Qxf6 Rxf6 17.Nxc6 bxc6 18.Bd3)* 15...Nxc3± 16.Bd3 Ne4 17.Be3 0.59/18 ;0-1 Vershinin,A (1963)-Tsapulin,A (2173) Kaluga Tsiolkovsky Memorial op 2012 (5) *(*White should play *17.Ng5±* 1.21/21 *)*]

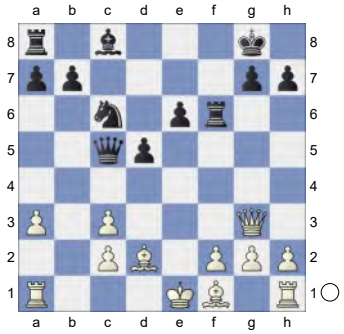


11.Ne5 Dodges Nb8-c6 **11...Qc7** White is slightly better. **12.Ng4**

[12.Bd3 keeps more tension. c4 13.Be2 Ne4 14.Qe3]

12...Qa5 ...Nf6xg4 is the strong threat. **13.Nxf6+ Rxf6 14.Bd2 Nc6 15.dxc5 Qxc5**

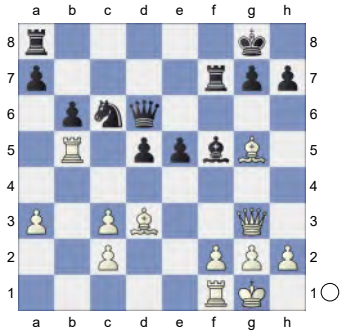
(Diagram)



16.Bd3 e5 17.0-0 Bf5 18.Rab1 aiming for Bd3xf5. **18...b6**

[18...Qxa3?! 19.Bxf5 *(19.Rxb7 Qf8+-)* 19...Rxf5 20.Rxb7±]

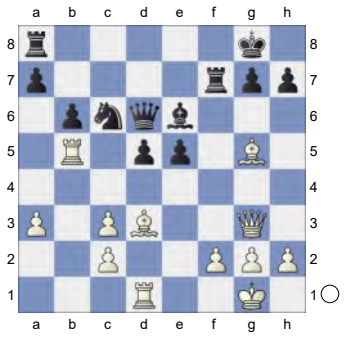
19.Rb5 Qd6 20.Bg5 Rf7



21.Rd1 Be6 0.77/21

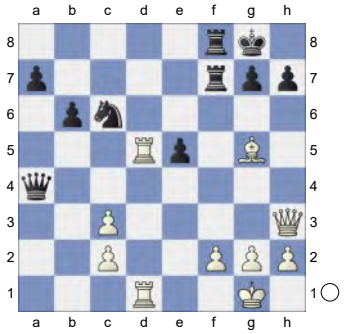
[21...Qxa3?! 22.Bxf5 *(22.Rxd5 Qxc3 23.Bd2 Qa3=)* 22...Rxf5 23.Rbxd5±]

[21...Qe6= 0.00/22 keeps the balance.]



22.Bc4 0.19/23 This pair of bishops is nice. **22...Qxa3= 23.Bxd5 Bxd5 24.Rbxd5 Raf8 25.Qh3 Qa4**

(Diagram)



26.Qe6 Qxc2→ Black attacks. **27.Be3** -2.93/23 Dodges Nc6-d4

[27.Qxc6? Qxf2+ 28.Kh1 Qf1+ 29.Rxf1 Rxf1#]

[27.Rf1!∓ -0.44/23 Qf5 *(27...Qxc3 28.Bd2±)* 28.Qxc6 Qxg5 29.Qe6]

27...Nd4!-+

[27...Qxc3? 28.Rc1 Nd4 29.Rxd4 *(29.Qxe5? Ne2+ 30.Kf1 Qxe5-+; 29.Qxf7+ Rxf7 30.Rxc3 Ne2+ 31.Kf1 Nxc3∓)* 29...exd4 30.Rxc3 dxc3 31.Qc4+-]

28.Qg4 -4.79/22

[⚟28.R5xd4 -3.02/21 exd4 29.Rc1]

28...Rxf2

[28...Qxc3 29.h3∓ *(29.Rxe5? Nf3+* Discovered Attack *30.gxf3 Qxe5-+)*]

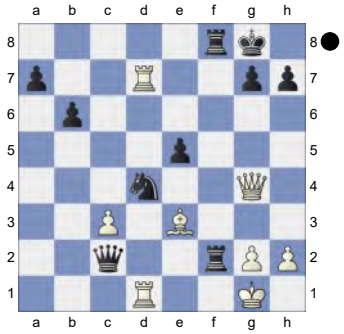
29.Rd7 -#5/18

[29.cxd4 gets mated. Rxg2+ 30.Kh1 Rxg4 31.Rg1 Qe4+]

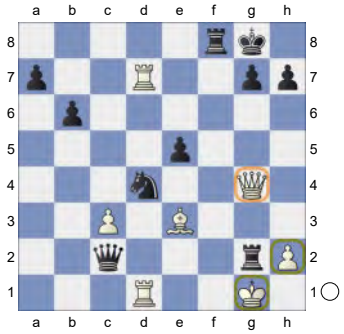
[29.Bxf2? Qxf2+ 30.Kh1 Qf1+ Back Rank 31.Rxf1 Rxf1#]

[29.Kh1-+ -4.60/20 Qxd1+ Remove Defender *(29...Qxc3?* loses. *30.Bxf2 Rxf2 31.Rxe5+-)* 30.Qxd1 Rf1+ 31.Qxf1 Rxf1+ 32.Bg1]

(Diagram)



29...Rxg2+!!



Double Attack. Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/Black=0.17 (very precise)

0-1

248 **C18**

□ **Pranav,Anand** **2532**

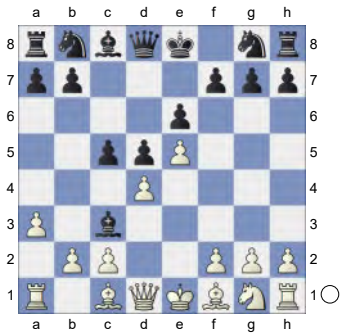
■ **Salem,A R Saleh** **2629**

Dubai Police op-A (6) 09.05.2024

[Kitty Kat]

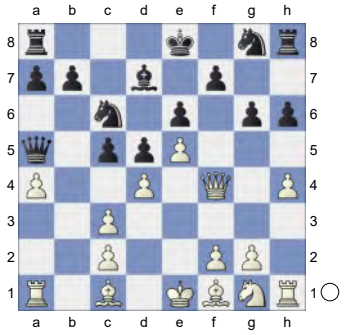
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Ivanisevic,Ivan: 'Vigorito, D: 'This game is not so important theoretically, but its sporting significance requires it to be presented...' RR: 'Szabo,Krisztian: 'Vigorito, D: 'This game is not so important theoretically, but its sporting significance requires it to be presented...'''' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

(Diagram)

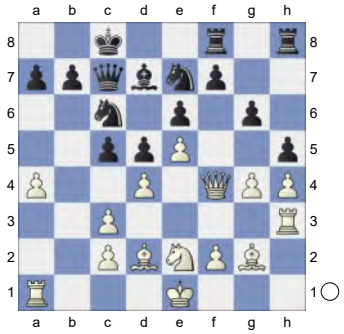


6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.h4
[8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Qd4 f6=]
8...h6 9.a4N
[9.h5 g5 10.f4 Qa5 11.Bd2 f5 12.Qg3 g4 13.c4 Qa4 14.dxc5 Nge7 15.Qb3 Qxb3 16.cxb3 Nd4 17.Rb1 dxc4 18.bxc4 Bd7 19.Kf2 Bc6 20.Ba5 Be4 21.Rb2 Rc8 22.Ne2 Rxc5 23.Nxd4 Rxa5 1-0 Kobelev,A (2563)-Nielsen,J (2420) Moscow 2002 (9)]
[9.Bd2 c4 10.Qg3 Bd7 11.h5 g5 12.f4 f6 13.Nh3 Qc7 14.Be2 0-0-0 15.0-0 Be8 16.Rae1 Rd7 17.Qh2 f5 18.fxg5 hxg5 19.Nxg5 Nd8 20.Rf4 Rg7 21.Rh4 Nh6 22.Nh3 Qe7 23.Nf4 Qxa3 Anand,V (2811)-Nakamura,H (2758) 113/(219) London 2011 24.Rh3 Qf8 25.Rg3 Rxg3 26.Qxg3 Qe7 27.Ra1 a6 28.Be1 Rg8 29.Qh4 Qxh4 30.Bxh4 Bf7 31.Bf3 Nc6 32.Kf2 Kd7 33.Bf6 Na7 34.Ke2 Nb5 35.Kd2 Nc7 36.Rb1 Kc6 37.Be7 Ne8 38.Nh3 b5 1-0 Buchicchio,G (2792)-Warlick,J (2706) 120/56 Dubai 2014]
[9.Bd3 c4 10.Be2 Bd7 11.h5 g5 12.f4 f5 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Qg3 Ne4 15.Qe3 Qa5 16.fxg5 hxg5 17.Bf3 0-0-0 18.Bxe4 dxe4 19.Ne2 g4 20.Qg5 e5 21.h6 Rdg8 22.Qe3 exd4 23.Nxd4 Qe5 1-0 Ghasi,A (2555)-Willow,J (2295) Stafford Wood Green Blitz op 2023 (7.1)]

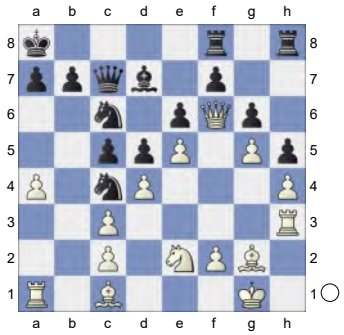
9...Bd7 10.Qf4
[10.dxc5 Nxe5 11.Qb4 Qc7=]
10...Qa5



White is slightly better. **11.Bd2 Qc7 12.Ne2** 0.18/17
[12.dxc5 Nxe5 13.Be2 0-0-0=]
[12.Nf3± 0.77/19]
12...Nge7= 13.Rh3 0-0-0! 14.g4
[14.Qxf7? Rdf8 15.Qg7 Nf5 16.Qxg6 Rhg8-+]
14...Rdf8 15.Bg2
[15.dxc5 Qxe5 16.Qxe5 Nxe5∓]
15...h5

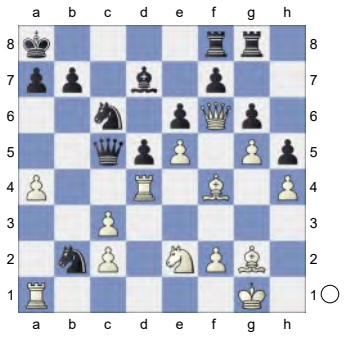


16.g5 Na5 17.Bc1 Nc4 18.Kf1 Nc6 19.Kg1 Kb8 20.Qf6 Ka8

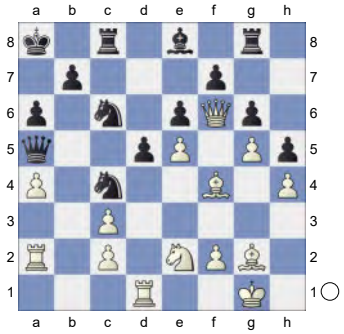


21.Rd3 Rhg8 22.Bf4 Nb2 23.Rd2

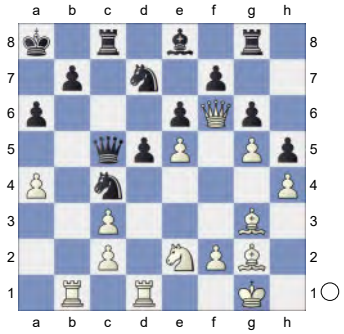
-0.36/23
[23.Rf3= 0.27/21]
23...Na5!∓ 24.dxc5 Qxc5 25.Rd4 Nc6



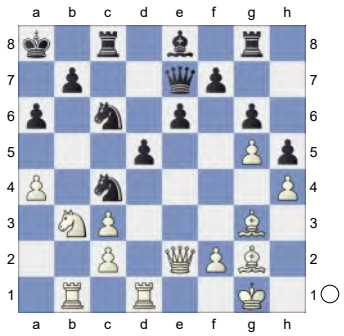
Prevents Rd4-b4. **26.Rd2 Qa5 27.Ra2** -0.40/17
[27.Bg3= 0.00/22]
27...Nc4
[27...Nxa4? 28.c4±]
28.Rd1 Rc8 29.Rb1 a6 30.Rd1 -1.02/22
[30.Bg3∓ -0.42/22]
30...Be8 -0.62/20
[30...Rgd8!∓ -1.02/22]



31.Raa1 Nb6 -0.47/23
[31...Nb8!∓ -0.93/21 32.Rdb1 Nd7 *(32...Bxa4? 33.Qxf7 Nd7 34.Qxe6+-)*]
32.Bd2 -0.93/21
[32.Bg3∓ -0.47/23]
32...Nc4!∓
[32...Nxa4? 33.c4 Qd8 34.cxd5 *(34.Rxa4 Qxf6 35.exf6 Ne5+-)* 34...Qxf6 35.exf6+-]
33.Bf4 Qc5 -0.49/20
[33...Nb8!∓ -0.93/23 34.Qe7 Qc5 *(34...Bxa4? 35.Qxf7 Nd7 36.Qxe6+-; 34...Nc6 35.Qf6∓)* 35.Qxc5 Rxc5]
34.Rab1∓ Nb8 35.Bg3 Nd7
[35...Bxa4? 36.Qxf7 Bd7 37.Nf4 Nxe5 38.Qh7+- *(38.Qf6 Ng4+-)*]



36.Qf4 Ndxe5 37.Nd4 Ng4 A dynamic duo of knights.
[37...Bxa4 38.Re1±]
38.Qf3 Nge5↑ Black fights for an advantage.
[38...Bxa4? 39.Qxf7 Na5 40.Nxe6+- *(40.Qxe6 Rgd8+-)*]
39.Qe2 Nc6 40.Nb3 -0.59/19
[40.Nxe6!± 0.31/21 fxe6 41.Qxe6]
40...Qe7 0.43/18
[Black should try 40...Qa7∓ -0.59/19]



41.a5? -1.12/22 **Bd7** -0.39/19 Black converts the advantage convincingly.
[41...N4xa5? 42.Nxa5 b5 43.Ra1+-]
[41...Qd8∓ -1.12/22 42.Bf1 Na7

(42...N4xa5 43.Nc5±; 42...N6xa5 43.Ra1∓)]

42.Ra1 -1.23/17

[White should play 42.Nd2∓ -0.39/19 Na3 *(42...N4xa5 43.Ra1=; 42...N6xa5? 43.Nxc4 dxc4 44.Qe5+-)* 43.Rb2]

42...Rge8∓ 43.Rdb1 -1.94/22

[43.Nd2∓ -1.22/20 Na7 *(43...N4xa5 44.c4=; 43...N6xa5 44.Nb3∓)* 44.Nxc4 Rxc4 45.Qe5]

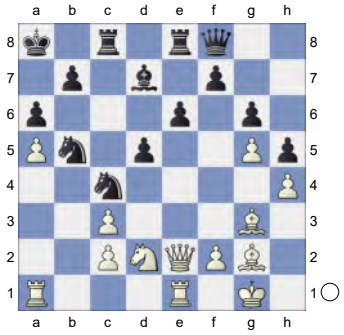
43...Na7 44.Re1 -2.23/20

[⌓44.Nd4 -1.70/19]

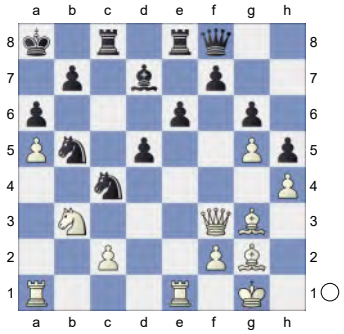
44...Qf8 45.Nd2 -2.40/20

[45.Qf3 -1.75/20 is a better defense.]

45...Nb5-+



46.Nb3 Nxc3 47.Qd3 Nb5 48.Nd4 Qc5 49.Nb3 Qb4 50.Qf3 Qf8

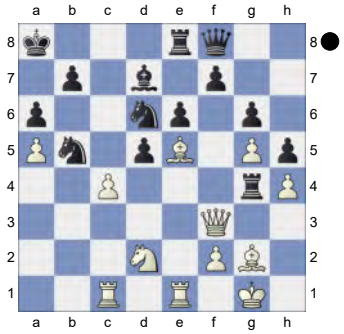


51.Rac1 Ncd6 52.Be5 Rc4 53.Nd2 Rg4 aiming for ...Nd6-f5.

[53...Rxh4 54.c4 Nd4 *(54...dxc4? 55.Nxc4 Rxc4 56.Rxc4+-)* 55.Qa3-+]

54.c4

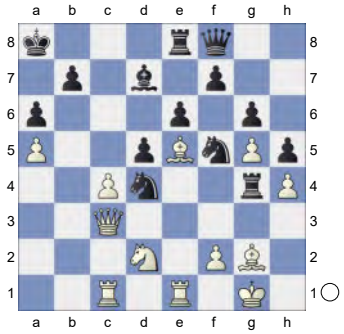
(Diagram)



Nd4

[54...Nxc4? 55.Nxc4 Rxg2+ 56.Kxg2 *(56.Qxg2 dxc4 57.Rxc4 Na7±)* 56...dxc4 57.Rxc4+-]

55.Qc3 N6f5



56.cxd5 exd5

[56...Rxh4? 57.Nc4 Ka7 58.Nb6+-]

[56...Nxh4 57.Bxd4 Nxg2 *(57...Rxg2+ 58.Kh1-+)* 58.f3 Rxd4 *(58...Nxe1+ 59.fxg4 Rc8 60.Nc4=; 58...Rxg5 59.Kh1=)* 59.Qxd4 Nxe1 60.d6∓]

57.Qc7 Bc6 58.Qb6 -4.93/22

[58.f3 -3.40/18 keeps fighting. Ne6 *(58...Rxh4? 59.Qb6-+)* 59.Qb6]

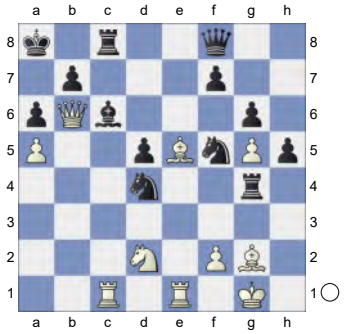
58...Rc8

[58...Rxh4 59.Nf1-+]

[58...Nxh4 59.Bxd4 Rxg2+ 60.Kh1 Rxe1+ *(60...Rxg5 61.Qa7#)* 61.Rxe1-+]

59.Kh1 Rxh4+ 60.Kg1 Rg4

(Diagram)



...Qf8-a3 is the strong threat. **61.Kh1 Qd8 62.Nf3?** -4.69/23

[62.Qxd8 -2.61/17 is the only way for White. Rh4+ *(62...Rxd8? 63.Bf6-+)* 63.Bh3 Rxd8 64.Kg2]

62...Nxf3 63.Bxf3 Rh4+

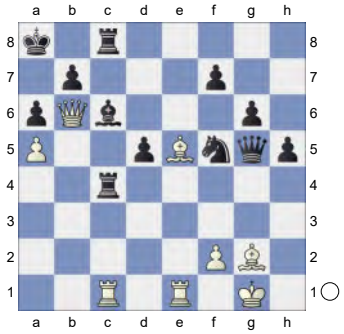
[63...Rxg5? perishes. 64.Rxc6 Ne7 65.Qxd8 Rxd8 66.Rc7 Rxe5 67.Rxe5+-]

64.Kg1 Threatens to win with Rc1xc6!

64...Qxg5+ 65.Bg2 -6.08/21

[⌓65.Kf1 -3.89/22 Re4 66.Bxe4 dxe4 67.Rxc6 Rxc6 68.Qb4]

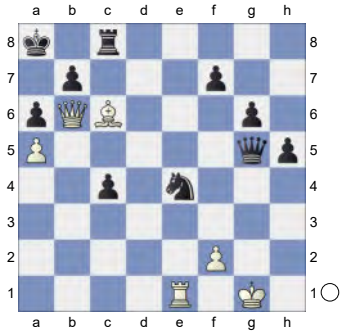
65...Rc4



Black is clearly winning. **66.Rxc4 dxc4 67.Bg3 Nxg3 68.Bxc6 Ne4+**

[And not 68...bxc6 69.Qxa6+ Kb8 70.Rb1+ *(70.Qb6+ Ka8=)* 70...Kc7 71.Qb7+ Kd6 72.Rd1+ Ke5 73.Qxc8 Ne4+ 74.Kf1±]

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.26 (precise)

0-1

249 **C18**

☐ **Chapter Part** **2532**

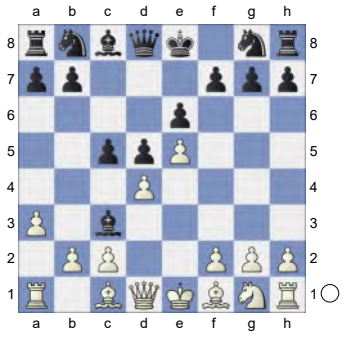
■ **Morrison,G.** **2473**

USSR 25/489 (5.3) 20.03.2022

[Kitty Kat]

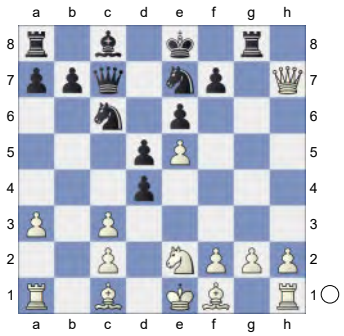
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

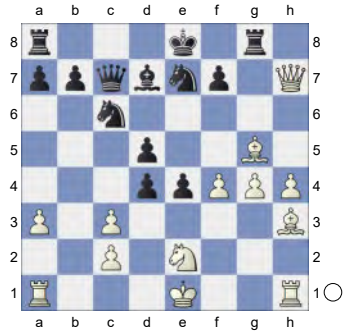


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6

(Diagram)



11.h4
[11.f4]
[11.cxd4 Nxd4 12.Ra2 Nxe2 13.Bxe2 Qxe5=]
11...Bd7N
[11...dxc3 12.f4 d4 13.h5 Bd7 14.Qd3 0-0-0 15.h6 Rg6 16.Rb1 Nf5 17.h7 Rh8 18.g3 Nce7 19.Rh3 Qc5 20.Rb4 Nc6 21.Rb5 Qf8 22.Bg2 f6 23.Nxc3 fxe5 24.Ne4 exf4 25.Nc5 Rg7 26.Bxf4 Ne3 4.Qc2 c5 5.dc5 00 (2555)-Tandi,E (2597) Zürich 2020 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (38)]
12.Bg5 0.29/21
[12.f4]
[12.cxd4 Nxd4! 13.Ra2 Nxe2 14.Bxe2 Qxe5∓]
[12.f4± 0.66/22 was preferrable.]
12...Qxe5= 13.f4 The position is equal.
[13.f4!? Qc7 14.Qd3= *(14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.0-0-0 Nxe2+ 16.Bxe2 Rc8∓)*]
13...Qc7
[13...Qe3 14.cxd4 *(14.Rh3?! Qe4±)* 14...Rf8 *(14...Nxd4? 15.Rh3+-)* 15.h5±]
14.g4⇄ White is fighting back
[14.Bf6 -0.15/22 14.Qd3 0.39 e5 15.fxe5 Bf5 16.Qh6 -0.96/21 *(16.Qh5∓ -0.45/22)* 16...dxc3]
[14.Qd3 dxc3 *(14...e5)* 15.h5 e5 16.h6 -0.20/19 *(16.Bf6* 0.11/20 might be stronger.*)* 16...Bf5= 17.Qxc3 d4 18.Qc5 -0.47/19 *(18.Qd2=* 0.01/17 deserves consideration.*)* 18...Rd8!]
[14.Nxd4? Nxd4 15.Rh3 Nb5 16.Bxb5 Bxb5-+]
14...e5
[14...0-0-0 0.47/20 14...e5 0.01]
[14...dxc3]
15.Bh3
[15.f5 0-0-0! 16.Qxf7 Rdf8]
15...e4
[15...0-0-0]



16.Rd1
[16.cxd4? Nxd4! 17.Bxe7 Kxe7-+]
16...0-0-0! 17.f5 -0.94/24
[17.Qxf7 Rdf8]
[17.cxd4= 0.01/22 f6 18.Bxf6 Bxg4 19.Bxg4+ Rxg4 20.Bg5]
17...Rde8? 1.44/21
[17...d3 18.cxd3 And now Bf4 would win. Ne5! 19.Bxe7? -2.42/21 *(19.d4 Nf3+ 20.Kf2 Nxg5 21.hxg5 Rxg5 22.Qxf7 Qd6; 19.d4∓* -0.87/21 was worth a try. *Nf3+ 20.Kf2 Nxg5 21.hxg5)* 19...exd3-+ 20.Bxd8 Rxd8]
[17...Ne5 White must now prevent ... d3! 18.Bxe7? -2.24/22 *(18.cxd4∓* -0.36/20 *Nf3+ 19.Kf2 Nxg5 20.hxg5)* 18...d3!]
[17...d3∓ -0.94/24 and life is bright. 18.cxd3 Ne5 19.dxe4 *(19.Bxe7? exd3 20.Bxd8 Rxd8-+)* 19...Bb5 20.Bxe7 Bxe2 21.Bxd8 *(21.Kxe2*

Qxe7 22.f6 Qc7∓; 21.Rxd5? Qxc3+ 22.Kxe2 Qf3+ 23.Kd2 Nc4+ 24.Ke1 Qxe4+ 25.Kf2 Qxd5-+) 21...Qxc3+ 22.Kxe2 Qf3+ 23.Kd2 Nc4+ 24.Kc2 Qe2+ 25.Kc3 Rxd8 26.Rxd5 *(26.Qxf7? Qb2+ 27.Kd3 Ne5+ 28.Ke3 Nxf7-+)* 26...Qf3+ 27.Kb4 *(27.Kxc4? Qxe4+ 28.Kc3 Qxd5-+)* 27...a5+ 28.Rxa5 *(28.Kxc4? Qxe4+ 29.Kc3 Qxd5-+)* 28...Nxa5 29.Rc1+ *(29.Kxa5 Qxa3+ 30.Kb5 Qb3+ 31.Ka5 b6+ 32.Ka6 Qa4+ 33.Kxb6 Qb4+ 34.Ka6 Rd6+ 35.Ka7 Qb8#)* 29...Nc6+ 30.Rxc6+ bxc6 31.Qxf7 Qxe4+ 32.Qc4 Rd4]

18.cxd4±

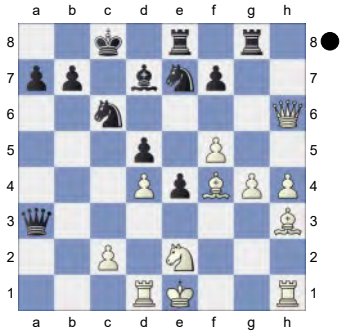
[18.Qxf7? Ne5! 19.Qh5 Rh8 *(19...Bb5? 20.Bf4-+)* 20.Qxh8 Rxh8-+]

18...Qd6 19.Bf4

[19.Qxf7 Ref8 20.Qh7 Rh8 21.Qg7]
[19.f6?! Rh8 20.Qg7 *(20.Qxf7 Nd8∓)* 20...Reg8 21.Qxf7 Rf8=]

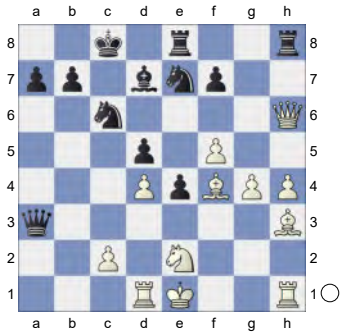
19...Qxa3 20.Qh6 -0.01/21

[20.c3]
[20.c3± 1.08/20]



20...Rh8 0.72/19

[20...Ng6 21.fxg6 Rxg6 22.Qh7 g5 is the strong threat. Nb4 *(22...Rf6* aiming for ...Rxf4! *23.Bc1 Qf3 24.Rf1 Qxh3 25.Rxf6 Nb4)* 23.Qxf7 Nxc2+ 24.Kf2 Rf8 25.Qxg6 Qe3+ 26.Kf1 Rxf4+ 27.Nxf4 Qxf4+ 28.Kg1 Qe3+ 29.Kg2 Qe2+ 30.Kg3 Qf3+ 31.Kh2 Qf4+]
[20...Ng6!= -0.01/21 21.fxg6 Rxg6]



21.Qf6 Nb4 1.34/20

[21...Rh7!± 0.55/17]

22.Rc1 Nec6 1.83/21

[22...Qf3? 23.Rh2+-]
[22...Nbc6± 1.44/17 23.h5 *(23.c3 Rh7±)* 23...Rh7]

23.Qd6+-

[23.Bg2 Nd3+ 2.03/20 *(23...Qa5±* 1.48/18 *)* 24.cxd3+- exd3 25.Be5 1.08/18 (White should try *25.0-0!+-* 2.03/20 *dxe2 26.Rfe1)* 25...dxe2 2.46/21 *(25...Qb2±* 1.08/18 keeps fighting. *26.0-0 dxe2)* 26.Kf2]
[23.Qxf7? Qf3 *(23...Rxh4? 24.Bg2-+)* 24.Bg2 *(24.Rh2? Nxd4 25.Bg5 Nxe2-+)* 24...Qxg2-+]

23...Qa5 2.55/19 Prevents Qc7+.

[23...Nd3+ 24.cxd3 Qxd6 25.Bxd6 exd3 26.Bf1 0.68/21 *(26.Be5!±* 1.10/20 *f6 27.Bxf6 Rxe2+ 28.Kd1)*]
[23...Nd3+± 1.45/22 was necessary. 24.cxd3 Qxd6 25.Bxd6 exd3]

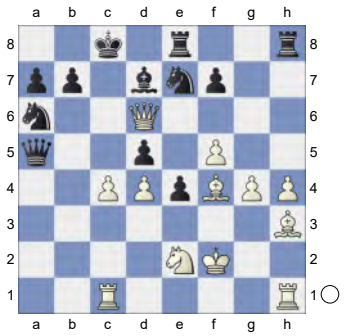
24.Kf2 Hoping for Ra1. **24...Na6**

[24...Rxh4? 25.Ra1 Rh6 26.Qxh6+-]

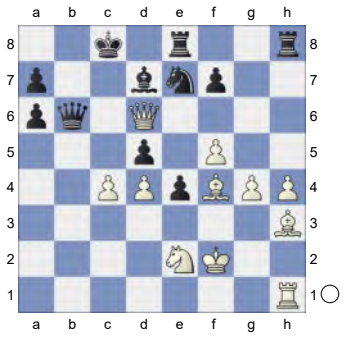
25.c4 Ne7 6.58/22

[25...dxc4 26.Rxc4]
[25...dxc4 1.94/22 26.Rxc4 e3+ 27.Kf3 *(27.Kg2? Qa2-+)* 27...Rxh4]

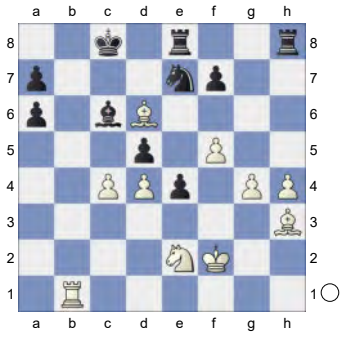
(Diagram)



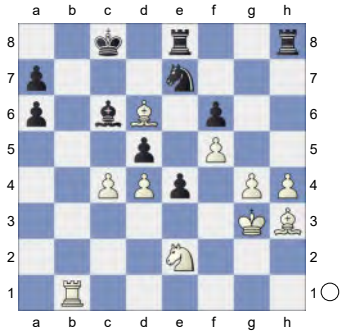
26.Ra1 2.96/23
[26.cxd5+ Kd8 27.Bg5]
[⌓26.f6 6.58/22 Nf5 27.cxd5+ Kd8 28.gxf5]
26...Qb6
[26...e3+? 4.37/22 26...Qb6 2.67 27.Kg3]
27.Rxa6 1.32/22 **bxa6±**



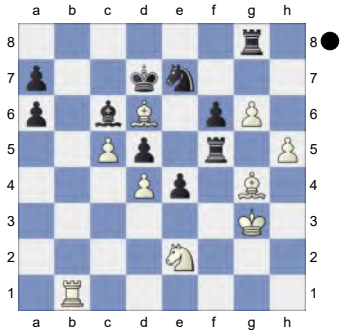
28.Rb1!! White threatens Qb8+ and mate. Really sharp! &Bianco is more active. **28...Qxd6 29.Bxd6 Bc6** 1.68/18
[29...Kd8 30.Rb8+ Bc8 31.Kg3 1.01/20 *(⌓31.Bg3 1.36/20)*]
[29...Kd8± 0.96/22 is a better defense.]



30.Kg3!+- White has strong compensation. **30...f6** 2.70/20
[30...Kd7 1.71/19 might work better. 31.c5 Reg8]



31.g5 Kd7 32.c5 Reg8 33.g6 Rh5? 4.67/25
[33...Nc8 34.Bf4 Bb5 35.Nc3 Kc6 36.Bg4]
[33...Nc8 2.28/21]
34.Bg4
[34.Nf4 Rhh8 35.Bxe7 Kxe7 36.Ra1 Bb7 37.Bg4]
34...Rxf5? 12.89/22
[34...Nxf5+ 35.Kf4 *(35.Kf2* Strongly threatening Nf4. *Rxg6 36.Bxh5 Rg8 37.Bf4* Prevents e3+. *Nxh4 38.Ng3)* 35...Rxh4 36.Kxf5 Rxg4 37.Kxg4 Rxg6+ 38.Kf5]
[34...Rh6 3.92/22 35.Ra1 Bb7]
35.h5

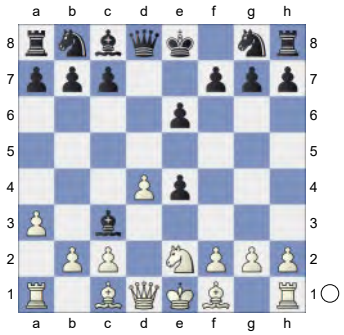


Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.88
1-0

250 **C15**
□ **Mayer,Tobias** **2531**
■ **Kogan,Efim** **2578**
Politiken Cup 18th (5.2) 10.02.2023
[Kitty Kat]

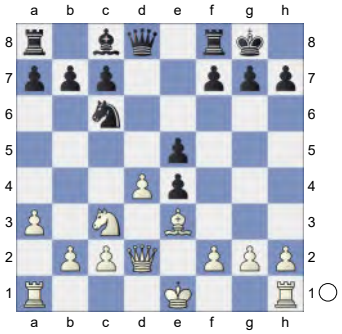
C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 dxe4 5.a3 Bxc3+

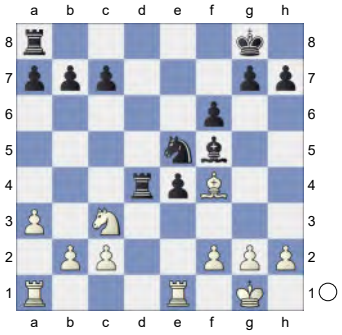


6.Nxc3 Nc6 7.Bb5 Nge7 8.Be3 0-0 9.Qd2
[Of course not 9.Nxe4 f5 10.Ng5 f4∓]
9...e5 0.26/20
[⚆9...f5 -0.06/19]
10.Bxc6N -0.16/21
[⚆10.dxe5 0.26/20 Qxd2+ *(10...Nxe5 11.Nxe4 Bf5 12.f3 Qxd2+ 13.Bxd2 Bxe4 14.fxe4 a6 15.Be2 N7c6 16.0-0-0 Nd4 17.Rhe1 c5 18.Be3 Rfd8 19.Bf1 Rac8 20.b3 f6 21.Kb2 Kf7 22.Rd2 Ke7 23.Red1 Ne6 24.Rd5 b5 25.c4* Nikolayev,I-Pokorny,A Reykjavik 1983 Telechess CBM 89 [Preston Guardian 25/8/1880] ½-½ (32) *)* 11.Bxd2]
10...Nxc6=

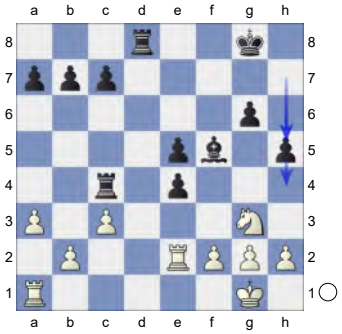
(Diagram)



11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Qxd8 Rxd8 13.Bf4 f6
[13...Ng6 14.Bxc7 Rd7 15.Bg3 b6 16.Rd1 Rxd1+ 17.Kxd1 f5 ...f4 is the strong threat. 18.Nd5 -0.40/20 Against f4 *(18.h4=* -0.04/21 *)* 18...Bb7∓ 19.Nf4 Ne5]
14.0-0! Bf5 15.Rfe1 Rd4

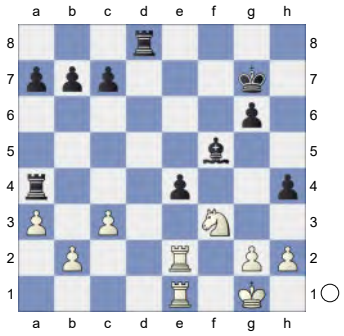


16.Ne2 Rc4 17.Bxe5 fxe5 18.Ng3 g6 19.c3 Rd8 20.Re2 h5

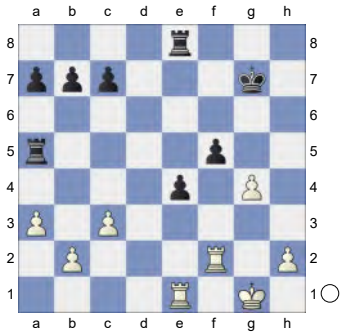


21.Rae1 h4 22.Nf1
[Not 22.Nxe4? Rxe4 23.Rxe4 Bxe4-+]
22...Ra4 23.Nd2 Kg7 -0.01/21
[23...e3∓ -0.43/20 was preferrable. 24.fxe3 Rg4]

24.f3 -0.37/19
[24.h3= -0.01/21 should be considered.]
24...exf3 25.Nxf3 e4

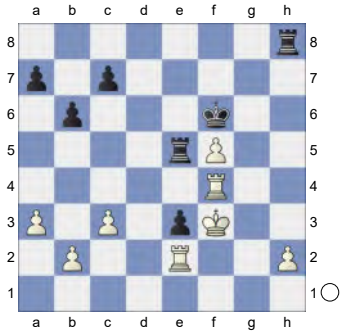


26.Nxh4 Kf6 27.g3 Ra5 28.Rf2
[28.Rf1 is interesting. Kg5 29.Ng2 Re5 30.Ne3]
28...Kg7
[28...Kg5 seems wilder. 29.Ng2 Re5 30.Rf4 Rd3]
29.Nxf5+
[29.Rf4 with more complications. Kh6 30.g4 Kg5 31.Ng2]
29...gxf5± Endgame KRR-KRR **30.g4 Re8**

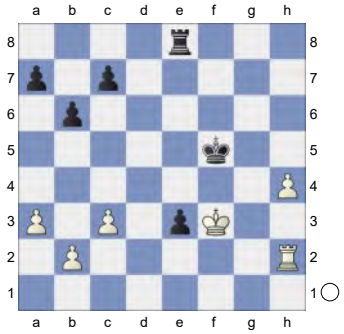


31.gxf5 Kf6 32.Rf4 Rae5 0.30/21
[32...e3 -0.01/21 is more appropriate.]
33.Kg2= e3 0.37/21
[33...c6= 0.01/19]
34.Re2!± b6 35.Kf3 Rh8

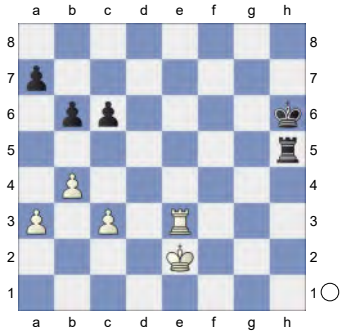
(Diagram)



36.Kg3 -0.01/21
[36.h4± 0.53/20]
36...Rg8+= 37.Kf3 Rh8 38.h4! Rxf5 1.13/24
[38...Rhe8± 0.64/23]
39.Rxf5+± Kxf5± KR-KR **40.Rh2 Re8**

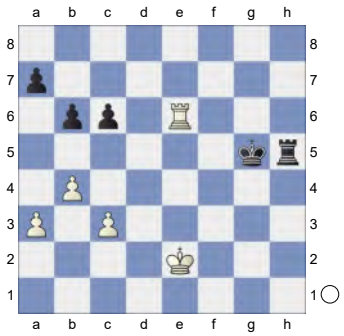


41.h5 c6 42.b4 Kg5 43.Ke2! Kh6 44.Rh3! Re5 1.96/23
[44...Rb8± 1.34/21]
45.Rxe3+- Rxh5

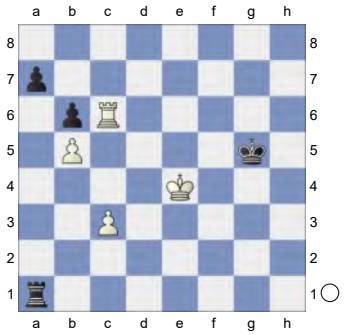


46.Re6+ Kg5

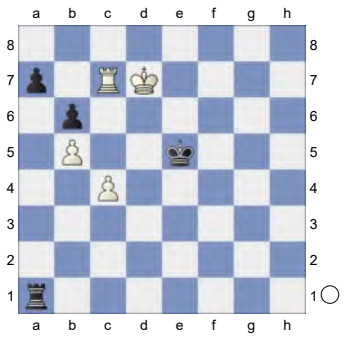
(Diagram)



47.Rxc6 0.89/26
[47.Kd3!+- 1.66/24 aiming for Re5+. Rh2 48.Kc4 *(48.Rxc6 Ra2±)*]
47...Rh2+± 48.Kd3 Ra2 49.Ke4 Rxa3 50.b5 0.54/27
[50.Rc7± 1.07/22]
50...Ra1 1.39/24
[Black should play 50...Ra4+± 0.54/27 51.c4 Ra1]



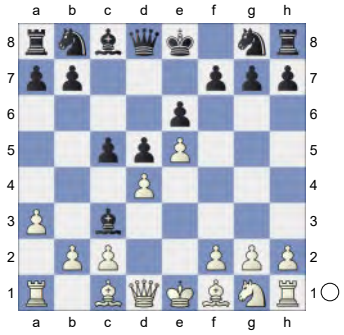
51.c4! Re1+ 52.Kd5 Rd1+ 2.17/30
[52...Ra1± 1.34/27 was called for.]
53.Ke6? 0.00/26
[White must play 53.Ke5+- 2.17/30]
53...Kf4!= The position is equal. **54.Rc7 Ra1 55.Kd7 Ke5**



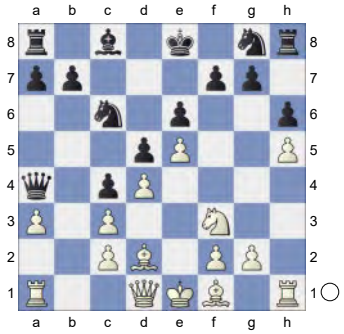
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
½-½

251 **C18**
□ **Loiseau,Johann** **2530**
■ **Knoller,Luise** **2453**
FRA-chT Poule Haute (6.1) 25.08.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.h4 Qa5 8.Bd2 Qa4 9.Nf3 c4 0.73/21
[9...b6± 0.36/21]
10.h5 h6



11.Nh4
[11.g4 Bd7 12.Nh4 0-0-0 13.f4 Nge7 14.Be3 g6 15.hxg6 fxg6 16.Be2 Rdf8 17.Kd2 Nd8 18.Qb1 Ndc6 19.Qb2 Rf7 20.Rh2 Rhh7

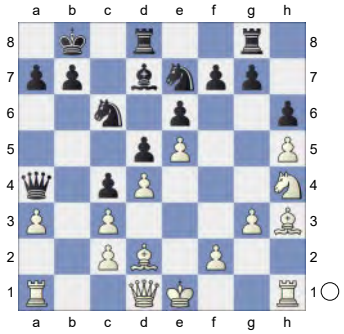
21.Rah1 Rhg7 22.Nf3 Ng8 23.Nh4 Nge7 24.Rf2 Rh7 25.Nf3 Ng8 Coll Sola,J (2701)-4.00 ♗g7 5.c3 ♘f6_40405 (2542) Romania 2018 CBM 169 Extra [Bielczyk,Jacek; Przewoznik,Jan] 1-0 (60)]

[11.Qb1 Nge7 12.Nh4 Bd7 13.Qb2 0-0-0 14.0-0-0 Kb8 15.Be2 Nc8 16.f4 Nb6 17.g4 Qa5 18.f5 Na4 19.Qa1 a6 20.Rdf1 Na7 21.f6 Rdg8 22.Rh3 Nb5 23.fxg7 Rxg7 24.Rf6 Be8 25.Bd1 Rgh7 Jiang,K (2227)-Tomasic,M (1997) corr 2023 1873 Vienna [John Watson] ½-½ (43)]

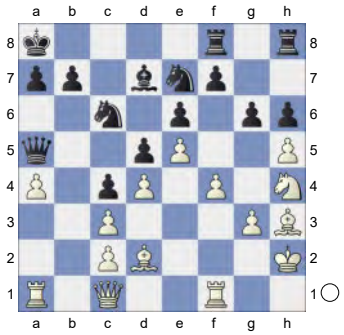
11...Nge7 12.Qg4N

[12.g4 Bd7 13.Bh3 0-0-0 14.f4 g6 15.Be3 Rdg8 16.Kd2 gxh5 17.gxh5 Qa5 18.Qf3 Nf5 Vovsha,E (2432)-Arizmendi Martinez,J (2521) Biel (open) 88/(270) 2003]

12...Rg8 13.Qd1 &Bianco is more active. **13...Bd7 14.g3 0-0-0 15.Bh3 Kb8**



16.0-0 Rh8 17.Kh2 Rdf8 18.Qc1 Qa5 19.a4 Ka8 20.f4 g6



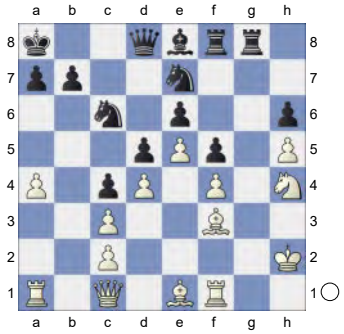
21.g4 gxh5 22.gxh5

[22.g5 feels hotter. Bc8 23.gxh6 Nf5 24.Nxf5 exf5 25.Qa3]

22...f5 23.Bg2

[23.Ng6 Nxg6 24.hxg6 Rfg8∓]

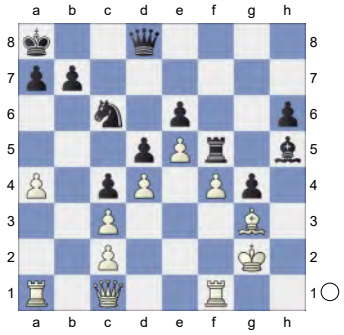
23...Be8 24.Bf3 Qd8 25.Be1 Rhg8



26.Bf2 Rg4 27.Bxg4 fxg4 28.Bg3

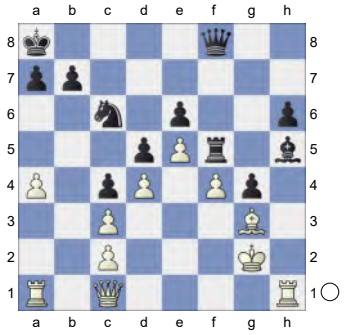
[28.Kg2!?]

28...Nf5 29.Nxf5 Rxf5 30.Kg2 Bxh5



31.Rh1 Qf8 0.88/19

[31...Qe8= 0.10/20]

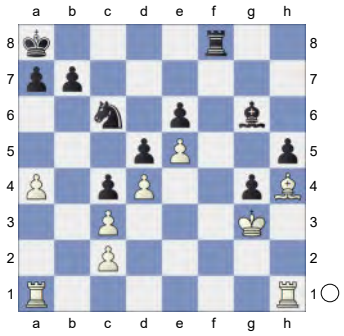


32.Bh4 0.12/21

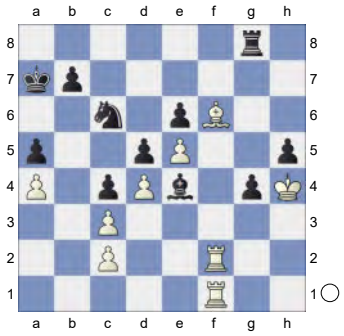
[32.Qa3!± 0.88/19 Strongly threatening Qxf8+. Qe8 33.Rae1]

32...Bg6!⇄ Black is fighting back **33.Kg3**

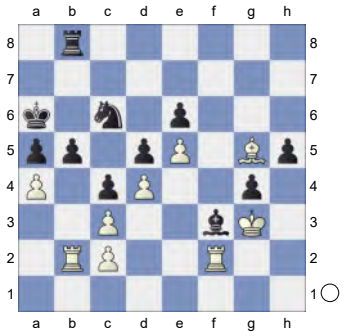
h5 34.Qa3 Rxf4
[Resist 34...Qh6 35.Bg5 Qh8 36.Bf6±]
35.Qxf8+ Rxf8



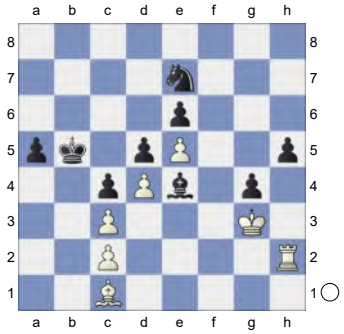
36.Rhf1 Prevents Rf3+. **36...Re8 37.Rf2 Be4 38.Bf6 a5 39.Raf1 Ka7 40.Kh4** -0.33/21
[40.Rh2= 0.01/21]
40...Rg8



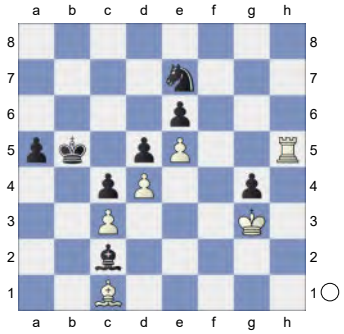
41.Kg3 Ka6 42.Rb1
[42.Rh2!?]
42...Re8 43.Bh4 Bf3 44.Rb2 Rb8 45.Bg5 b5



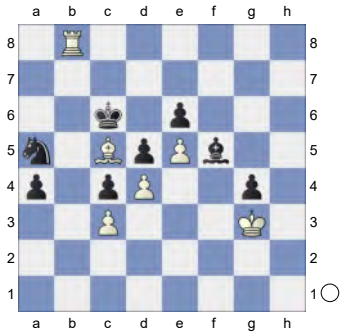
46.axb5+ Rxb5 47.Rxb5 Kxb5 Endgame KRB-KBN **48.Rh2 Be4**
[Don't play 48...a4 49.Bc1±]
49.Bc1 Ne7



Threatens to win with ...Nf5+. **50.Rxh5 Bxc2** 0.58/25
[50...Bf3= 0.14/25 might be stronger.]

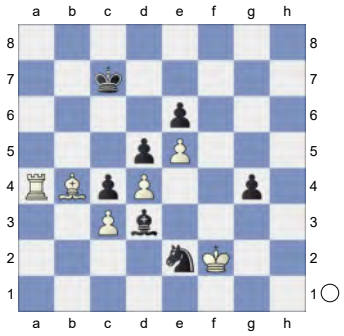


51.Rh8± Hoping for Re8. **51...Bf5! 52.Ba3!** White has compensation.
52...Nc6 Prevents Rb8+. **53.Bc5** Black must now prevent Rh2. **53...a4 54.Ra8** 0.01/25
[54.Kf2± 0.38/27]
54...Na5!= 55.Rb8+ Kc6

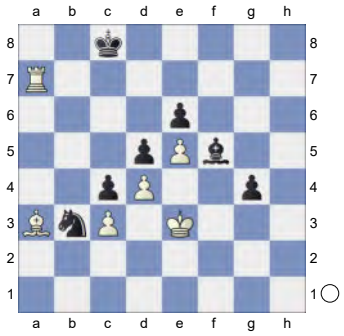


56.Rb6+ Kc7! 57.Ra6 Nb3 58.Bb4
[Don't take 58.Rxa4 Nd2±]
58...Nc1 0.37/25

[58...Nd2= 0.01/26 feels stronger.]
59.Rxa4± Ne2+ 60.Kf2 Bd3 2.47/23
[60...Nf4± 0.34/24]

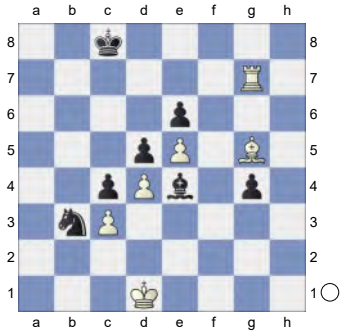


61.Ra6+- Kd7 3.79/24
[61...g3+ 2.48/25 was necessary.
62.Kf3 g2 63.Kxg2 Kb7]
62.Ra2 1.78/24
[⌓62.Rd6+ 3.79/24 Kc8 63.Rxe6]
62...Nc1 63.Ra7+ Kc8 64.Ba3 0.51/25
[64.Rg7± 1.02/25]
64...Nb3 1.73/27
[Black should try 64...g3+!± 0.51/25
65.Kxg3 Ne2+ 66.Kf3 Nxc3]
65.Ke3 Bf5

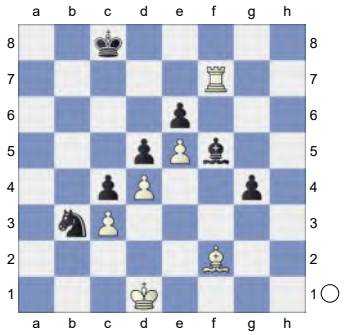


66.Rg7 Kd8 67.Ke2 Kc8 68.Kd1 Kd8 69.Bc1 Kc8 70.Bg5 Be4

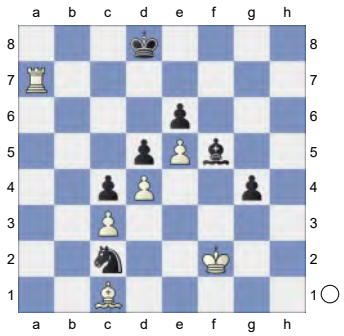
(Diagram)



71.Bh4 Bf5 72.Re7 Kb8 73.Rd7 Kc8 74.Rf7 Kb8 75.Bf2 Kc8

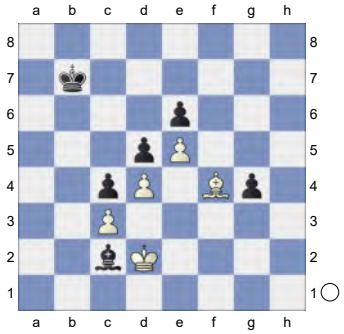


76.Be3 Kd8 2.20/29
[76...Kb8 1.66/26 was called for.
77.Ke2 Na5]
77.Ke2 Na1 78.Kf2 Nc2 79.Bc1 Ke8 80.Ra7 Kd8? 4.79/26
[80...Be4± 1.56/26 is a better chance.
81.Bg5 Bf5]

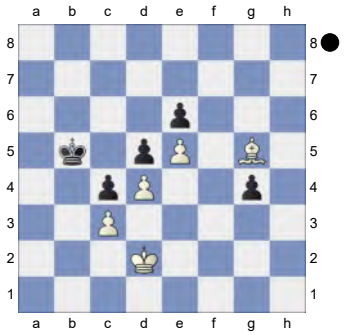


81.Ke2 2.66/24
[⌓81.Bf4 4.79/26 Kc8 82.Bc1]
81...Be4? 5.22/23
[81...Kc8 2.66/24 82.Kf2 Kb8]
82.Bf4 White is clearly winning. **82...Kc8 83.Kd2 Kb8 84.Ra2 Kb7 85.Rxc2**

Bxc2



86.Kxc2 Ka6 87.Kd2 Intending Bh6 and mate. **87...Kb5 88.Bg5**

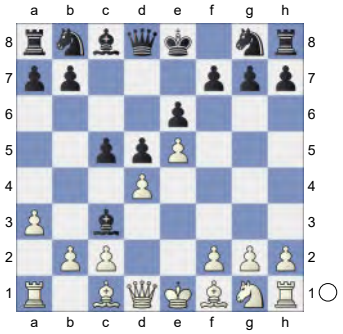


Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
1-0

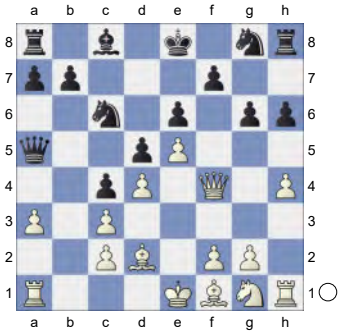
252 **C18**
□ **Kosteniuk,Alexandra** **2526**
■ **Hou,Yifan** **2632**
Women's Speed Chess 2023 (2.18)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)

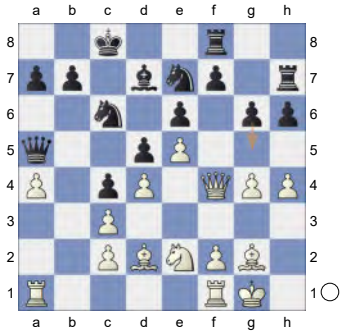


6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.Qf4
[Reject 8.dxc5 Nxe5 9.Qg3 Nd7=]
8...h6 9.h4 Qa5 10.Bd2 White is slightly better. **10...c4** 0.80/17
[10...b6± 0.46/17 feels stronger.]

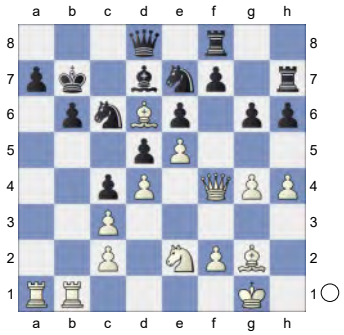


11.a4
[11.Ne2 Bd7 12.g4 Rh7 13.Bg2 0-0-0 14.Qg3 f6 15.h5 g5 16.0-0 Rg7 17.Kh1 f5 18.f4 gxf4 19.Rxf4 Nge7 20.Bh3 fxg4 21.Rxg4 Nf5 22.Qf2 Rxg4 23.Bxg4 Nce7 24.Ng3 Rg8 25.Bxf5 Nxf5 Kosteniuk,A (2526)-Mkrtchian,L (2387) Budva MNE 2023 [John Watson] ½-½ (37)]
11...Bd7 12.Ne2 Nge7N
[12...Rh7 13.g4 0-0-0 14.Bg2 Rf8 15.Bc1 f6 16.g5 hxg5 17.hxg5 Rxh1+ 18.Bxh1 f5 19.Kd2 Nge7 20.Qh2 f4 21.Ba3 f3 22.Ng3 Rf4 23.Qh8+ Kc7 24.Rb1 b6 25.Bd6+ Kb7 26.Ke3 Rf7 27.Bb4 Paravyan,D (2612)-Ponkratov,P (2608) Moscow 2023 Mega2024 Update 06 [Kitty Kat] 0-1 (36)]

13.g4 Rh7 14.Bg2 0-0-0 15.0-0 0.51/21
[15.h5± 0.84/18]
15...Rf8

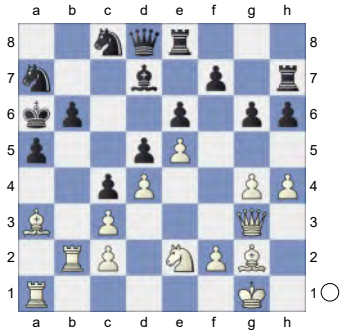


16.Rfb1 Qd8 17.a5 0.30/20
[17.Qf6± 0.84/17]
17...Nxa5= 18.Bc1 Nac6 19.Ba3 White has compensation. **19...b6 20.Bd6** -0.32/21
[20.Qf3= 0.15/16]
20...Kb7

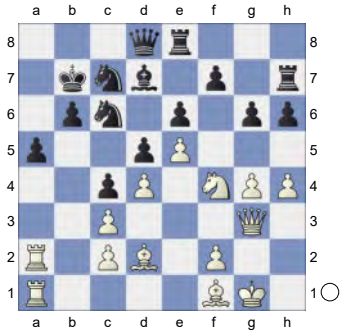


21.Nc1 -0.89/21
[21.Bc5= -0.28/19 remains equal.]
21...Re8 -0.54/19
[Black should try 21...g5∓ -0.89/21 22.hxg5 hxg5]
22.Qg3 Nc8 23.Ba3 a5 24.Ne2 Ka6 25.Rb2 N6a7

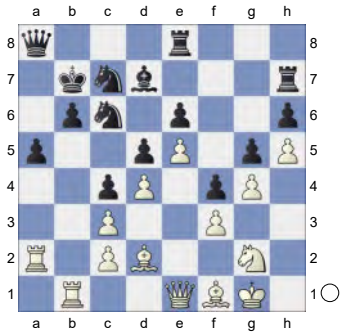
(Diagram)



26.Rba2 Nb5 27.Bc1 Nca7 28.Bd2 Nc6 29.Bf1 -0.92/20
[29.Nf4∓ -0.48/17 was preferrable.]
29...Kb7 -0.36/18
[29...g5!∓ -0.92/20 30.h5 f5]
30.Nf4 Nc7

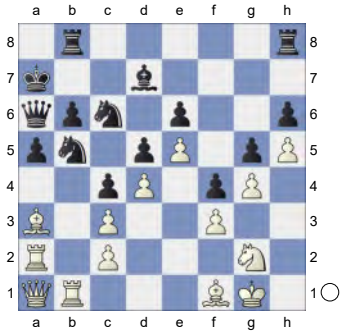


31.Rb1 g5 0.43/21
[Black should play 31...Ka6= -0.30/18]
32.Ng2 -0.52/19
[32.Nh5!± 0.43/21]
32...f6 33.h5 f5 34.f3 -0.92/19
[34.gxf5= -0.28/20 exf5 35.Rab2]
34...f4 35.Qe1 Qa8

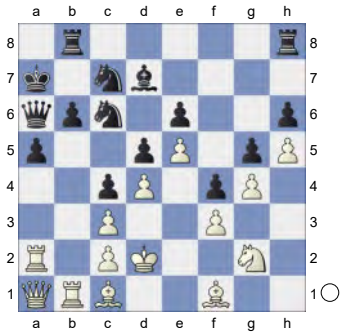


36.Qc1 Qa6 37.Qb2 Rb8 -0.88/19
[⌓37...Na7 -1.42/21 38.Ne1 Nab5]
38.Qa1 Ka7 39.Bc1 Rhh8 40.Ba3

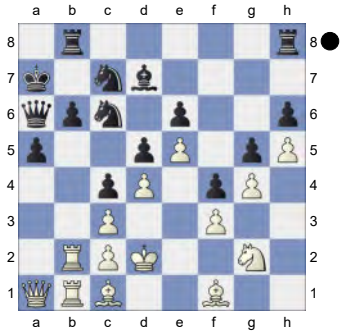
Nb5



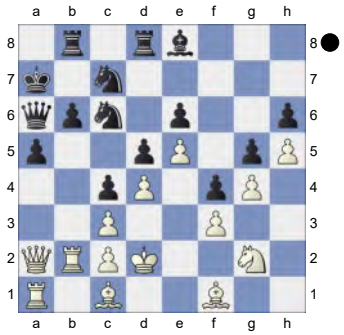
41.Bb2 Nc7 -0.01/16
[41...Qc8∓ -1.20/20 42.Ne1 Qd8]
42.Kf2 -1.06/19
[42.Ba3!= -0.01/16 keeps the balance.]
42...Nb5 -0.01/20
[42...Rhg8∓ -1.06/19 43.Bc1 Nb5]
43.Ke2 -1.10/21
[43.Kg1!= -0.01/20 was the only way to keep the balance.]
43...Nc7 0.01/18
0x0.001fbb6f315adp-1022s more active pieces.
[43...Nd8∓ -1.10/21 44.Kf2 Nf7]
44.Kd2 -1.11/20
[44.Kf2= 0.01/18]
44...Nb5 -0.01/20
[44...Rhg8∓ -1.11/20 45.Ke1 Nb5]
45.Bc1 -1.18/20
[45.Ke2!= -0.01/20]
45...Nc7 0.01/18
[Better is 45...Nd8∓ -1.18/20 46.Ke2 Bc6]



46.Rab2? -1.53/20
[46.Bb2!= 0.01/18]

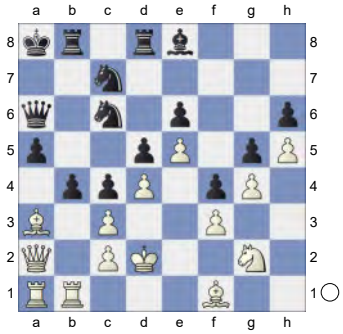


46...Rhd8 -0.93/18
[⌓46...Nxd4! -1.53/20 47.cxd4 c3+ 48.Ke1 cxb2! 49.Qxb2 Qc8]
47.Qa2? -2.89/21
[47.Ke1∓ -0.93/18]
47...Be8 -1.38/21
[47...b5!-+ -2.89/21 Strongly threatening ...b4. 48.Ra1 b4 49.Rxb4 axb4]
48.Ra1 -2.65/19
[48.Ke1∓ -1.38/21]

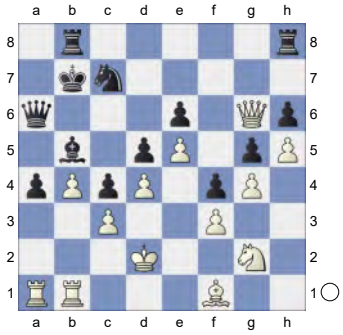


48...Ka8 -1.32/21
[48...Nxd4!-+ -2.65/19 and Black stays clearly on top. 49.cxd4 c3+ 50.Ke1 cxb2! 51.Bxa6 bxa1R 52.Qxa1 Kxa6]
49.Rbb1 b5 50.Ba3 b4

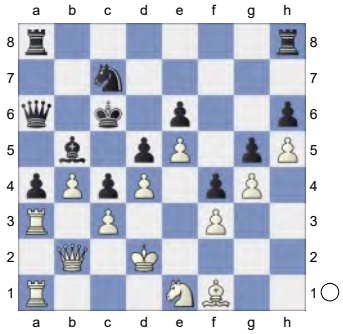
(Diagram)



51.Bxb4 Nxb4 -0.10/23
[51...axb4∓ -1.08/23 52.Qxa6+ Nxa6 53.Rxa6+ Kb7]
52.cxb4 a4 53.c3 Bb5 54.Qc2 Kb7⇄ Black puts up resistance **55.Qg6 Rh8**
[55...a3? 56.Qxh6 Rg8 57.Ne1+-]

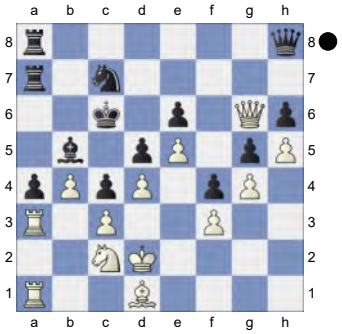


56.Ra3 Kc6 57.Ne1 Rbg8 58.Qc2 Ra8 59.Qb2 Rab8 60.Rba1 Ra8

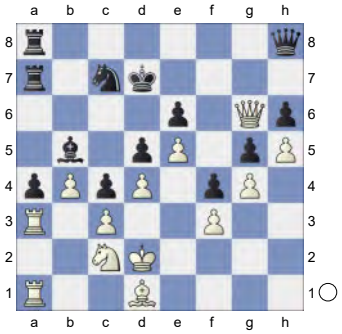


61.Be2 Ra7 62.Bd1 Rha8 63.Qb1 Threatens to win with Qh7. **63...Qc8! 64.Qg6 Qh8 65.Nc2** -0.80/25
[65.Qc2± 0.37/23]

(Diagram)

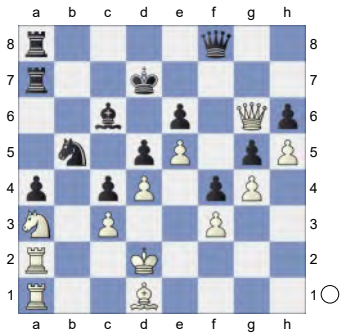


65...Kd7 0.33/22
[65...Rg8!∓ -0.80/25 66.Qf6 *(66.Qf7? Rg7-+)* 66...Qxf6 67.exf6 Na8]

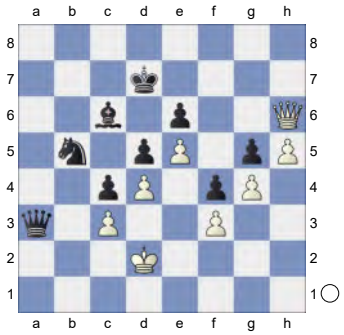


66.Qf7+ -0.92/26
[66.R3a2!± 0.33/22 keeps the upper hand.]
66...Kc6 0.35/25
[66...Kd8∓ -0.92/26 67.Ne1 Be8 68.Qf6+ Qxf6 69.exf6 Bb5]
67.R3a2!± Qf8 Dancing on a razor blade. **68.Qg6** -0.01/21
[68.Qh7± 0.35/22]
68...Kd7 0.41/21
[68...Kb6= -0.01/21 might be stronger. 69.Na3 Be8]
69.Na3 Bc6 70.b5 Nxb5

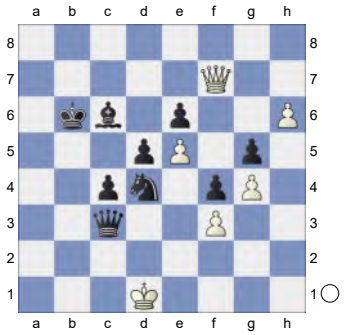
(Diagram)



71.Bxa4? -11.36/23 **Rxa4-+ 72.Qh7+ Qe7 73.Qxh6 Rxa3 74.Rxa3 Rxa3 75.Rxa3 Qxa3**



76.Qg7+ Kc8 77.Qg8+ Kb7 78.Qf7+ Kb6 Black mates. **79.h6 Qxc3+ 80.Kd1 Nxd4**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/ Black=0.34

0-1

253 **C17**

☐ **Kosteniuk,Alexandra** **2526**

■ **Hou,Yifan** **2632**

Speed Chess (Women) blitz (2.14)

[Kitty Kat]

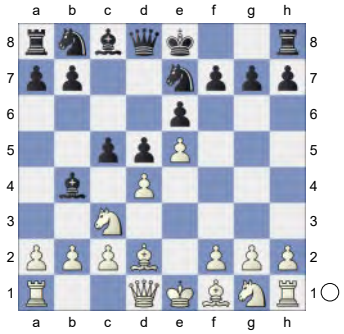
C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**

[4...b6

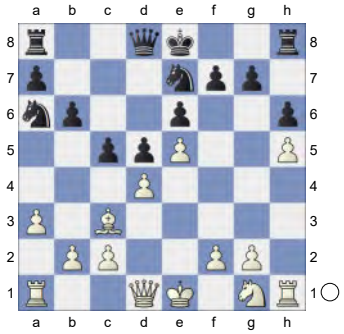
A) 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 *(6.f4 Ne7 7.Be3 h5 8.Bf2 Qd7 9.Nf3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.0-0-0 Nbc6 13.h3 Ng6 14.Ne2 h4 15.Kb1 0-0-0 16.c4 dxc4 17.Qxc4 Nce7 18.Be3 Nf5 19.Bc1 Nge7* Chapter-Solid Variation B7231) 10... ♘bd7 *)* 6...Ba6 *(6...Ne7 7.Bd3 Ba6 8.Nb5 Nc8 9.0-0 Qd7 10.Nc3 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 c5 12.Ne2 c4 13.Qd1 b5 14.Ng3 h6 15.Nh5 Nc6 16.Be3 Nb6 17.Qe2 0-0-0 18.b3 Kb8 19.Rfb1 Ka8 20.Nd2 Na5 21.Qe1* 1-0 Kobelev,A (2677)-Mikhailov,S (2603) Politiken Cup 2004 (10)*)* 7.Bxa6 Nxa6 8.Ne2 Qd7 9.0-0 c6 10.Nf4 Be7 11.Qd3 Nc7 12.Bd2 h5 13.Rac1 0-0-0 14.c4 Kb7 15.Rc3 dxc4 16.Rxc4 Nd5 17.Rfc1 Rc8 18.b4 Nxf4 19.Bxf4 Qd5 0-1 Logan,T (2739)-8.♕e2 ♗b4 9.0-0-0 (2650) 59/629 Kecskemet 1993 (9.1);

B) 5.Qg4 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Be2 Nc6 8.0-0 Bb7 9.a3 0-0-0 10.b4 f6 11.Bd2 Nge7 12.Bd3 h5 13.Qf4 g5 14.Qxf6 Bh6 15.b5 Rdf8 16.bxc6 Nxc6 17.Qg6 Rfg8 18.Qxh5 g4 19.Bxh6 Mcclymont,B-6.b3 ♗b4 7. ♗d2 ♘bd7 Guarulhos (m/1-rapid) 98/76 2006]

5.Bd2 Ne7

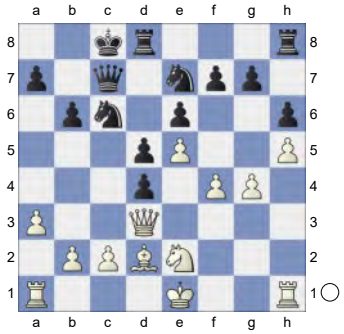


6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 b6 8.h4 is now more promising than 8.Bb5+. im Vergleich zu 8.Lb5+ vielversprechender. **8...Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.h5** White has an edge. **10...h6**

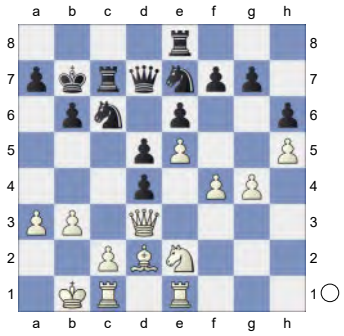


11.Ne2 Nb8 0.59/22
[11...Rc8= 0.21/22]
12.Qd3⩲ Nbc6 13.g4 Qc7 14.f4 cxd4N
[Vorgänger: 14...Rc8 15.0-0-0 cxd4 16.Bxd4 0.53/17 *(16.Be1± 0.96/21)* 16...Nxd4⩲ 17.Nxd4 Black must now prevent Nb5. Qc4 18.Qf3 aiming for Kb1. Nc6 19.Nxc6 Rxc6 20.c3! 0-0 1.42/20 ;0-1 Toma,K (2234)-Socko,M (2450) POL-ch (Women) 2010 (2.1) *(20...Qa2!⩲* 0.46/17 *)*]
15.Bd2 0.36/23
[15.Bxd4± 0.74/20 b5 16.0-0-0 *(16.Qxb5 Rb8⩲)*]
15...0-0-0

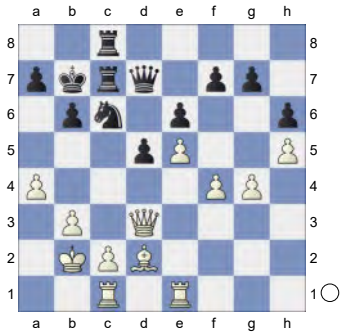
(Diagram)



16.0-0-0 White has compensation.
16...Kb7 17.Kb1 Rc8 18.Rc1
[18.Nxd4? Nxd4 19.Qxd4 Qxc2+ 20.Ka1 Rc4-+]
18...Rhe8 19.Rhe1 Qd7 20.b3 -0.01/22
[20.Rg1⩲ 0.70/21]
20...Rc7 0.37/20
[20...Rg8= -0.01/22]



21.Kb2 Rec8 22.a4 Ng8 0.57/22
[22...Qe8= 0.17/20 should be considered.]
23.Nxd4⩲ Nxd4 24.Qxd4 Ne7 25.Qd3 Nc6



26.f5 d4 27.f6 gxf6 28.exf6 Qd5 1.24/27 Against Qe4

[28...a5!⩲ 0.56/19]

29.Qe4

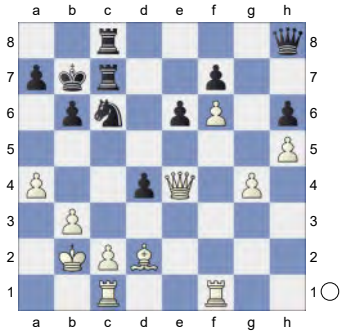
[29.Bxh6 Nb4 30.Qe4 Rxc2+ 31.Rxc2 Rxc2+ 32.Kb1 Rg2 33.Qxd5+ Nxd5-+]

29...Qd8 2.34/21

[29...Qxe4± 1.08/22 30.Rxe4 Rh8]

30.Rf1 Qh8 2.03/20

[30...Qf8± 1.44/22 31.Rg1 a6]



31.Rf3 0.81/19

[31.b4+- 2.03/20 has better winning chances.]

31...Rd7 1.33/20

[⌓31...a5 0.81/19]

32.Rcf1 0.65/21

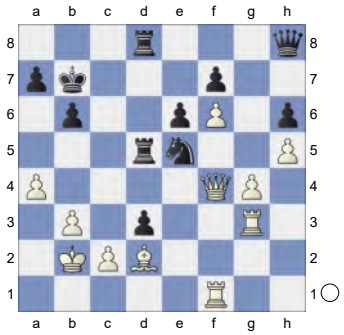
[32.Qf4± 1.33/20]

32...Rd5 33.Rd3 Rcd8 34.Qf4 Ne5 1.37/20

[34...Rg5⩲ 0.68/18]

35.Rg3± d3? 3.23/21

[35...Rc8± 1.18/19]



36.c3

[36.Qxh6 Qxh6 37.Bxh6 dxc2+-]

36...Qh7 3.35/21

[⌓36...a5 2.28/17 37.c4 *(37.Qxh6 Qxh6 38.Bxh6 b5+-)* 37...Rc5]

37.Re1+-

[37.Qxh6 Qxh6 38.Bxh6 b5+-]

37...Nd7 38.Re4? 0.72/20

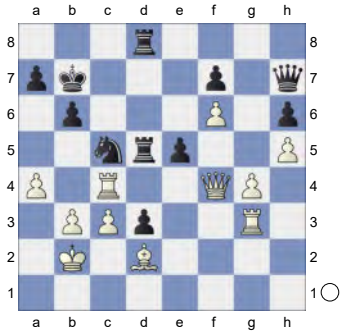
[38.Qxh6 Qxh6 39.Bxh6 d2∓]

[38.Qf3+- 3.91/20 and White stays clearly on top. c4 would now be deadly. Kc7 39.Bf4+ Kc8 40.c4]

38...Nc5± 39.Rc4 0.44/22

[39.Re1± 1.00/21]

39...e5⩲



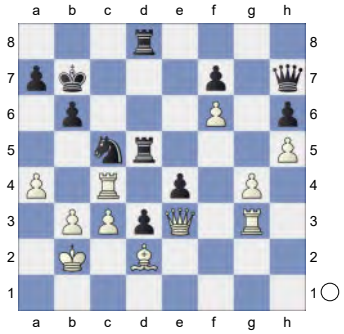
40.Qe3 -0.22/19

[40.Qxh6? Qxh6 41.Bxh6 d2 42.Bxd2 Rxd2+ 43.Ka3 Rh2-+]

[40.Qf3!± 0.82/20]

40...e4? 2.19/18

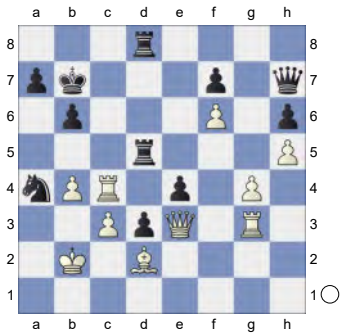
[40...Qh8!= -0.22/19]



41.b4+- Nxa4+ 3.29/19

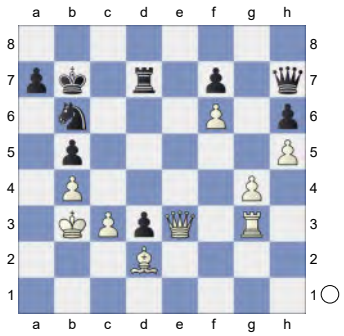
[⌓41...Ne6 1.99/17]

(Diagram)



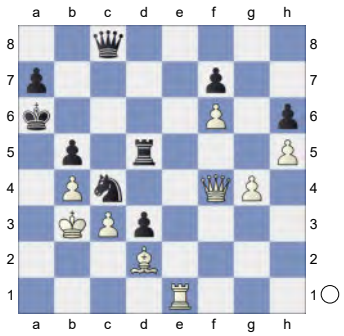
42.Kb3! b5
[42...Re5 43.Rd4 Ree8 *(43...Rxd4? 44.Qxd4 Nc5+ 45.bxc5+-)* 44.Kxa4+-]
43.Rxe4 R8d7 4.54/25 Repels Re7
[⌓43...Nb6 2.84/18 44.Re7+ *(44.Qxh6? Qxe4 45.Re3 Qxg4-+)* 44...R8d7]
44.Re7 2.72/20
[44.Qxh6 Qxe4 45.Qe3 Qc4+ 46.Ka3 Nxc3 47.Bxc3 Qxc3+ 48.Ka2 Qc2+ *(48...Qxb4 49.Rg1 Qa4+ 50.Kb2 Qc2+ 51.Ka1 Rd4 52.Qf3+ Kc7 53.Qg3+ Kc8 54.Qf4 Rxf4 55.h6 Ra4#)* 49.Ka3 d2 *(49...Rc7 50.Qc5 Rcxc5 51.bxc5 Rd4 52.c6+ Kxc6 53.h6 b4#)* 50.Qe2 d1Q *(50...d1B? 51.Qxc2 Bxc2 52.g5-+; 50...Rd3+ 51.Rxd3 Rxd3+ 52.Qxd3 Qxd3+ 53.Ka2 d1Q 54.h6 Q3b3#)* 51.Qxc2 Qxc2 52.h6 Rd3+ 53.Rxd3 Rxd3#]
[⌓44.Re5 4.54/25]
44...Nb6 Black is weak on the dark squares **45.Rxd7+**
[45.Qxh6 Qxh6 46.Bxh6 d2 47.Bxd2 *(47.Rxd7+? Rxd7 48.Bxd2 Rxd2-+)* 47...Rxd2 48.Rxd7+ Nxd7∓]
45...Rxd7? 5.86/23
[45...Nxd7 2.60/23 46.Qf3 *(46.Qxh6 Qxh6 47.Bxh6 d2∓)* 46...Kc6]

(Diagram)

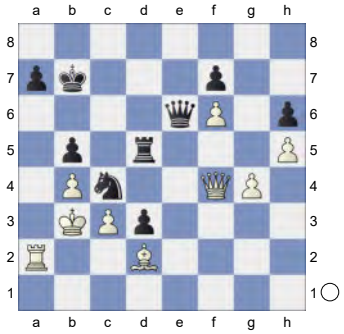


46.Qf3+? 2.04/20
[46.Qxh6? Qxh6 47.Bxh6 d2 48.Bxd2 Rxd2-+]
[46.Qe8 5.86/23]
46...Rd5 47.Qf4? 0.00/28
[White should try 47.g5+- 2.70/21 Strongly threatening g6. Qf5 *(47...hxg5? 48.Rxg5 Ka6 49.Rxd5+-)* 48.Qxf5 *(48.gxh6? Qxf3 49.Rxf3 Nc4-+)* 48...Rxf5 49.Rxd3 *(49.gxh6 Nc4±)*]
47...Qg8 48.Re3
[48.Qxh6? Nc4 49.Rg1 Qc8-+]
48...Qc8! Hoping for ...Qc4+.
[48...Nc4? 49.Re7+ Ka6 50.Be3+- *(50.Qxh6? Qxg4 51.Re1 Re5-+)*]
49.Re7+
[49.Qxh6? Qxg4 50.Re1 *(50.Re7+? Ka6-+)* 50...Nc4-+ *(50...Qxh5? 51.Re7+ Kc6 52.Qf4-+; 50...Rxh5? 51.Qe3-+)*]
49...Ka6 50.Re1 -0.29/25
[50.Rxf7 Qc4+ 51.Kb2 *(51.Qxc4? Nxc4 52.Ka2 Nxd2-+)* 51...Qxf4 52.Bxf4 d2 *(52...Nc4+ 53.Kc1±)* 53.Bxd2 Rxd2+ 54.Kc1 Rf2-+]
[50.Qxh6? Qxg4 51.Re1 *(51.Rxf7 Qd1+ 52.Ka2 Nc4)* 51...Nc4-+ *(51...Qxh5? 52.Qf4-+; 51...Rxh5? 52.Qf8-+)*]
[50.Kb2!± 0.37/20]
50...Nc4

(Diagram)



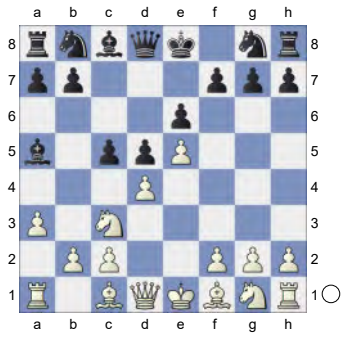
Chess con chili. **51.Ra1+** -1.03/24
[51.Be3= -0.24/21]
51...Kb7∓ And now ...Qe6 would win. Black is more active. **52.Ra2?** -5.81/23
[52.Re1∓ -1.06/18]
52...Qe6



Black used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=0.74/Black=0.58
0-1

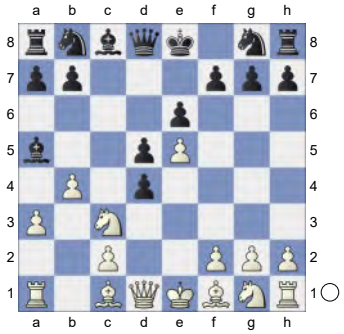
254 **C18**
☐ **Hatanbaatar,B.** **2526**
■ **Lozon Urena,Xavier** **2842**
154/115 Toshkent (4.1) 25.07.2018
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]
[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]
5.a3 Ba5

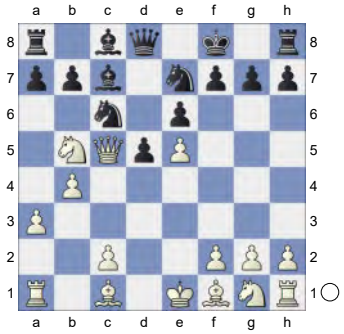


6.b4 cxd4

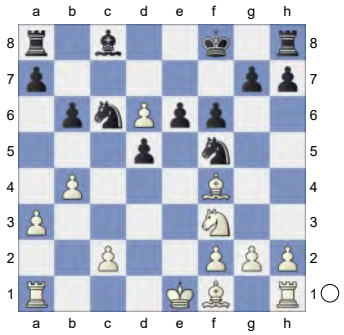
(Diagram)



7.Qg4! Kf8 8.Nb5
[8.bxa5 dxc3 9.Qb4+ Ne7=]
8...Bc7 9.Qxd4 Hoping for Qc5+.
9...Nc6 White is slightly better. **10.Qc5+ Nge7**

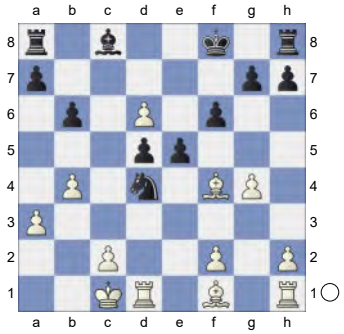


11.Nxc7 Qxc7 12.Nf3 &Bianco is more active. **12...b6 13.Qd6 Qxd6 14.exd6 Nf5 15.Bf4 f6!**

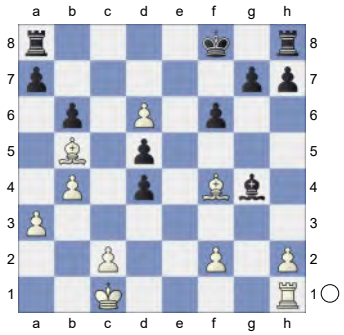


16.g4 Nfd4 17.Nxd4 Nxd4 18.0-0-0 e5

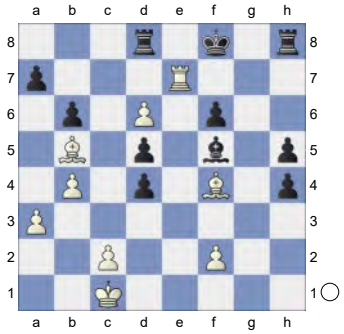
(Diagram)



19.Rxd4! -0.12/19 **exd4= 20.Bb5** Strongly threatening Bc6. **20...Bxg4**

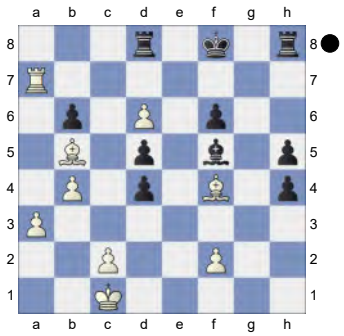


21.Re1 g5 22.Bg3 Rd8 -0.92/21
[22...d3∓ -0.43/17 should be considered.]
23.Re7∓ h5 24.h4 -1.11/21
[24.f4!∓ -0.38/23]
24...gxh4 25.Bf4 -1.41/21
[White should try 25.Bxh4 -0.79/21 Rxd6 26.Rxa7]
25...Bf5

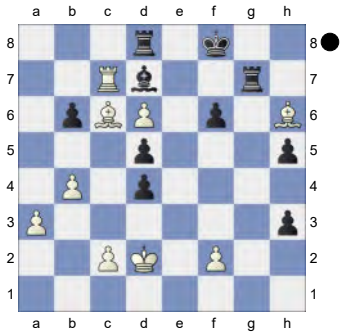


26.Rxa7

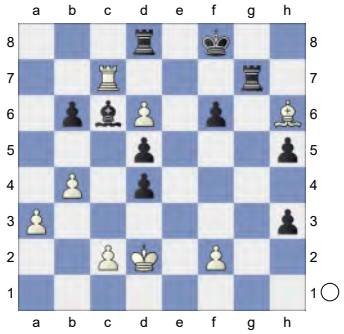
(Diagram)



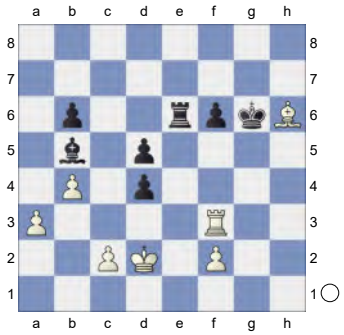
Rh7 -1.07/21
[⌓26...Rc8! -1.50/22 27.Ba4 h3]
27.Rc7 Bd7 -0.58/21
[27...Kg8∓ -1.52/19 28.Bc6 Rg7 29.Bxd5+ Kh8]
28.Bc6!∓ h3
[28...Bf5 29.a4 Rxc7 30.dxc7+-]
29.Kd2 Rg7 ...Bxc6 is the strong threat.
30.Bh6



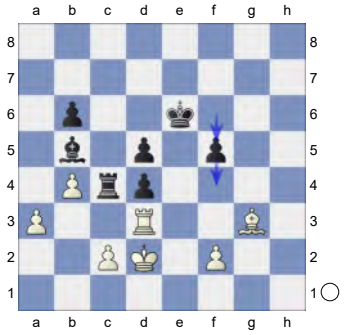
Bxc6



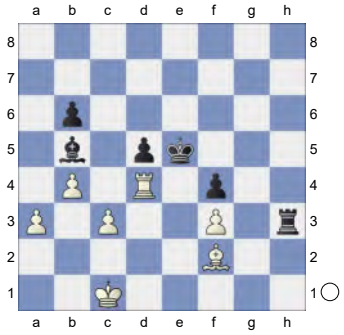
31.Rxg7 Rxd6= Endgame KRB-KRB
32.Rg5+!
[Much worse is 32.Rd7+ Kg8 33.Rg7+ *(33.Rxd6?* perishes. *h2-+)* 33...Kh8∓]
32...Kf7 33.Rxh5 Bb5 34.Rxh3 Re6
35.Rf3 -0.67/22
[35.Rh4 -0.35/23 might be stronger.]
35...Kg6 -0.01/24
[35...Re5!∓ -0.67/22]



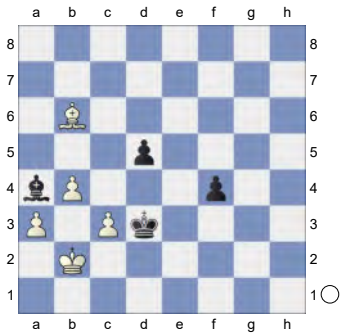
36.Bf4 Rc6 37.Bg3 Rc4 38.Rd3 Kf5 39.Rf3+ Ke6 40.Rd3 f5



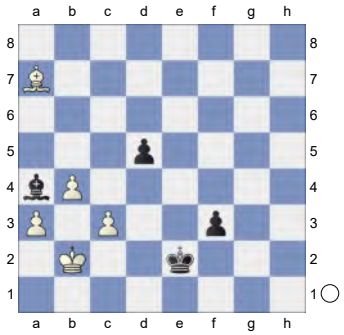
41.f3 f4
[41...Ba4!? 42.c3 f4=]
42.Bf2 The position is equal. **42...Ke5 43.c3! Rc6 44.Rxd4 Rh6** Against Bh4 **45.Kc1 Rh3**



46.Rd2 Rxf3 47.Bd4+ Ke4 48.Kb2 Rd3 49.Rxd3 Kxd3 50.Bxb6 KB-KB
50...Ba4
(Diagram)



51.Ba7 f3 52.Bg1 Kd2 53.Ba7 Bd1 54.Bc5 Ba4 55.Ba7 Ke2

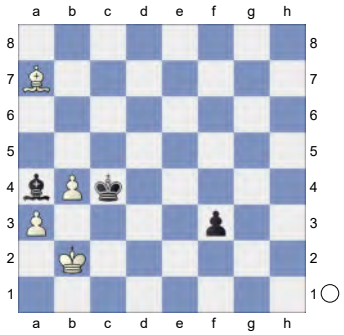


White must now prevent ...f2. **56.c4 d4**

[56...dxc4!? 57.Kc3 Bb5=]

57.Bxd4 Threatens to win with Kc3.

57...Kd3 58.Ba7 Kxc4



Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)

½-½

255 **C18**

□ **Georgiadis,Nico** **2526**

■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2842**

51st Biel GM 2018 (4.1) 25.07.2018

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

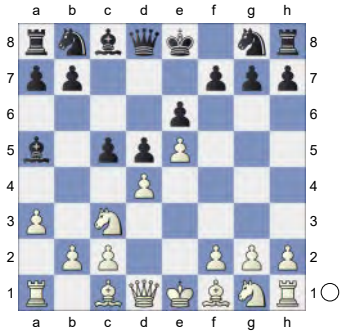
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N

[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]

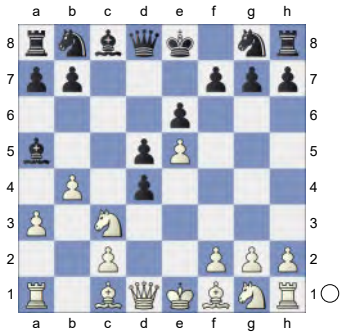
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.a3 Ba5



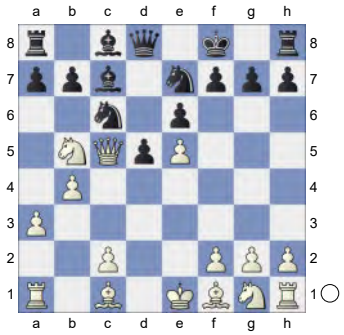
6.b4 cxd4



7.Qg4! Kf8 8.Nb5

[Of course not 8.bxa5 dxc3 9.Qb4+ Ne7=]

8...Bc7 9.Qxd4 Nc6 White is slightly better. **10.Qc5+ Nge7**

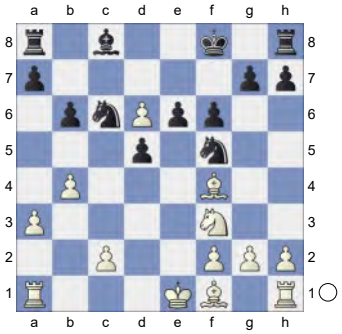


11.Nxc7 Qxc7 12.Nf3 b6 13.Qd6 -0.04/19

[13.Qc3± 0.54/20 a6 14.Bb2]

13...Qxd6= 14.exd6 Nf5 15.Bf4 f6

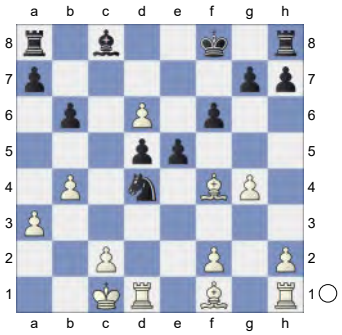
(Diagram)



16.g4 -0.18/20

[16.c4 0.16/18 is more appropriate.]

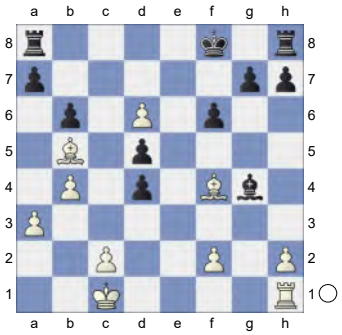
16...Nfd4 17.Nxd4 Nxd4 18.0-0-0 e5



19.Rxd4! exd4 20.Bb5 -0.44/21

[20.Be2= -0.01/19 might be stronger.]

20...Bxg4∓

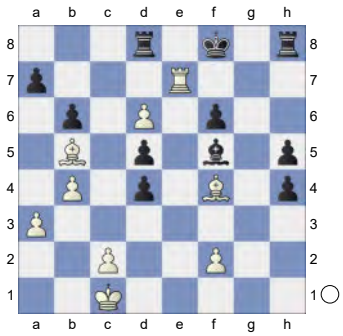


21.Re1 g5 22.Bg3 Rd8 23.Re7 h5 White must now prevent ...h4. **24.h4 gxh4 25.Bf4** -1.64/20

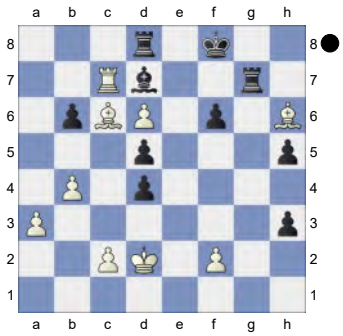
[25.Bxh4∓ -0.82/21 Rxd6 26.Rxa7]

25...Bf5

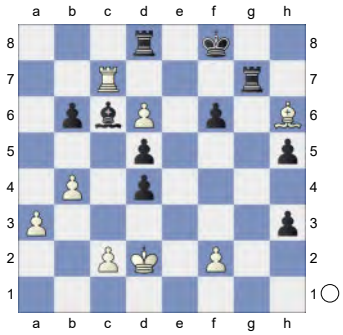
(Diagram)



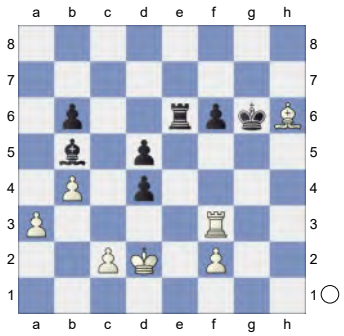
26.Rxa7 Rh7 27.Rc7 Bd7 -0.58/21
[27...Kg8∓ -1.16/20 28.Bc6 Rg7 29.Bxd5+ Kh8]
28.Bc6! h3
[28...Bf5 29.a4 Rxc7 30.dxc7=]
29.Kd2 Rg7 30.Bh6



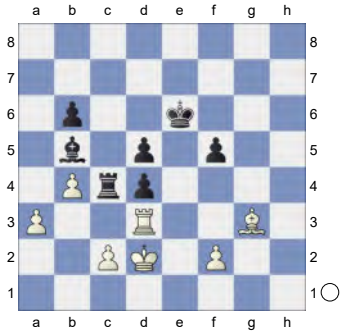
Hoping for Bxd7. **30...Bxc6**



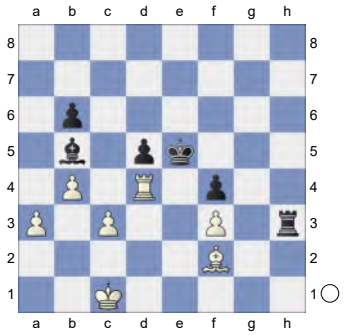
31.Rxg7 Rxd6= Endgame KRB-KRB
32.Rg5+!
[Much worse is 32.Rd7+ Kg8 33.Rg7+ *(33.Rxd6? perishes. h2-+)* 33...Kh8∓]
32...Kf7 33.Rxh5 Bb5 34.Rxh3 Re6 35.Rf3 Kg6 0.01/25
[35...Re5∓ -0.48/22]



36.Bf4! Rc6 37.Bg3 Rc4 38.Rd3 Kf5 39.Rf3+ Ke6 40.Rd3 -0.32/27
[40.Bb8= 0.01/24 was preferrable.]
40...f5!∓

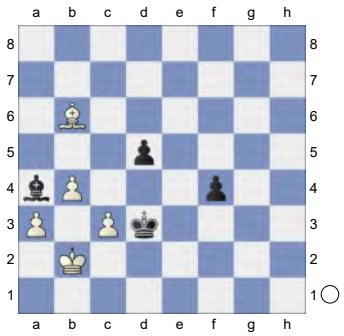


41.f3 f4 42.Bf2 Ke5 43.c3! Rc6 44.Rxd4 Rh6 Against Bh4 **45.Kc1 Rh3**

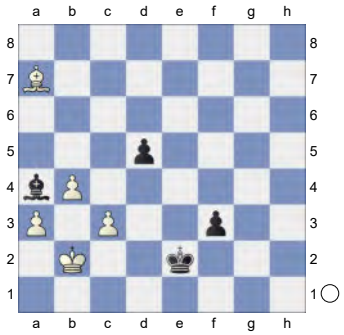


46.Rd2 Rxf3 47.Bd4+ Ke4 48.Kb2 Rd3 49.Rxd3 Kxd3 50.Bxb6= KB-KB
50...Ba4

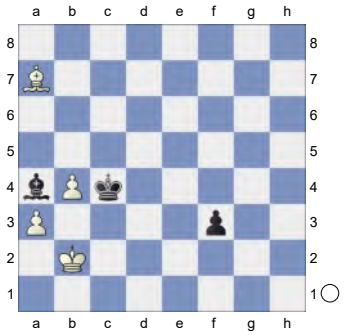
(Diagram)



51.Ba7 f3 52.Bg1 Kd2 53.Ba7 Bd1 54.Bc5 Ba4 55.Ba7 Ke2



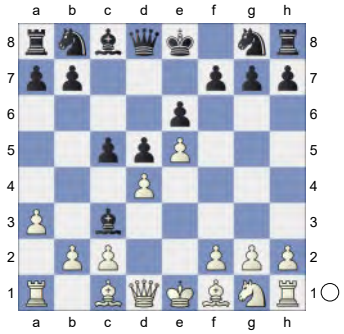
Threatens to win with ...f2. **56.c4 d4**
[56...dxc4!? 57.Kc3 Bb5=]
57.Bxd4 And now Kc3 would win.
57...Kd3 58.Ba7 0.01/31
[58.Bf2± 0.33/31 feels stronger.]
58...Kxc4



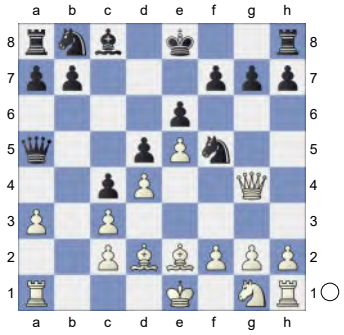
Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

256 **C18**
□ **Grill,B.** **2520**
■ **Steger,Lukas Daniel** **2591**
Buenos Aires Najdorf (4) 18.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Perunovic,Milos: 'Kitty Kat: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Bd3 c4 9.Be2
[9.Qxg7? Rg8 10.Qxh7 cxd3 11.Qxd3 b6-+]
9...Qa5 10.Bd2
[10.Qxg7? Qxc3+ 11.Bd2 *(11.Kf1? Rg8-+)* 11...Qxa1+-+]
10...Nf5



11.a4 Nc6 White is slightly better.
12.Nf3
[12.Qh3 b5 13.Bg4 bxa4 14.Bxf5 exf5 15.Qg3 Rg8 16.Ne2 a3 17.0-0

Rb8 18.e6 fxe6 19.Qd6 Qb6 20.Nf4 Kf7 21.Qxa3 Rd8 22.Qc1 Ne7 23.Qd1 Kg8 24.Qh5 Rf8 25.Qg5 Rb7 26.Bc1 Rf6 Gutierrez Delgado,Y (2311)-Caballero Ramos,G (2247) Merida 2024 ½-½ (56)]

12...Bd7 13.Qf4N

[13.Nh4 Nce7 14.Nxf5 Nxf5 15.Qh5 b5 16.g4 Ne7 17.0-0 bxa4 18.Qg5 Rg8 19.Qe3 f5 20.Bc1 f4 21.Qh3 Ng6 22.Ba3 Rb8 23.g5 Kf7 24.Bh5 Rgc8 25.Qf3 Kg8 26.Bxg6 hxg6 27.h4 Be8 Perunovic,M (2542)-Indjic, A (2630) Deutschland 156/111 2023 [Perunovic,Milos] 1-0 (39)]

[13.0-0 0-0-0 14.Rfb1 f6 15.h4 Rdf8 16.h5 h6 17.Qh3 fxe5 18.dxe5 Qc7 19.Qh2 Rhg8 20.Bc1 g5 21.hxg6 Rxg6 22.Ba3 Rfg8 23.Bf1 d4 24.Bd6 Qa5 25.Ra3 Qd5 26.Qh3 Nxd6 27.exd6 e5 10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2752)-Main Symmetric with 8...d6 (2507) Haifa (rapid) 74/255 2020 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 0-1 (33)]

13...Rf8 0.68/17

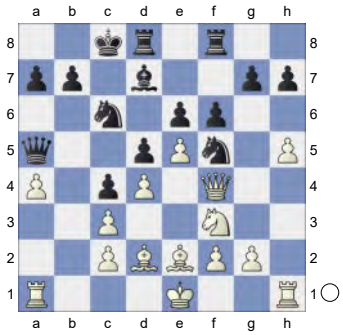
[13...h5 14.Nh4 Nce7 15.Nxf5 Nxf5 16.Qg5 Qd8 17.Qf4 0.01/18 *(17.h4± 0.64/19)* 17...Qa5!= 18.Qg5 -0.01/17 *(18.0-0± 0.55/19)* 18...Qd8!]

[13...Nce7= 0.25/21 is superior.]

14.h4 0-0-0 15.h5

[15.g4!? Nfe7 16.h5=]

15...f6



16.Qh2 h6 17.Ra3 0.08/20

[17.exf6± 0.50/17 Rxf6 18.0-0]

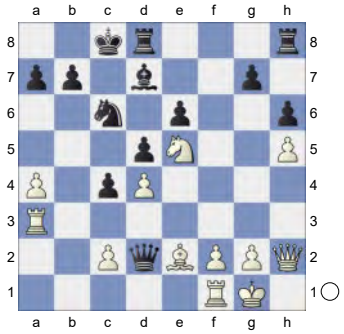
17...Rh8 0.51/17

[17...fxe5= 0.08/20 might be stronger. 18.Nxe5 Nfe7]

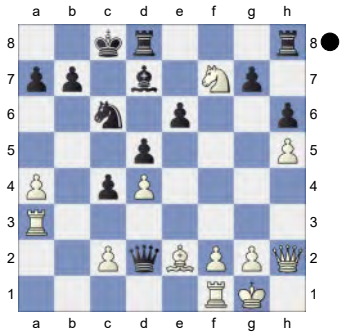
18.0-0 -0.01/19

[18.g4± 0.51/17 Nfe7 19.exf6 gxf6 20.Bc1]

18...fxe5= 19.Nxe5 Nfxd4 20.cxd4 Qxd2



21.Nf7!



Threatens to win with Nd6+. **21...Rhf8**

[21...Qxc2? 22.Nd6+ Kb8 23.Nxc4+ e5 24.Bd3 *(24.Nxe5 Ka8±)* 24...Qxd3 25.Rxd3+-]

22.Nxd8 Rxd8 23.Re3 Nxd4 24.Qe5 Nf5

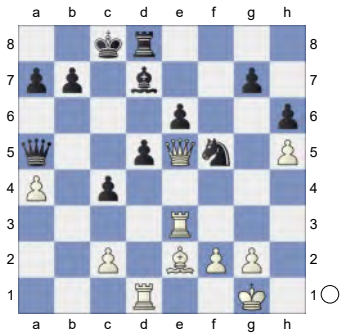
[24...Bxa4 25.Bg4 Bxc2 26.Ra1± *(26.Rg3 Re8=)*]

25.Rd1!

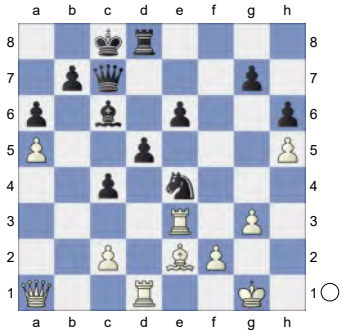
[25.Rc3 Qd4 26.Re3 Qxe5 27.Rxe5 Nd4∓]

25...Qa5⇄

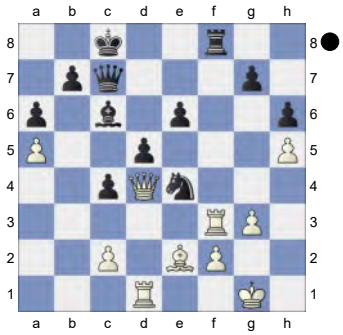
(Diagram)



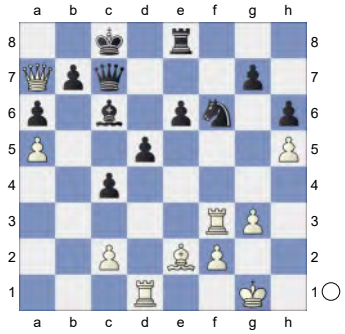
Black is not keeping still **26.Rf3 Qc7!**
[Don't play 26...Qxa4 27.Ra1 Qb4 28.Rxa7±]
27.Qa1 Bc6! 28.a5 a6 29.g3 Nd6 30.Re3 Ne4



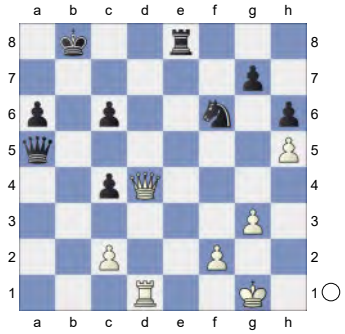
31.Qd4 -0.61/22
[31.Bg4!= -0.08/19]
31...Rf8 -0.29/22 &Nero is more active.
[Resist 31...Qxa5 32.Bg4 *(32.Qxg7? d4-+)* 32...Nf6 33.Bxe6+ Kb8 34.Bf7±̲]
[31...Re8∓ -0.61/22]
32.Rf3 -0.75/21
[32.Bf3= -0.29/22 deserves consideration.]



32...Nf6 -0.28/19
[32...Re8!∓ -0.75/21]
33.Re3 Inhibits e5. **33...Ne4** -0.01/18
[33...Re8∓ -0.45/21 was preferrable.]
34.Rf3 Re8 Black continues to play with concentration. **35.Qa7** -1.32/20
[⌓35.Qb6 -0.93/20]
35...Nf6 -0.99/19
[⌓35...Nd6 -1.32/20 36.Qb6 e5]

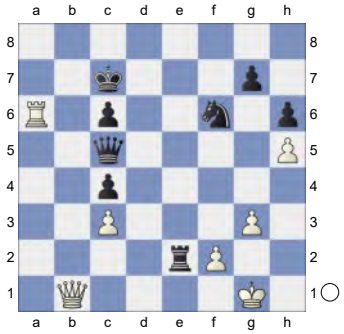


36.Re3 -1.68/20
[36.Ra3∓ -0.99/19]
36...Qxa5-+ 37.Bxc4? -3.96/21
[37.Qd4 -1.64/19]
37...dxc4 Chess con chili. **38.Rxe6 Kc7**
[Worse is 38...Qxh5 39.Rxc6+ bxc6 40.Qa8+ Kc7 41.Qa7+ Kc8 42.Qa8+ Kc7 43.Qa7+ Kc8=]
39.Qd4 Kb8 40.Rxc6 bxc6

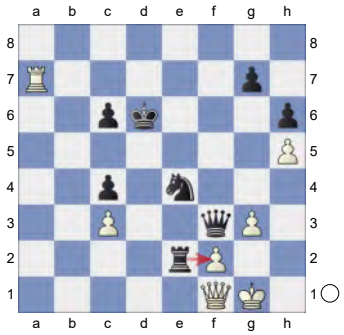


41.c3 Qb5 Against Rb1 **42.Ra1 Kb7 43.Qd1 Qc5** ...a5 is the strong threat. **44.Qb1+ Kc7 45.Rxa6 Re2**

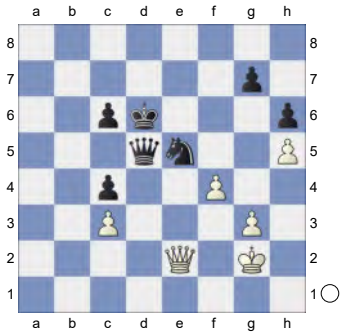
(Diagram)



46.Qf1 Qe5 Strongly threatening ...Re1. **47.Ra1** Inhibits Re1. **47...Qe4 48.Qc1 Qf3 49.Qf1 Ne4 50.Ra7+ Kd6**

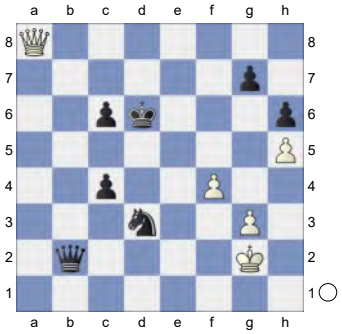


51.Qd1+ Nd2 52.Rf7 Qxf7 53.Qxe2 Nf3+ 54.Kg2 Ne5 Hoping for ...Qd5+. **55.f4 Qd5+**

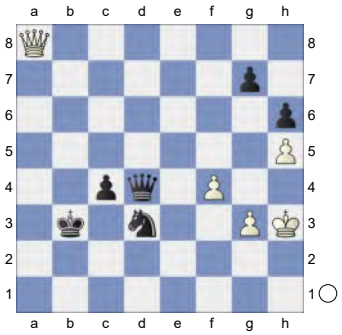


56.Kf2 Nd3+ 57.Kg1 Qe6 58.Qa2 Qe1+ 59.Kg2 Qxc3 60.Qa8 Qb2+

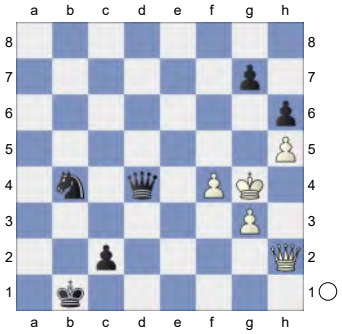
(Diagram)



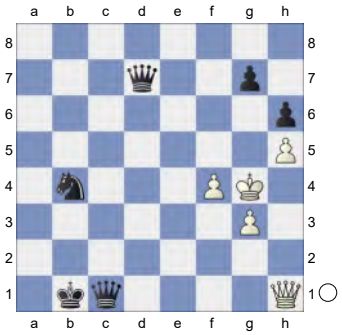
61.Kh3 Kc5 62.Qa7+ Kb4 63.Qb6+ Ka3 64.Qxc6 Qd4 65.Qa8+ Kb3



White must now prevent ...c3. **66.Qg8 Nb4 67.Kg4 Kb2 68.Qe6 c3 69.Qe2+ c2** (-> ...Kb1) **70.Qh2 Kb1**



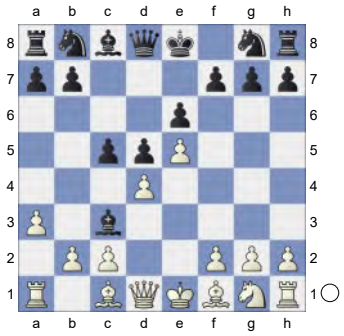
Black mates. **71.Qg2 c1Q 72.Qh1 Qd7+**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/ Black=0.10 (very precise)
0-1

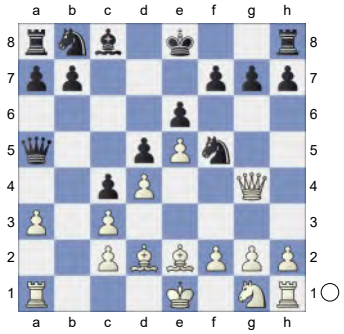
257 **C18**
□ **Hong,Andrew Z** **2520**
■ **Mishra,Abhimanyu** **2591**
USA-ch U20 Saint Louis (4) 18.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Perunovic,Milos: 'Kitty Kat: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
" 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



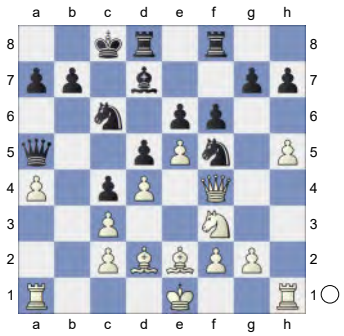
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Bd3 c4 9.Be2
[9.Qxg7? Rg8 10.Qxh7 cxd3 11.Qxd3 b6-+]
9...Qa5 10.Bd2
[10.Qxg7? Qxc3+ 11.Bd2 *(11.Kf1? Rg8-+)* 11...Qxa1+-+]
10...Nf5

(Diagram)



11.a4 Nc6 White is slightly better.
12.Nf3
[12.Qh3 b5 13.Bg4 bxa4 14.Bxf5 exf5 15.Qg3 Rg8 16.Ne2 a3 17.0-0 Rb8 18.e6 fxe6 19.Qd6 Qb6 20.Nf4 Kf7 21.Qxa3 Rd8 22.Qc1 Ne7 23.Qd1 Kg8 24.Qh5 Rf8 25.Qg5 Rb7 26.Bc1 Rf6 Gutierrez Delgado,Y (2311)-Caballero Ramos,G (2247) Merida 2024 ½-½ (56)]
12...Bd7 13.Qf4N 0.08/21
[13.Qh3± 0.41/19 feels stronger.]
[13.Nh4 Nce7 14.Nxf5 Nxf5 15.Qh5 b5 16.g4 Ne7 17.0-0 bxa4 18.Qg5 Rg8 19.Qe3 f5 20.Bc1 f4 21.Qh3 Ng6 22.Ba3 Rb8 23.g5 Kf7 24.Bh5 Rgc8 25.Qf3 Kg8 26.Bxg6 hxg6 27.h4 Be8 Perunovic,M (2542)-Indjic, A (2630) Deutschland 156/111 2023 [Perunovic,Milos] 1-0 (39)]
[13.0-0 0-0-0 14.Rfb1 f6 15.h4 Rdf8 16.h5 h6 17.Qh3 fxe5 18.dxe5 Qc7 19.Qh2 Rhg8 20.Bc1 g5 21.hxg6 Rxg6 22.Ba3 Rfg8 23.Bf1 d4 24.Bd6 Qa5 25.Ra3 Qd5 26.Qh3 Nxd6 27.exd6 e5 10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2752)-Main Symmetric with 8...d6 (2507) Haifa (rapid) 74/255 2020 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 0-1 (33)]
13...Rf8 0.57/19
[13...Nce7!= 0.08/21]
14.h4 0-0-0 15.h5 f6

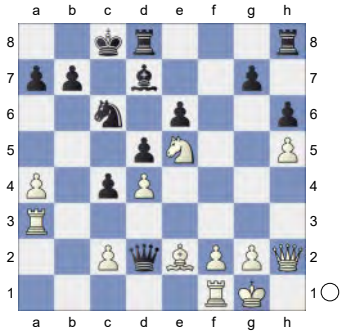
(Diagram)



16.Qh2 h6 17.Ra3 Rh8 18.0-0 -0.01/19

[18.g4± 0.55/19 Nfe7 19.exf6 gxf6 20.Bc1]

18...fxe5= 19.Nxe5 Nfxd4 20.cxd4 Qxd2



21.Nf7! Rhf8

[21...Qxc2? 22.Nd6+ Kb8 23.Nxc4+ e5 24.Bd3 *(24.Nxe5 Ka8±)* 24...Qxd3 25.Rxd3+-]

[21...Qxe2 22.Rg3]

22.Nxd8 Rxd8 23.Re3 aiming for c3.

23...Nxd4 24.Qe5 Nf5

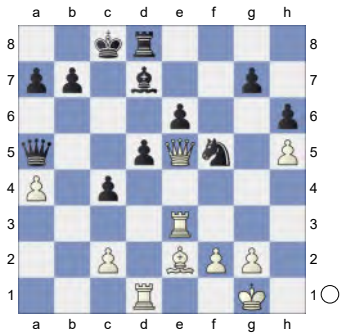
[24...Bxa4 25.Bg4 Bxc2 26.Ra1± *(26.Rg3 Re8=)*]

25.Rd1!

[Much weaker is 25.Rc3 Qd4 26.Re3 Qxe5 27.Rxe5 Nd4∓]

25...Qa5↑

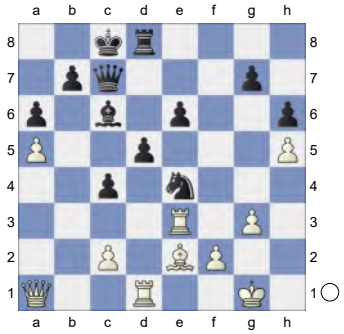
(Diagram)



Black is pushing. **26.Rf3 Qc7!**

[26...Qxa4 27.Ra1 Qb4 28.Rxa7±]

27.Qa1 Bc6 28.a5! a6 29.g3 Nd6 30.Re3 Ne4



31.Qd4 -1.09/24

[31.Bf3= 0.01/23]

31...Rf8 -0.27/23 &Nero is more active.

[D o n ' t p l a y 31...Qxa5 32.Bg4 *(32.Qxg7? d4-+)* 32...Nf6 33.Bxe6+ Kb8 34.Bf7±]

[31...Re8∓ -1.09/24]

32.Rf3 -0.80/20

[32.Bf3!= -0.27/23 keeps the balance.]

32...Nf6 -0.24/22

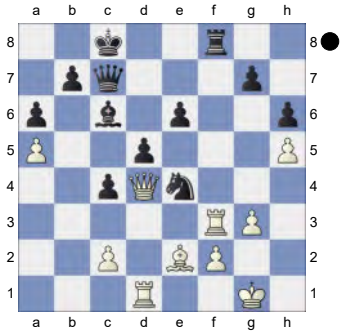
[Black should try 32...Re8∓ -0.80/20]

33.Re3 Inhibits e5. **33...Ne4** -0.01/21

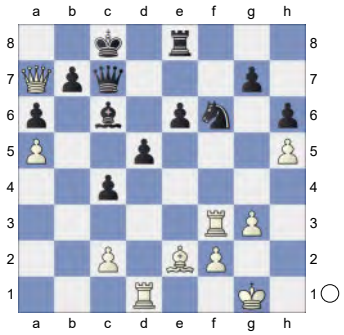
[33...Re8∓ -0.32/23 should be considered.]

34.Rf3!

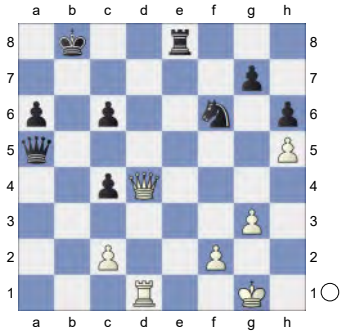
(Diagram)



Re8 Black converts the advantage convincingly. **35.Qa7 Nf6**

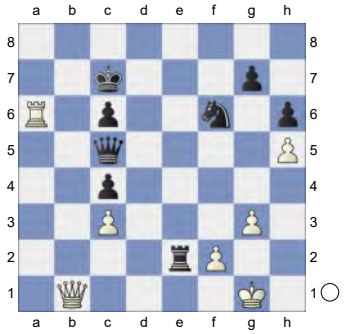


36.Re3 Qxa5 37.Bxc4? -4.38/26
[37.Qd4 -1.84/21]
37...dxc4-+ 38.Rxe6 Kc7
[Stronger than 38...Qxh5 39.Rxc6+ bxc6 40.Qa8+ Kc7 41.Qa7+ Kc8 42.Qa8+ Kc7 43.Qa7+ Kc8=]
39.Qd4 Kb8 40.Rxc6 bxc6

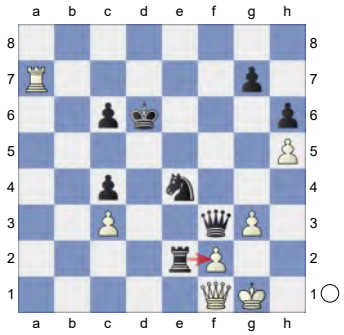


41.c3 -6.05/24
[⧍41.Rb1+ -4.05/23 Ka8 42.c3]
41...Qb5 42.Ra1 Kb7 43.Qd1 Qc5 44.Qb1+ Kc7 45.Rxa6 Re2

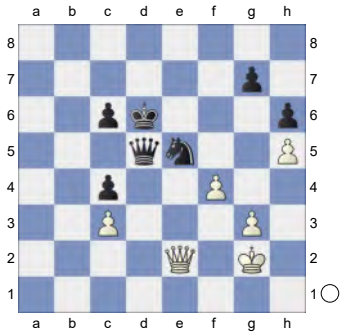
(Diagram)



46.Qf1 Qe5 47.Ra1 Against Re1 **47...Qe4 48.Qc1 Qf3 49.Qf1 Ne4 50.Ra7+ Kd6**

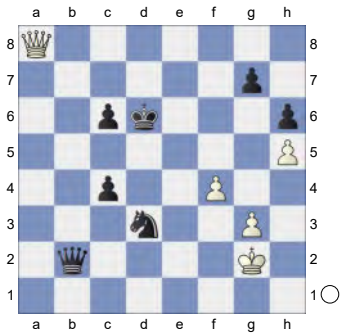


51.Qd1+ Nd2 52.Rf7 Qxf7 53.Qxe2 Nf3+ 54.Kg2 Ne5 Strongly threatening ...Qd5+. **55.f4 Qd5+**

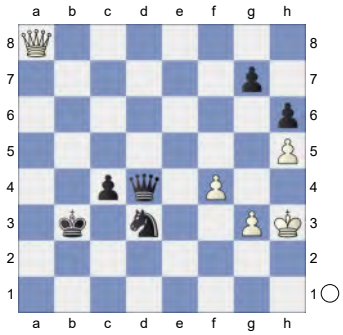


56.Kf2 Nd3+ 57.Kg1 Qe6 58.Qa2 Qe1+ 59.Kg2 Qxc3 ...Qb2+ is the strong threat. **60.Qa8 Qb2+**

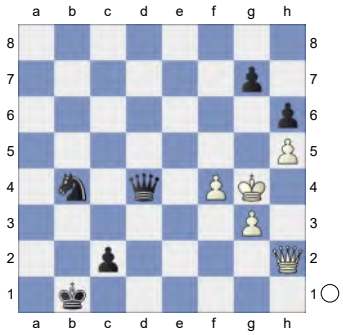
(Diagram)



61.Kh3 Kc5 62.Qa7+ Kb4 63.Qb6+ Ka3 64.Qxc6 Qd4 Threatens to win with ...c3. **65.Qa8+ Kb3**

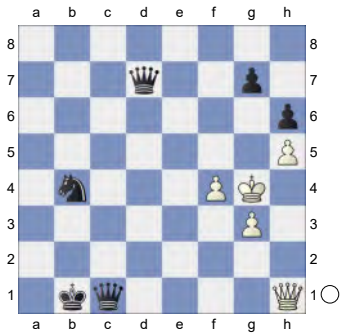


Hoping for ...c3. **66.Qg8 Nb4** And now ...Kb2 would win. **67.Kg4 Kb2 68.Qe6 c3 69.Qe2+ c2** (-> ...Qd1) **70.Qh2 Kb1**



Black mates. **71.Qg2 c1Q 72.Qh1 Qd7+**

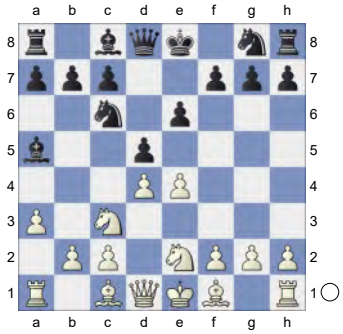
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/ Black=0.12 (very precise)
0-1

258 **C15**
☐ **Englert,Fabian** **2520**
■ **Kuna,Heiko** **2475**
corr RSS7E top-104 20.12.2018
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves
Kindermann,Stefan: 'Kindermann,S: '57/293 ' Kindermann,S: 'Inf 57/293'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nc6 5.a3 Ba5**



6.b4 Bb6 7.e5
[7.Bb2 Nge7 8.g3 h5 9.Bg2 h4 10.0-0 hxg3 11.hxg3 dxe4 12.Nxe4 Nf5 13.c4 Bxd4 14.Nxd4 Ncxd4 15.Re1 e5 16.Nc5 f6 17.Nxb7 Bxb7 18.Bxb7 Rb8 19.Be4 Kf8 20.Qd3 g6 21.Rad1 c5 Reiners,M (2592)-Grube,

J (2776) Las Palmas 2015 Capablanca: Move by Move [Dragan Solak] 1-0 (46)]

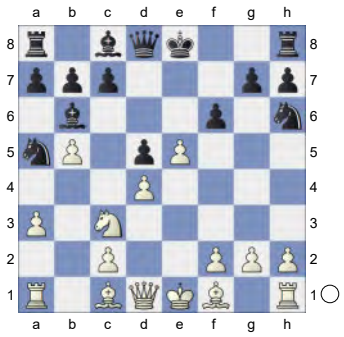
7...f6 8.b5 Na5 9.Nf4 0.04/19

[9.Ng1⩲ 0.35/18 deserves consideration.]

9...Nh6N

[9...fxe5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qxe5 Qf6 12.Qxf6 Nxf6 13.Be3 c6 14.Na4 Bc7 15.Nc5 e5 16.Nfd3 exd4 17.Bxd4 0-0 18.Nb4 b6 19.Ncd3 Bb7 20.bxc6 Rae8+ 21.Be2 Nxc6 22.Nxc6 Bxc6 23.f3 Ba4 24.c3 Heyken,E (2375)-Kindermann,S (2495) Dortmund 1993 CI1-130 [Kindermann,Stefan] 0-1 (40)]

10.Nfxd5 -0.36/21 **exd5∓**

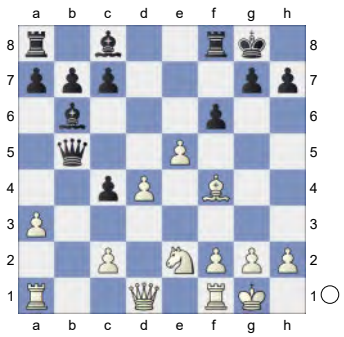


11.Bxh6 0-0

[11...gxh6 is interesting. 12.Qh5+ Ke7 13.exf6+ Ke6]

12.Bf4 Nc4 13.Bxc4 dxc4 14.Ne2 Qd5 aiming for ...fxe5. **15.0-0 Qxb5** 0.39/20

[15...Bg4= 0.04/20 was preferrable.]



16.a4!⩲ Qd5 17.Qd2 -0.34/19

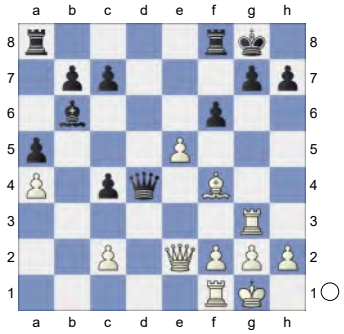
[17.exf6= 0.12/17 Rxf6 18.Be5]

17...a5 0.16/19

[17...Bg4∓ -0.34/19]

18.Ra3 Bg4 19.Rg3 Bxe2 20.Qxe2 Threatening Bh6. **20...Qxd4** 0.92/23

[20...Bxd4= 0.01/21 21.Bh6 Rf7]



21.exf6!± g6

[21...Qxf6? 22.Be5 *(22.Qxc4+ Qf7=)* 22...Qh6 23.Qxc4+ Rf7 24.Rxg7+ Qxg7 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 26.Kh1+-]

[21...Rf7 22.Bg5]

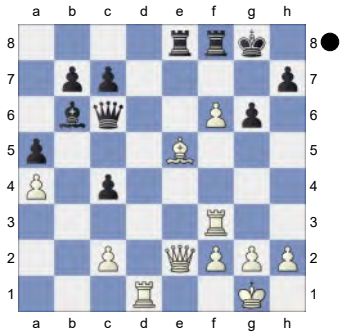
22.Be5 0.01/21 &Bianco is more active.

[22.Qe6+ Rf7 23.Be5 Qe4⩲]

[22.Bh6± 0.97/19 Rf7 23.Bg7]

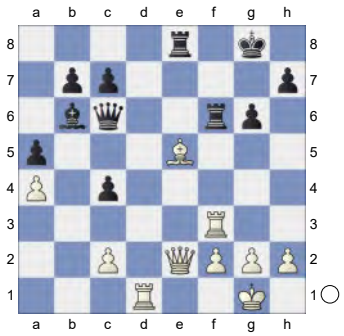
22...Rae8= 23.Re3 Qd5 24.Rd1 Qc6 25.Rf3 -1.32/23

[25.Bd4!= -0.08/21 remains equal. Rxe3 26.Qxe3]

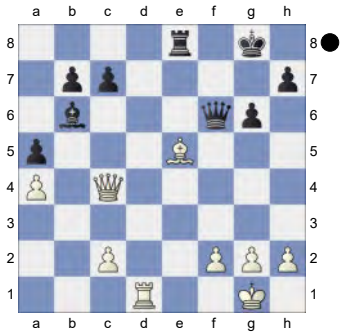


25...Rxf6!!∓

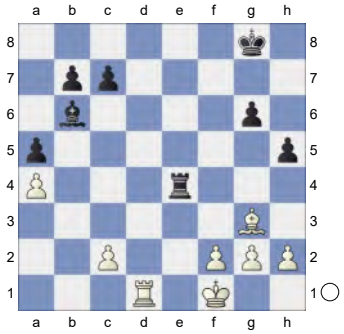
(Diagram)



26.Rxf6 Qxf6 Pin **27.Qxc4+** -1.19/23
[⌓27.Re1 -0.88/24 Qf5 28.g4]

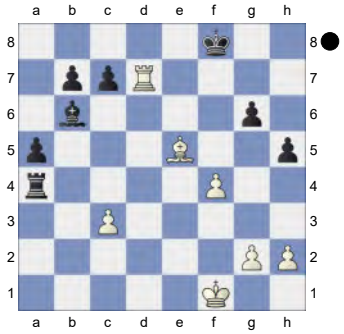


27...Qe6! 28.Qxe6+ Rxe6 Endgame KRB-KRB **29.Bg3 Re4 30.Kf1 h5** -0.80/23
[⌓30...Rxa4 -1.34/23 White must now prevent ...Rc4. 31.Rd8+ Kf7 32.Bxc7 *(32.Rd7+ Ke6∓)* 32...Bc5]

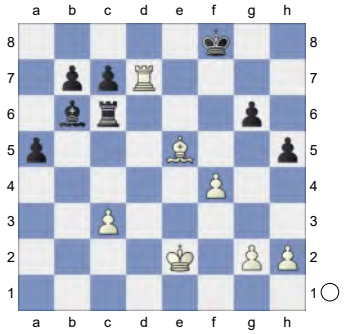


31.Rd7 Rc4 32.Be5 -1.46/22
[⌓32.Ke2 -0.84/22]
32...Kf8 -1.03/23
[Not 32...Rxa4 33.Bxc7 Bxc7 34.Rxc7=]
[⌓32...Rxc2 -1.46/22 33.Ke1 Rc4]

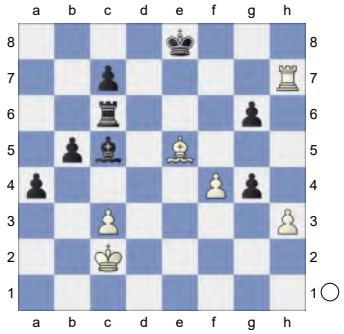
33.c3 Rxa4 34.f4



Rc4 -0.90/21
[⌓34...Ra1+! -1.44/20 35.Ke2 Ra2+ 36.Rd2 Rxd2+ 37.Kxd2 c6]
35.Ke2 Rc6

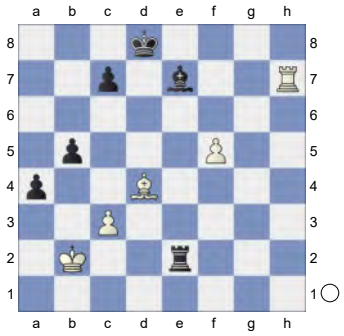


36.Kd3 Ke8 37.Rh7 Bc5 38.h3 -1.06/21
[White should play 38.Bxc7∓ -0.55/20 a4 39.Be5]
38...a4 39.Kc2 b5 40.g4 hxg4

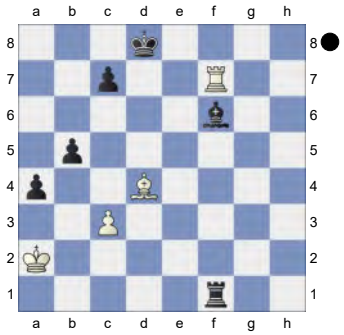


41.hxg4 Be7 42.Kb2 -1.49/22
[⌓42.Rh8+ -1.09/18 Kd7 43.Rh7]
42...Kd8 -0.99/23
[Better is 42...Re6 -1.49/22 43.Bxc7 Re2+ 44.Kb1 Re1+ 45.Kb2 Kd7]
43.Bd4 -1.84/21

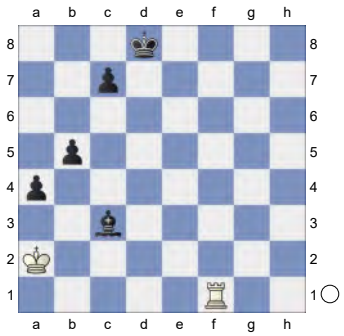
[43.g5∓ -0.99/23 keeps fighting.]
43...Re6-+ 44.f5 -2.12/23
[44.Rh2∓ -1.49/18 was called for.]
44...gxf5 45.gxf5 Re2+



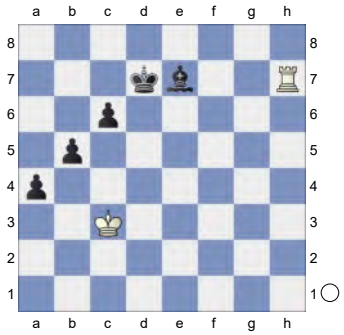
46.Ka1 Re1+
[Don't blunder 46...c5? 47.Bh8]
47.Ka2 Rf1 48.f6 -1.83/22
[48.Rh5∓ -1.45/21 might work better.]
48...Bxf6 49.Rf7



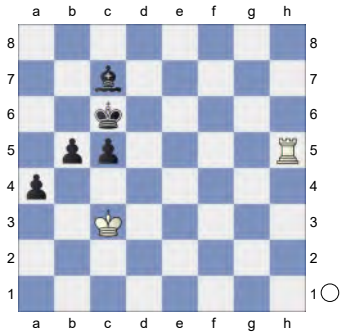
Bxd4 50.Rxf1 Bxc3



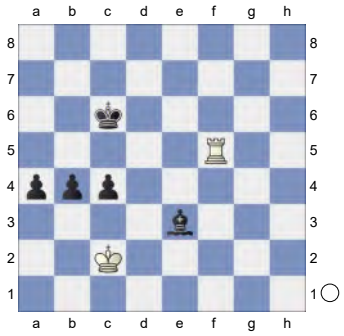
KR-KB **51.Ka3?** -3.22/29
[51.Rf5 -1.71/29]
51...Be5? -0.27/29
[51...Ba5-+ -3.22/29 52.Rf7 c6]
52.Kb4= c6? 0.00/27
[Black should try 52...Kd7-+ -1.70/28 ...c6 is the strong threat. 53.Rf5 Kd6]
53.Rf7? -8.34/27
[53.Kc5= 0.00/27]
53...Bd6+-+ 54.Kc3? -7.52/26
[54.Ka5 -2.87/25 Be7 55.Rf2]
54...Be7 55.Rh7 Kd7



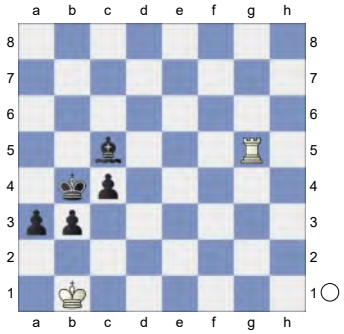
56.Rh6 Bc5 57.Rg6 Bd6 Threatens to win with ...c5. **58.Rh6** -10.13/27
[⌓58.Kd4 -4.83/26 b4 59.Kc4]
58...c5 59.Rh7+ Kc6 60.Rh5 Bc7



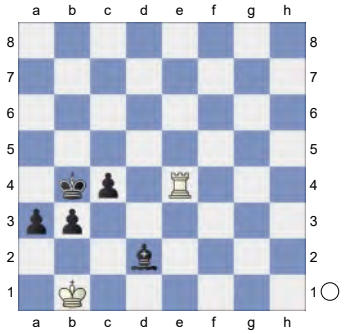
61.Rf5 Ba5+ 62.Kb2 Bd2 63.Kc2 Be3 64.Kb1 b4 65.Kc2 c4



66.Rf6+ Kb5 67.Rf5+ Bc5 Strongly threatening ...a3. **68.Rh5 a3 69.Kb1 b3** Black mates. **70.Rg5 Kb4**



71.Rg4 Be3 72.Re4 Bd2

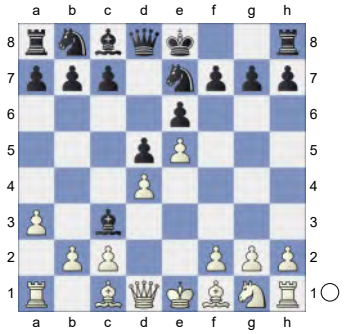


Weighted Error Value: White=0.61/ Black=0.35. Loss on time!?
1-0

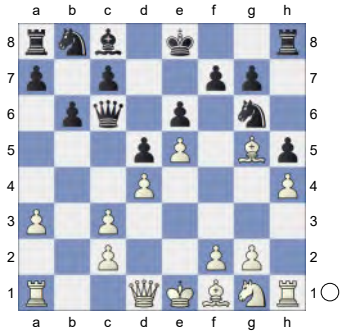
259 **C16**
□ **Kosintseva,Tatiana** **2515**
■ **Hoang,Thanh Trang** **2470**
World-ch (Women) k.o. (2.11) 15.11.2012
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)

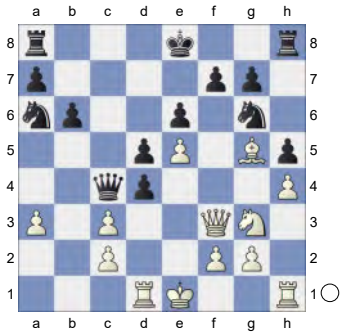


6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5! 9.Qd1 Qd7 0.69/19
[9...c5 0.34/17 was preferrable.]
10.Bg5 0.34/19
[⩲10.Be2 0.69/19]
10...Qc6

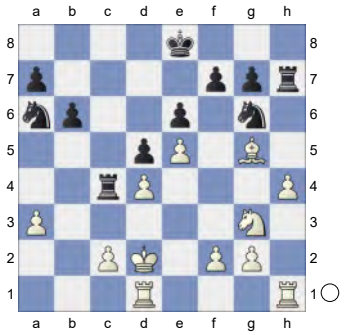


11.Qf3N White is slightly better.
[11.Qd2 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.Ne2 Kd7 14.0-0 Chess Informant Eco Survey 2006 Raf8 15.f4 Nb8 16.f5 exf5 17.Qd3 Kc8 18.Ng3 Kb7 19.Nxf5 f6 20.exf6 gxf6 21.Bf4 Re8 22.Bg3 Re4 23.Rae1 Rg4 24.Re3 Qd7 25.c4 dxc4 26.Qxc4 Nc6 27.c3 Rh7 28.Kh2 Nce7 29.Nxe7 Korneev,O (2649)-Lalic,B (2488) Coria 2006 CI1-130 [Lalic,Bogdan] 1-0 (63)]
[11.Rh3 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.Ne2 Qc4 14.Kf1 c5 Winawer 4 e5 Qd7 & 4…b6 ChessPub Guide 2023 French [John Watson]]
11...Ba6 0.73/21
[11...Qa4!⩲ 0.34/19 is more appropriate.]

12.Bxa6± Nxa6 13.Ne2 Qc4 14.Ng3 0.27/19
[14.Qe3± 0.61/17]
14...c5= 15.Rd1 cxd4 0.75/21
[15...Rh7= 0.26/21]

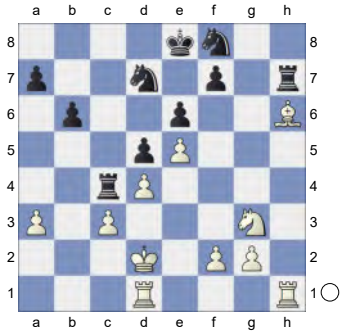


16.cxd4± Rc8 17.Nxh5 Rh7
[Not 17...Rxh5 18.Qxh5 Nc7 19.Rd3+-]
18.Ng3 &Bianco is more active.
18...Qc3+ 19.Qxc3 Rxc3 20.Kd2 Rc4

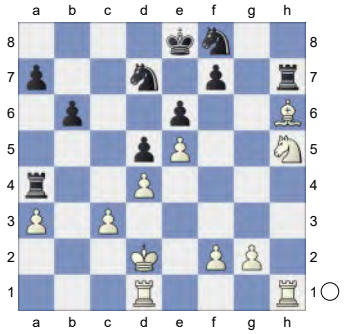


21.c3 Nb8 1.56/22
[⌓21...Ne7 1.01/20]
22.h5 Nf8 23.h6 Strongly threatening Nh5. **23...gxh6 24.Bxh6**
[Don't play 24.Rxh6?! Ra4±]
24...Nbd7

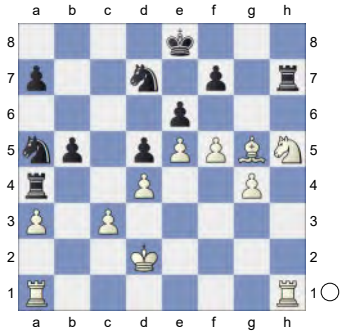
(Diagram)



25.Nh5! Ra4

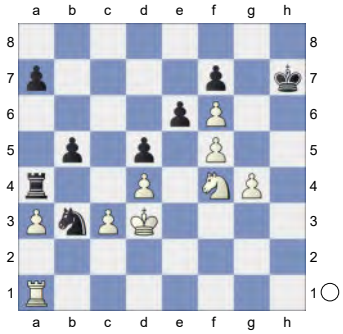


26.Ra1 b5
[26...Kd8 27.Nf4]
27.Bg5 And now g4 would win. **27...Ng6** 2.56/23
[27...f5± 1.57/19 28.exf6 Nb6]
28.g4 Ne7 29.f4 Nc6 30.f5 Na5 3.69/23
[⌓30...Nxd4 2.53/21 31.cxd4 Rxd4+ 32.Kc3 Rxg4]

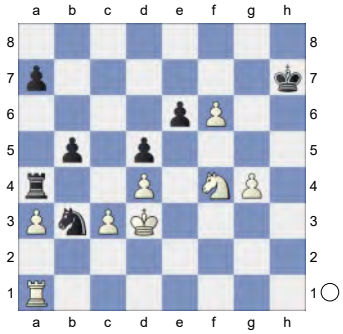


31.Bf6 Nb3+? 4.30/21
[31...Nf8 2.49/20 might work better.]
32.Kd3 Black must now prevent Ng7+.
32...Kf8 7.36/21 Against Ng7
[32...Ndc5+ 3.90/21 33.dxc5 Nxa1]

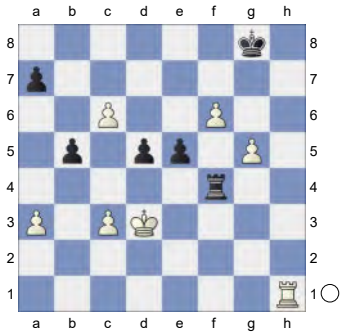
33.Nf4+- Nxf6 34.exf6 Kg8 35.Rxh7 Kxh7 Endgame



KRN-KRN **36.Rh1+** 4.73/5
[⌓36.fxe6! 14.55/25 Intending Rh1+ and mate. fxe6

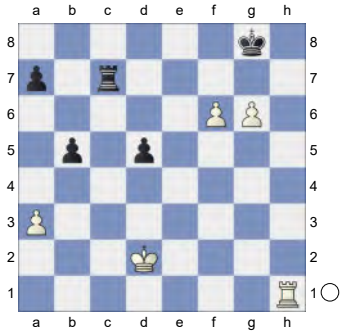


37.Nxe6!]
36...Kg8 37.fxe6 fxe6 38.g5 Nc5+ 39.dxc5 Rxf4 KR-KR **40.c6 e5**

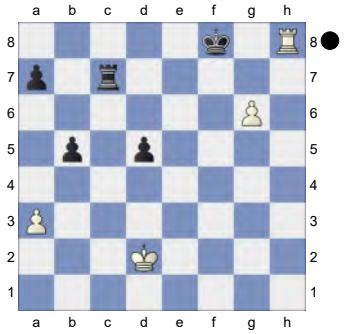


41.c7 Rc4 42.g6 White threatens Rh7 and mate. **42...e4+ 43.Kd2** Threatening mate with Rh7. **43...e3+ 44.Kxe3** Rh7 would kill now. **44...Rxc3+ 45.Kd2 Rxc7**

(Diagram)



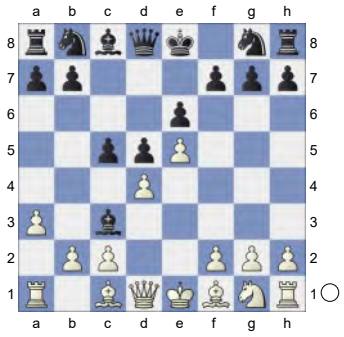
46.f7+ Kg7 47.f8Q+ Kxf8 48.Rh8+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.33
1-0

260 **C19**
□ **Zhu,Jiner** **2514**
■ **Dronavalli,Harika** **2483**
Nikosia WGP 2025 (3.4) 17.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

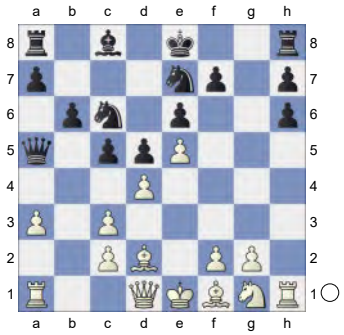


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qa5 8.Bd2 Nbc6 9.h5 b6

[9...Qa4 10.Nf3 cxd4 11.Rh4 b6 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Rxd4 Qc6 14.Qg4 Nf5 15.Bd3 Rg8 16.Rf4 Bd7 17.Qe2 g5 18.hxg6 hxg6 19.0-0-0 Rc8 20.g4 Ne7 21.Qf3 Qc5 22.Rxf7 Nc6 23.Qf6 Nxe5 24.Qxe5 Kuehn,D (2625)-Chilingirova,P (2585) corr 2011 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0]

[9...Bd7 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h6 gxh6 12.Rxh6 Ng8 13.Rh4 f6 14.Qe2 c4 15.Rf4 Rf8 16.g3 Qa4 17.Kd1 f5 18.Rh4 Qa5 19.Ng5 h6 20.Nh3 Be8 21.Nf4 Bf7 22.Bg2 Nge7 23.Qe1 Nd8 24.Qh1 Mittermayr,G (2531)-Emms,J (2243) Hersonissos 101/162 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] 1-0 (41)]

10.h6 gxh6



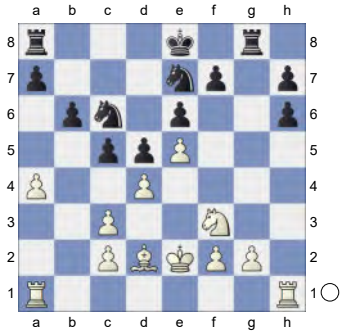
11.a4 Ba6 Inhibits Bb5. White has an edge.

[11...cxd4? 12.cxd4 Nb4 13.Qb1+-]

12.Nf3N

[12.Bb5 Bxb5 13.c4 Nb4 14.cxb5 a6 15.Ne2 axb5 16.Nc3 Nec6 17.0-0 Nxd4 18.Nxd5 exd5 19.c3 Nbc6 20.cxd4 b4 21.e6 0-0-0 22.exf7 Rhf8 23.Qe2 Kb7 24.Qe6 Qa8 25.dxc5 Qc8 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5: 7.h4-7.h4 Options to Investigate:]

12...Bxf1 13.Kxf1 Qa6+ 14.Qe2 Qxe2+ 15.Kxe2 Rg8



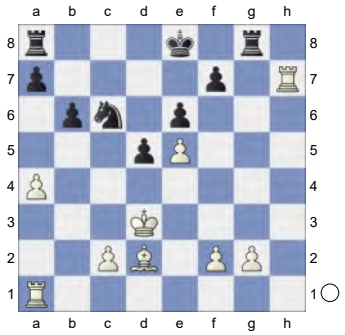
16.Rxh6

[16.dxc5 is interesting. Rxg2 17.Rxh6 bxc5 18.Rxh7 Rb8 19.Rh8+]

16...cxd4! 17.cxd4 Black should prevent c3. **17...Nf5! 18.Rxh7** Hoping for c3. **18...Ncxd4+ 19.Nxd4** -0.34/21

[19.Kd3= -0.01/22 Nxf3 20.gxf3]

19...Nxd4+∓ 20.Kd3 Nc6



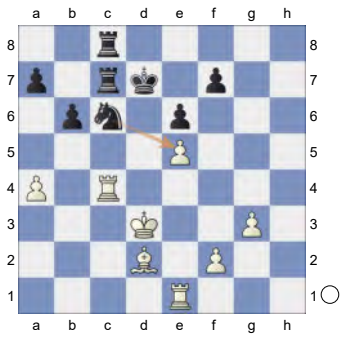
21.Re1 Rc8 22.g3 Rc7 -0.01/21

[22...Rg4∓ -0.37/21]

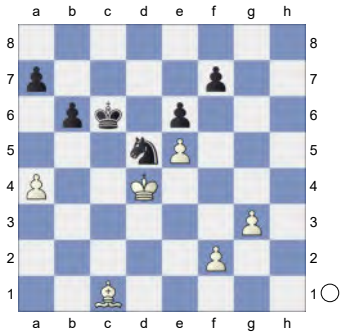
23.Rh4= The position is equal.

[23.Rh5 feels hotter. Rg4 24.Rh8+ Ke7 25.Rh4]

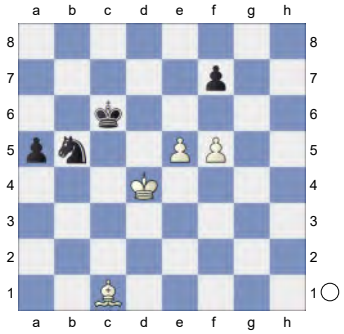
23...Kd7 24.c4 dxc4+ 25.Rxc4 Rgc8



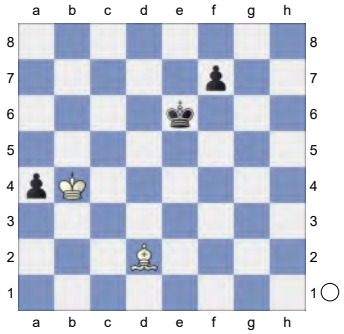
aiming for ... Nxe5+! **26.Ke4 Ne7 27.Rxc7+ Rxc7 28.Rc1** Against Rc4+ **28...Rxc1 29.Bxc1** Endgame KB-KN **29...Nd5** Strongly threatening ...Nc3+. **30.Kd4** Inhibits Nc3. **30...Kc6**



31.g4 a5 32.f4 Nc7 33.f5 exf5 34.gxf5 b5 35.axb5+ Nxb5+

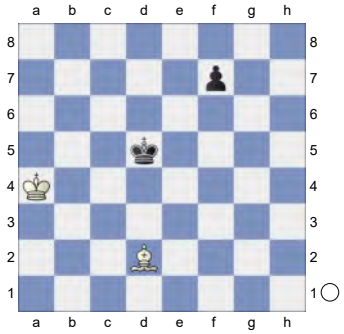


36.Kc4 Nc7 37.Bd2 a4 38.Kb4 Kd5 39.e6 Nxe6 40.fxe6 Kxe6



41.Kxa4 Kd5

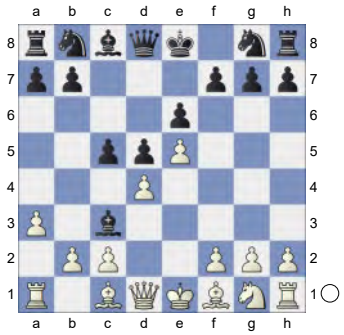
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
½-½

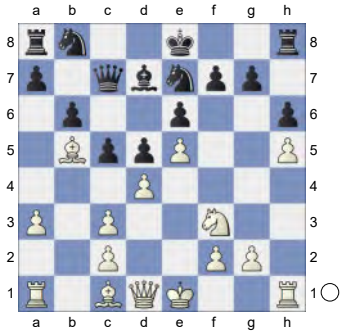
261 **C19**
□ **Pranav,V.** **2512**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2745**
Titled Tue 26th Jul Late blitz (10)
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7 8.h5 h6 9.Nf3 b6 10.Bb5+ Bd7

(Diagram)



11.Bd3 Ba4 12.Rh4 0.08/20

[12.0-0± 0.50/18 Nd7 13.Re1 Qc6 14.Rb1 a6 15.Nd2 cxd4 16.cxd4 Bb5 17.Rxb5 axb5 18.Qe2 Ra4 19.Nb3 Rc4 20.Bd2 Nf5 21.Bb4 Nxd4 22.Nxd4 Rxd4 23.Bxb5 Qc8 24.Rd1 Rxb4 25.axb4 Qc3 26.Qg4 Qxe5 27.c4 11...♕c7 12.♘bd2 cd4 13. c,4 (2640)-Sivanandan,B (2615) USSR 47/58 1994 TD [Vives,G; de Dovitiis,A] 1-0 (34)]

12...c4 0.44/18

[12...cxd4= 0.08/20 13.cxd4 Qc3+ 14.Bd2 Qxd3! 15.cxd3 Bxd1 16.Kxd1 Kd7]

13.Bf1N

[13.Be2 Nbc6 14.Rg4 Rg8 15.Nh4 0-0-0 16.Be3 Kb7 17.Qd2 Nf5 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.Rh4 Ne7 20.f4 Bd7 21.a4 a5 22.Bf3 Be6 23.Qe2 Ka7 24.Rh1 Qd7 25.Kf2 Rb8 26.Rhb1 g5 27.hxg6 fxg6 Kosintseva,T (2515)-Kosintseva,N (2539) Khanty Mansiysk RUS 2012 [John Watson] 0-1 (66) 28.Rh1 h5 29.Bc1 Rgc8 30.Ba3 Ng8 31.Rhb1 Ne7 32.Kg1 Rg8 33.Rb5 Nc8 34.Rab1 Ka6 35.Ra1 Na7 36.Rbb1 Rg7 37.Qe1 g5 38.fxg5 Rxg5 39.Bc5 Nc6 40.Qc1 f4 41.Bd6 Rb7 42.Qxf4 Qg7 Krzyzanowski,W (2515)-Bulford,M (2539) corr 2012 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 0-1 (66)]

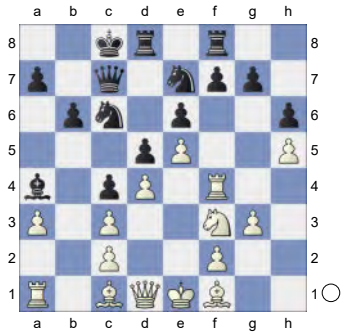
13...Nbc6 White is slightly better. **14.Rf4** 0.03/18

[14.Bd2± 0.38/16]

14...Rf8 0.59/17

[Black should play 14...g5= 0.03/18 15.hxg6 Nxg6]

15.g3 0-0-0



16.Bh3 0.38/20

[⊼16.Qe2 0.69/19]

16...Kb7 0.69/17

[⊼16...Kb8 0.38/20]

17.Kf1 0.08/20

[17.Nh4!± 0.69/17]

17...a5 0.60/18

[17...g5= 0.08/20 18.hxg6 Nxg6]

18.Kg1 Na7 19.Rg4 0.20/19

[19.Nh4± 0.56/18 was preferrable.]

19...Rg8 0.51/19

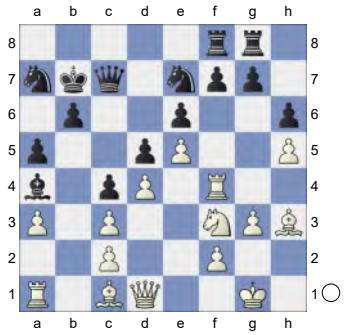
[19...Nf5= 0.20/19]

20.Rf4 0.01/19

[20.Nh4± 0.51/19]

20...Rdf8 0.50/20

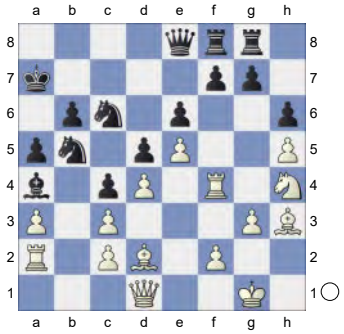
[20...Rgf8= 0.01/19]



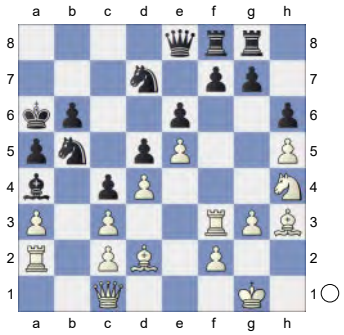
21.Nh4 Nb5 22.Bd2 Ka7 0.78/21

[22...g5= 0.19/20 23.hxg6 Nxg6]

23.Ra2 0.18/21
[White should try 23.Qf3± 0.78/21 Qd8 24.Rxf7]
23...Qd7 24.Qf3 Qe8 25.Qd1 0.01/18
[25.Qe3± 0.42/19]
25...Nc6 0.39/16
[25...Qd7= 0.01/18]

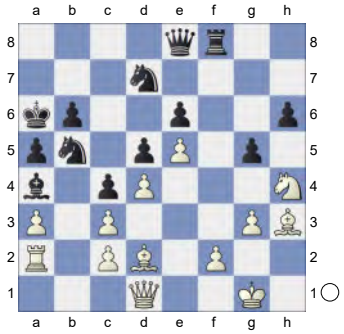


26.Rf3 Nb8 27.Qb1 -0.26/21
[27.Qe2± 0.38/17]
27...Nd7
[27...g5!? 28.hxg6 fxg6=]
28.Rb2 Ka6 29.Ra2 -0.47/22
[29.Qe1= 0.00/18 might be stronger.]
29...Qe7 0.03/18
[Better is 29...f6∓ -0.47/22]
30.Qc1 Qe8

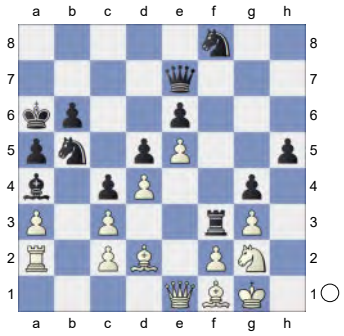


31.Qd1 Rh8 32.Bc1 -0.16/22
[32.Qe2 0.26/19 should be considered.]
32...g5= 33.hxg6! fxg6 34.Rxf8 Rxf8 35.Bd2 g5

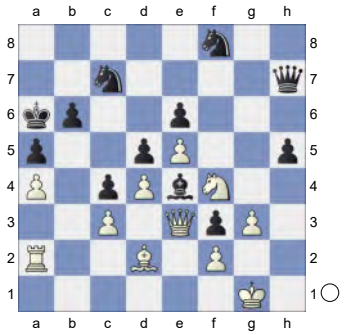
(Diagram)



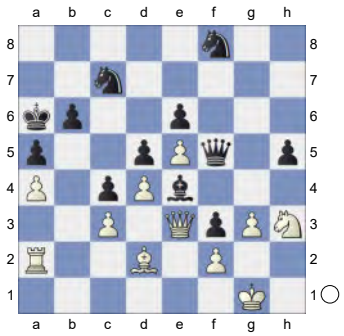
36.Ng2
[Of course not 36.Nf3 Qf7 37.Kg2 Nc7∓]
36...h5 White must now prevent ...g4.
37.Ne3 g4 38.Bf1 Qe7 39.Ng2 Rf3
[39...Nxa3? 40.Qc1+-]
40.Qe1 Nf8
[40...Nxa3? 41.Qc1+-]



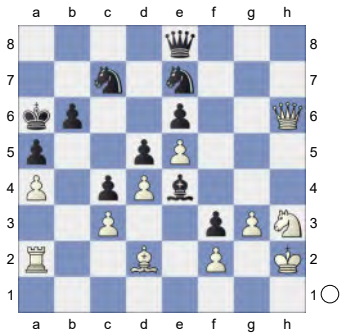
41.Nf4 Qh7 42.Be2 Bxc2 43.Bxf3 gxf3 44.a4 Nc7 45.Qe3 0.17/22
[45.Kh2± 0.56/20 is superior.]
45...Be4 0.91/24
[45...Bf5!= 0.17/22 remains equal.]



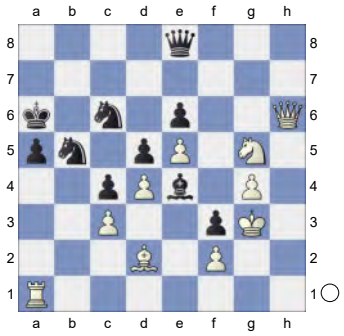
46.Nh3↑ White is on the roll. **46...Qf5**



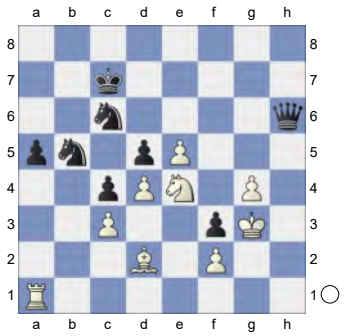
47.Kh2 Ng6 48.Qg5 Qf8? 2.55/22
Black cannot hold the game after this.
[48...Qg4± 0.82/22]
49.Qxh5+- Ne7 50.Qh6 Qe8 3.51/21
[⌓50...Qxh6 2.18/21 51.Bxh6 Nc6]



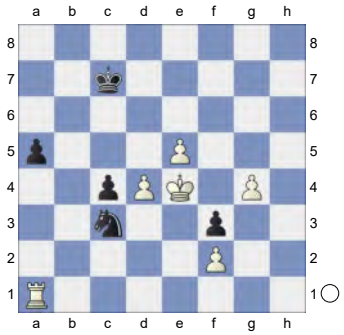
51.Ng5 Nc6 52.Ra1 Kb7 53.g4 Ka6 54.Kg3 b5 5.67/20
[⌓54...Bc2 3.78/19 55.Qg7 Qe7 56.Qxe7 Nxe7 57.Kxf3 Ng6]
55.axb5+ Nxb5 7.17/22
[⌓55...Kxb5 4.96/22 56.Nxe4 dxe4]



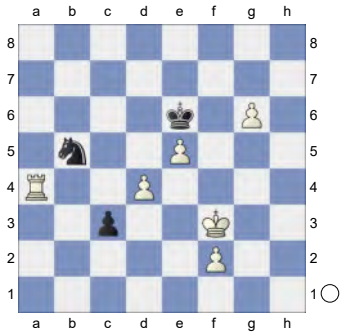
56.Nxe6 Kb6 57.Nc5 Qg8 58.Nd7+ Kc7 59.Nf6 Qe6 60.Nxe4 Qxh6
(Diagram)



61.Bxh6 dxe4 Endgame KRB-KNN
62.Bd2 Ne7 63.Kf4 Nd5+ 64.Kxe4 Ndxc3+ 65.Bxc3 Nxc3+

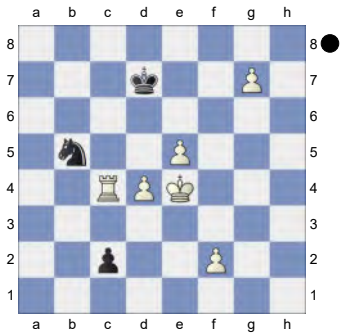


66.Kxf3 KR-KN **66...a4 67.g5 Kd7 68.g6** White threatens g7 and mate.
68...Ke6 69.Ra3 Nb5 70.Rxa4 c3



71.Rc4 18.28/18
[⌓71.d5+ #15/18 Kxe5 72.g7 Nd4+ 73.Kg2 c2 74.Rc4 c1B 75.Rxc1 Nb3 76.Re1+ Kd4 77.d6]
71...c2 72.Ke4 Kd7 73.g7

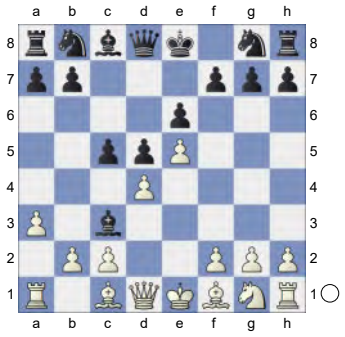
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.33
1-0

262 **C18**
□ **Xu,Zhihang** **2511**
■ **Akhmetov,Ayan** **2417**
Masters Open 2024 (7.24) 10.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 Blatny,P: 'Inf 43/372' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



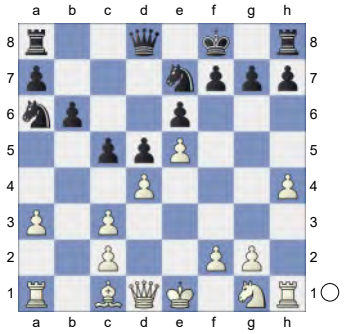
6.bxc3 b6N
[6...Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 *(7...Kf8 8.Bd2 Qc7 9.Bd3 b6 10.Nf3 Ba6 11.dxc5 bxc5 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.Qa4 Qc6 14.Qxc6 Nxc6 15.Rb1 Rb8 16.Rxb8+ Naxb8 17.Ke2 Nd7 18.Rb1 Ke7 19.c4 dxc4 20.Rb7 Kd8 21.Ng5 Kc8 22.Nxf7* ½-½ Hochstein, C (2483)-9. ♕d2 ♘d7 10. ♗f2 ♘f5_ (2619) Buenos Aires CC Moreno op 2019 (3) *)* 8.Bd3 *(8.Nf3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Qa5 11.Bxf6 Qxc3+ 12.Kd1 Qxa1+ 13.Kd2 Ng6 14.Bd3 Qxh1 15.Bxg6 gxf6 16.Qh4 hxg6 17.Qxf6 Qa1 18.Qd8+ Kg7 19.Qe7+ Kg8 20.Qe8+ Kg7 21.Qe7+ Kg8 22.Qd8+ Kg7* 1-0 Blatny,P (2405)-Szymczak,Z (2390) II 43/372 Trnava 1987 *)* 8...Ng6 *(8...Qa5 9.Bd2 Nbc6 10.Nf3 f5 11.exf6 Rxf6 12.Qh5 Nf5 13.g4 c4 14.gxf5 cxd3 15.Rg1 Bd7 16.c4 Qc7 17.Bh6 Be8 18.Qh4 Rxh6 19.Qxh6 dxc4 20.cxd3 cxd3 21.f6 Bg6 22.Qxg7+ Qxg7 23.fxg7* ½-½ Taroma Corpus,R (2723)-Jojua, D (2702) 9/522 Athens 1969 (3)*; 8...Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7 11.Be3 c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Bd7 14.h4 Rf5 15.Ng5 Raf8 16.Qe2 h6 17.Nh3 Ne7 18.g3 Qa5 19.Kd2 Qc7 20.f4 Be8 21.g4 R5f7 22.Raf1 Nc8 23.Qg2* 1-0 Motylev,A (2654)-Golubov,S (2307) Vladimir Dvorkovich Mem 2014 (1.3)*)* 9.h4 c4 10.Bxg6 fxg6 11.h5 Qe8 12.Nf3 gxh5 13.Rxh5 Rf5 14.Rh3 Nd7 15.Qh4 Nf8 16.Rg3 Qh5 17.Bh6 Qxh4 18.Nxh4 Rh5 19.Bxg7 Kf7 20.Rf3+ Rf5 21.Rxf5+ 1-0 Martemianov,I (2325)-Sarivan,M (2175) Kishinev ULIM op 2007 (5)]

7.Bb5+ Kf8 1.23/21
[⌂7...Bd7 0.86/23 8.Qg4 Kf8 *(8...Bxb5?* loses. *9.Qxg7 Qh4 10.Qxh8±)*]

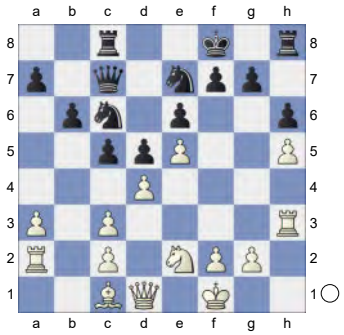
8.Bd3 0.60/26 White is more active.
[8.a4± 1.23/21]

8...Ba6 White is slightly better. **9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.h4 Ne7**

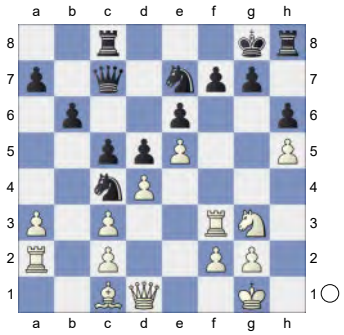
(Diagram)



11.h5 h6 12.Ne2 Qc7 13.Rh3 0.37/25
[13.a4± 0.83/21]
13...Rc8± 14.Ra2 Nb8 15.Kf1 Nbc6

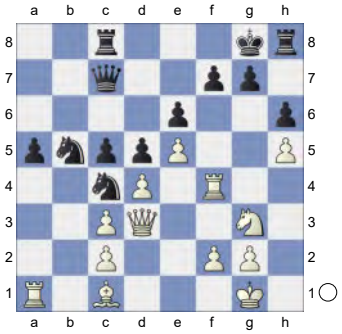


16.Kg1 Na5 17.Rf3 Nc4 18.Ra1 Kg8 19.Ng3 Na5 A dynamic duo of knights.
20.Ra2 Nc4

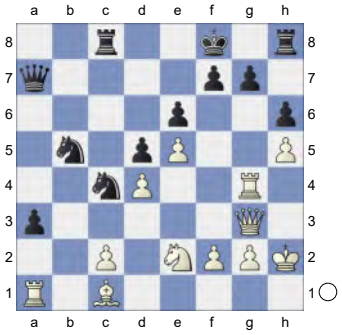


21.Rf4 Nc6 22.Ra1 a5 23.a4 White stays focused until the end.
23...b5 1.14/20 **24.axb5± Na7 25.Qd3 Nxb5**

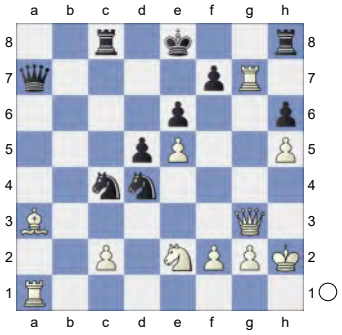
(Diagram)



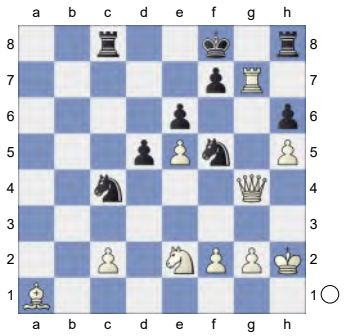
26.Rg4 Kf8 1.92/19
[26...Ra8± 0.97/20 was called for.]
27.Kh2+- Qa7 28.Ne2 Qg3 is the strong threat. **28...cxd4 29.cxd4** Black must now prevent Qg3. **29...a4** 2.86/20
[⌓29...Kg8 1.74/18 30.f4 Qd7]
30.Qg3 a3



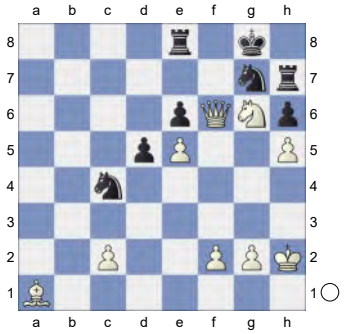
31.Rxg7 Nxd4? 5.49/18
[31...Qc7 2.96/19 32.Ra2 Qe7]
32.Bxa3+ White is clearly winning.
32...Ke8



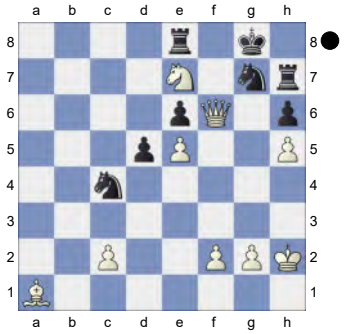
33.Bb2! Discovered Attack **33...Qxa1**
[33...Nf3+ 34.Qxf3]
34.Bxa1 Nf5 35.Qg4 Kf8
(Diagram)



36.Rg6!! fxg6
[36...Ke7 37.Rf6]
37.Qxg6 Re8 38.Nf4 Ng7 39.Qf6+ Kg8 40.Ng6 Rh7



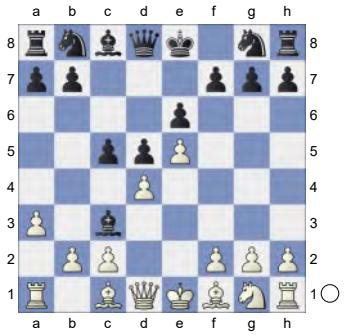
41.Ne7+



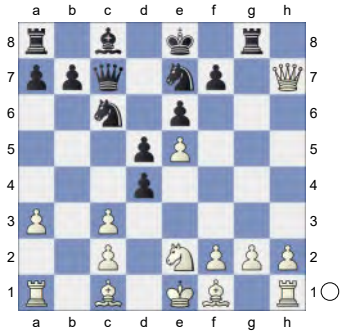
Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.35
1-0

263 **C18**
□ **Zagorskis,A.** **2511**
■ **Hanke,Leonhard** **2777**
Monaco (rapid) 61/(345) (4) 27.01.2020
[Kittty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Ne2 Nbc6

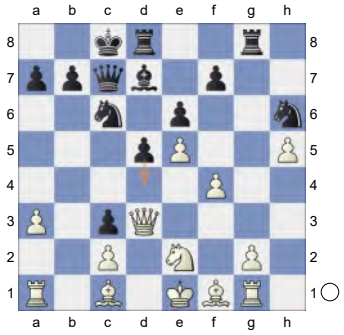


11.f4
[11.cxd4 Nxd4! 12.Ra2 Nxe2 13.Bxe2 Rxg2=]
11...dxc3 12.h4 Bd7 13.h5 0-0-0
White is better. **14.Qd3**
[14.Qxf7? Rdf8 15.Qh7 Nf5-+]
14...Nf5 15.Rg1
[15.Nxc3? Nxe5! 16.fxe5 Qxe5+ 17.Kf2 *(17.Kd1? Rg3-+)* 17...Rg3-+]
[15.h6 Rg6 16.h7 Rh8 17.Be3 d4 18.Bf2 Qa5 19.Rh3 f6 20.Nxd4 fxe5 21.Nxf5 exf5 22.Rd1 Rg7 23.Qxc3

Qxc3+ 24.Rxc3 exf4 25.Bxa7 Rhxh7 26.Bc5 Be8 27.Bd6 Rh4 28.Kf2 Rd7 29.Rdd3 Bh5 Simonsen,D (2730)-9.Qd2 Nd7 10.Bf2 Nf5 (2674) Celle 2012 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (33)]

15...Nh6N

[15...Qb6 16.g4 Kb8 17.Rg2 Nh6 18.g5 Nf5 19.Nxc3 Na5 20.Rb1 Qc5 21.Rb4 Rc8 22.Na4 Bxa4 23.Rxa4 Nc4 24.c3 a5 25.Qb1 Nb6 26.Bb5 Nxa4 27.Bxa4 Qxc3+ 28.Bd2 Qxa3 29.Bc2 Qf3 30.Rf2 Juhasz,A (2296)-Giang,T (2067) Budapest 2023 0-1 (36)]



16.Nxc3 0.14/18

[16.Rb1± 0.57/18]

16...Na5 0.79/17

[16...Ne7= 0.14/18]

17.Be2± Ng4 18.Be3 Against Qc5

18...Kb8 1.08/18

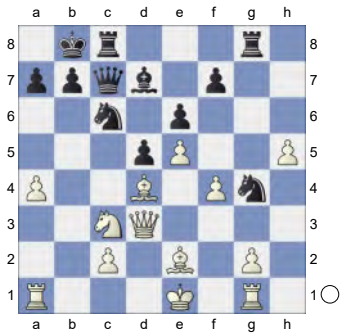
[18...Bc6± 0.70/18]

19.Bd4 Rc8 20.a4 0.39/19

[20.g3± 0.86/19]

20...Nc6!±

(Diagram)



21.Nb5↑ Black is under pressure.

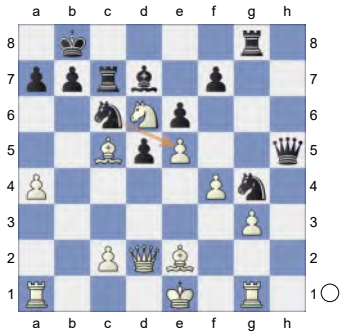
21...Qa5+ 0.79/20

[21...Qd8!= 0.29/19 remains equal. 22.c3 Qh4+ 23.g3 Qxh5]

22.Qd2± Qd8 23.Bc5 This bishop pair is nice. **23...Qh4+ 24.g3 Qxh5 25.Nd6** 0.73/19

[⌓25.c4! 1.31/19]

25...Rc7



26.Rb1 Ka8? 3.17/21

[26...Qh7± 0.75/18 is a better defense.]

27.a5? 0.87/19

[27.Nb5!+- 3.17/21 is the precise move to win. Rgc8 28.Bxg4 Qxg4 29.Bd6 *(29.Nxc7+ Rxc7 30.Bd6 Rc8±)*]

27...Qh2 28.Bxg4 1.57/18 The board is on fire.

[⌓28.a6 1.14/23 b6 29.Bxg4 Qxd2+ 30.Kxd2]

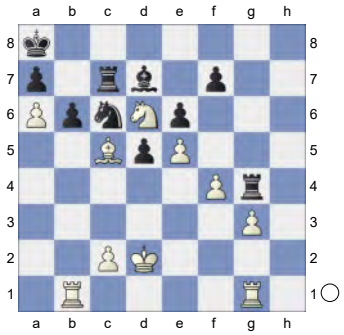
28...Qxd2+ 29.Kxd2 Rxg4 30.a6 0.65/21

[30.Nxf7?! Nxa5 31.Bf2 Nc4+ 32.Ke1 a6=]

[30.Rh1!± 0.96/21 Rg8 31.Rh7 *(31.Nxf7 Nxa5 32.Bd4 Nc4+ 33.Kd1 Rxg3=)*]

30...b6 1.26/22

[30...bxa6± 0.65/21 31.Rh1 *(31.Nxf7 Bc8=)* 31...Rg8]



31.Bf2 0.56/22

[Better is 31.Rh1!± 1.26/22 Nb8 *(31...Rxg3 32.Rh8+)* 32.Bf2]

31...Bc8 0.93/23

[31...Na5± 0.56/22 is more appropriate.]

32.Rh1 Rg8 Against Ne8 **33.Rh7 Rf8** 1.34/20

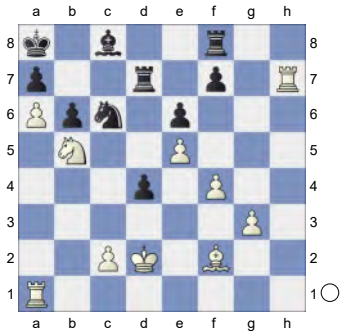
[⌓33...Bxa6 0.91/20 34.Rxf7 Rxf7 35.Nxf7 Na5]

34.Nb5 0.58/22 0x0.001fbb6f3187dp-1022s more active pieces.

[34.g4± 1.34/20]

34...Rd7± 35.Ra1 d4 1.08/22

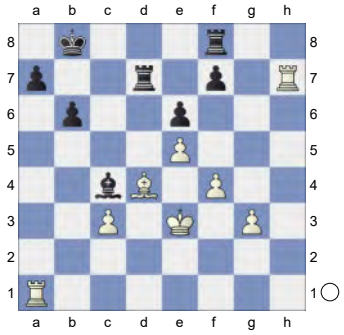
[35...Kb8± 0.63/20]



36.Nd6 Na5 37.Bxd4 Bxa6 38.Ke3 Kb8 39.c3 0.27/20

[39.g4± 1.02/21]

39...Nc4+= 40.Nxc4 Bxc4

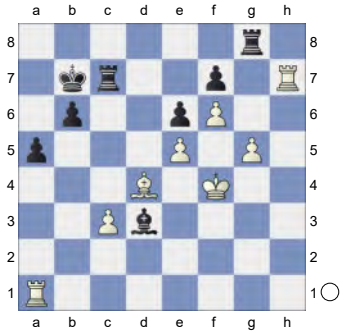


41.g4 Rc7

[41...Rg8!?]

42.f5 Rg8 43.Kf4 Kb7! 44.f6 a5 45.g5 Threatens to win with Rg7.

45...Bd3!



46.Rh2 Kc6? 2.12/23

[46...Ka6= 0.01/22]

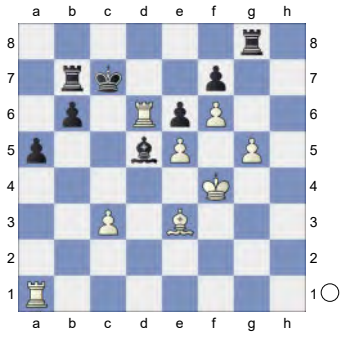
47.Rb2+- Rb7 48.Rd2 0.90/21

[48.Rd1!+- 1.63/23 Bg6 49.Bxb6!]

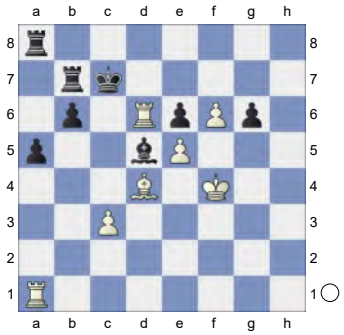
48...Bc4 2.10/22

[48...Bf5± 0.90/21]

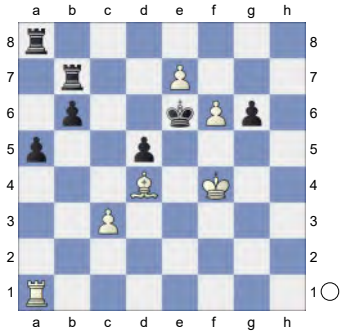
49.Be3 aiming for Rd6+. **49...Kc7 50.Rd6 Bd5**



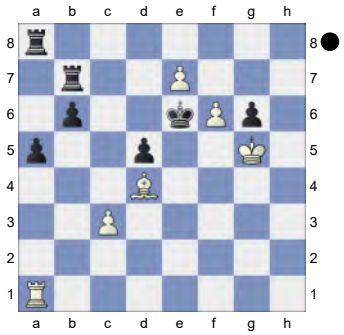
51.Bd4 1.33/20
[51.Rxd5!+- 2.93/20 is more deadly. exd5 52.e6 fxe6 53.Ke5 *(53.f7 Rf8±)*]
51...Ra8? 5.83/22
[51...Bb3± 1.33/20]
52.g6 fxg6



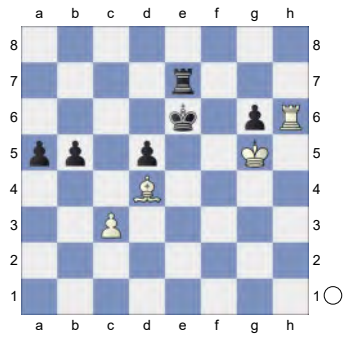
53.Rxd5 exd5 Endgame KRR-KRB
54.e6 1.66/18
[⌓54.Rh1 3.09/20]
54...Kd6 55.e7 -0.01/22
[55.Re1!+- 1.84/23 Rh7 56.f7]
55...Ke6=



56.Kg5 -1.16/21
[56.Be5!= -0.01/22]

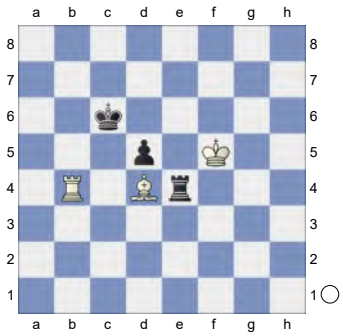


56...Rh8? 1.22/23
[56...Rbb8!∓ -1.16/21 stays on course. And now ...a4 would win. 57.Kf4 a4 58.Re1+ Kf7]
57.Rh1 -0.01/21
[57.Kxg6? Rg8+ 58.Kh5 Rbb8-+]
[Only move: 57.f7!± 1.22/23 Kxf7 58.Bxh8]
57...Re8 1.16/23
[57...Rc8= -0.01/21]
58.Rh7± Black must now prevent Rg7.
[58.Kxg6? Rg8+ 59.Kh7 Rbb8-+]
58...Rexe7 1.97/27
[58...Rbb8± 1.40/23 was worth a try.]
59.fxe7+-
[Worse is 59.Rxe7+ Rxe7 60.fxe7 Kxe7=]
59...Rxe7± KRB-KR **60.Rh6**
[Don't blunder 60.Kxg6? Rxh7 61.Kxh7 a4-+]
60...b5 2.14/23
[⌓60...Kd7 1.67/21 61.Bxb6 *(61.Rxg6 b5±)* 61...a4]

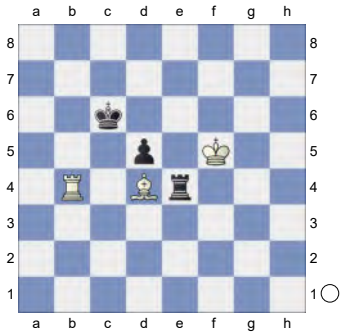


61.Rxg6++- Kd7 62.Rb6 b4 63.cxb4 1.43/26
[63.Kf5+- 1.81/22]
63...axb4 2.18/25
[63...Re4± 1.43/26]
64.Rxb4 Re4 65.Kf5 Kc6

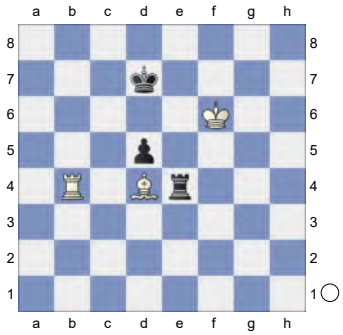
(Diagram)



66.Rb6+ Kc7 67.Rb4? -0.01/21
[White should play 67.Bg1+- 2.20/25]
67...Kc6!=

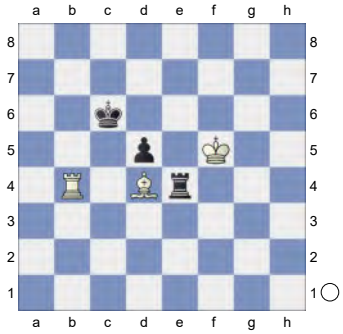


68.Kf6 2.40/24
[⌓68.Kg6! 1.89/26]
68...Kc7 69.Bb6+ 1.34/24
[White should try 69.Be5++- 1.79/23 Kc6 70.Rb8]
69...Kc6± 70.Bd4? 0.01/23
[70.Rb1± 1.55/21]
70...Kd7 1.38/23
[70...Kc7= 0.01/23 keeps the balance.]



71.Kf5 0.01/22
[71.Kg5± 1.38/23]

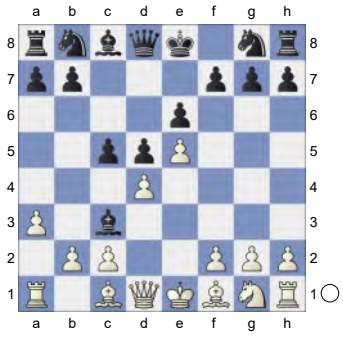
71...Kc6!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.48
½-½

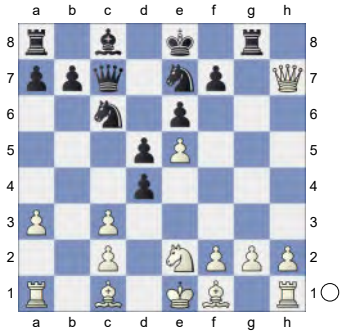
264 **C18**
□ **Tan,Justin** **2511**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2777**
PRO League Group Stage rapid (4)
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Ne2 Nbc6

(Diagram)



11.f4
[11.cxd4 Nxd4! 12.Ra2 Nxe2 13.Bxe2 Rxg2=]
11...dxc3 12.h4
[12.Nxc3!? Nxe5 13.Nb5=]
12...Bd7
[12...d4 13.h5
A) and not 13...b6?! 1.65/17 13...Bd7 0.88 14.h6! Bb7?? 2.91/19 *(14...Kf8±* 1.56/18 *)* 15.Qxg8+!+- Nxg8 16.h7+-;
B) 13...Bd7 is the main line these days.]
13.h5 0-0-0 White is slightly better.
14.Qd3
[14.Qxf7? Rdf8 15.Qh7 Nf5-+]
14...Nf5!? A tricky move order which risks losing time to g4, but has some positive points. Grischuk was likely trying to get his opponent out of the main lines as quickly as possible.
[14...d4 is more common.]
15.Rg1?! 0.45/20
[Another recent game Murray,B (1746)-Manojlovic, M (2024) Dublin IRL 2020 went 15.Rb1 d4 *(15...Kb8!?* 0.88/17 15...d4 0.39*)* 16.Rg1 , which transposes to the Tait Variation. Then a similar plan to the game is seen after Nh6!? *(16...f6* 0.83/16 16...Kb8 0.40 and*; 16...Be8* are the main moves here, as seen in several Archives games *)*
A) 17.Nxd4 is critical: Nxd4 *(17...Ne7!?* is interesting and I suspect the best try,*;* but *17...Be8?* 1.57/20 17...Ne7 1.12 *18.Nb5!* is essentially winning for White*)* 18.Qxd4
A1) 18...b6 1.36/21 18...Qa5 0.95 has lost a few games after 19.Rb3 *(or 19.Ba6+ Kb8 20.Qd6 Qxd6 21.exd6±)* 19...Rg3 20.Bd3**±**, as in Simmelink,J (2429)-Wiegner,D IECG email 1998;
A2) and 18...Kb8 is most easily met by 19.Be3 b6 20.Qd6, e.g., Qxd6 21.exd6 Ng4 22.Bd4 Bc6 2.23/21 *(22...Ba4±* 1.38/19 might work better.*)* 23.Bxc3 Rxd6 24.Rd1+-;
A3) 18...Qa5**±** 1.24/21;
A4) 18...Bb5 2.05/20 19.Qxa7+- Bxf1 20.Rxf1 Rxg2 21.Rf3!+-, e.g., Rdg8 22.Qa8+ Kd7 23.Rd3+ Ke7 (-> ...Rg1+) 24.Rxb7 Rxa8 25.Rxc7+ Kf8 26.Rdxc3 Strongly threatening Rc8+. Rg1+ 2.38/22 *(⌓26...Kg7* 1.88/21 *27.Bd2 Rh2 28.Rg3+ Kh8)* 27.Kd2+- Rg2+ 28.Ke3 Nf5+ 29.Kf3 Nh4+ 2.97/26 *(⌓29...Rg1* 2.04/20 *)* 30.Ke4+- Asgarizadeh,A (2407)-Wang,Y (2439) Al Ain 2015;
B) 17.Nxd4**±** 0.78/19 Nxd4 18.Qxd4;
C) 17.Ng3? -1.14/19 17...f6!**∓** 18.exf6 e5**∓** 19.Ne4?! -1.82/20 *(19.Qh7∓* -0.82/16 *exf4 20.Ne2)* 19...exf4-+ *(19...Bf5-+* -0.13/17 19...exf4 -1.99*)* 20.Be2? -2.59/17 *(20.Qf3∓* -0.78/17 *Rde8 21.Bxf4)* 20...Bf5!-+ 21.Qb5? -4.32/20 *(21.Kf1* -2.01/17 *Rde8 22.Bf3)* 21...Bxe4-+ 22.Bxf4 Qd7

(22...Qf7 23.Bxh6 Bxc2) 23.Bxh6 Bxc2 24.f7? -5.78/17 *(24.Rb4* -3.45/17 was necessary.*)* 24...Qxf7-+ 25.Qxc6+ bxc6 26.Ba6+ Kd7 27.Rb7+ Ke8 28.Rxf7 Kxf7-+]

[15.Qxc3 d4 0.76/19 *(⌓15...Qb6* 1.13/17 *)* 16.Qc4± f6 (1/2-1/2 Volokitin,A (2718) -Nisipeanu,L (2648) Mamaia 2012) and]

[15.h6 0.34/20 15.Qxc3 0.81 Rg6! 16.h7 Rh8 are very well-known variations. 17.Be3 d4 18.Bf2 Qa5 19.Rh3 f6 20.Nxd4 fxe5 21.Nxf5 exf5 22.Rd1 Rg7 23.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 24.Rxc3 exf4 25.Bxa7 Rhxh7 26.Bc5 Be8 27.Bd6 Rh4 28.Kf2 Rd7 29.Rdd3 Bh5 30.Rc4 Rg4 31.Bxf4 Re7 Simonsen,D (2730)-9. Qd2 Nd7 10.Bf2 Nf5 (2674) Celle 2012 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (33)]

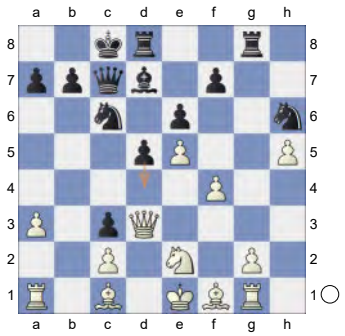
[15.Nxc3? Nxe5 16.fxe5 Rg3-+]

[15.Qxc3± 0.88/20 Kb8 16.Rb1]

15...Nh6N

[15...Qb6! prevents Rb1 and Be3 while covering d4 and attacking g1. 16.g4 Kb8 17.Rg2 Nh6 18.g5 Nf5 19.Nxc3 Na5 20.Rb1 Qc5 21.Rb4 Rc8 22.Na4 Bxa4 23.Rxa4 Nc4 24.c3 a5 25.Qb1 Nb6 26.Bb5 Nxa4 27.Bxa4 Qxc3+ 28.Bd2 Qxa3 29.Bc2 Qf3 30.Rf2 Qh1+ Juhasz,A (2296)-Giang,T (2067) Budapest 2023 0-1 (36)]

(Diagram)



16.Nxc3 -0.06/20

[16.Rb1!∞ see the previous note]

[16.Qxc3± 0.45/19 Kb8 17.Bd2]

16...Na5?! 0.60/17

[16...Ne7 and]

[16...Qa5 Threatens to win with ...d4. 17.Qd2! *(17.Bd2?* -0.92/21 17.Qd2 0.07 *Nb4)* 17...Qc5 are better options]

[16...Ne7= -0.06/20]

17.Be2 Ng4 0.98/18

[17...Nf5± 0.64/18]

18.Be3!± Kb8

[18...Nc4 19.Bd4!]

[18...Nxe3 1.44/18 18...Bc6 0.86 19.Qxe3 Kb8 20.g4!+-]

19.Bd4 Rc8 1.13/19

[19...Nc4 20.Rb1 Qa5]

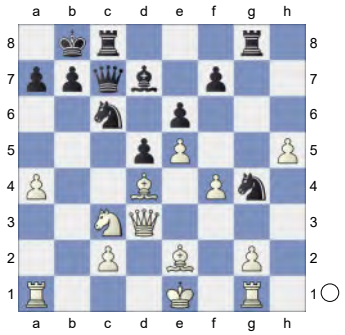
[⌓19...Nc4 0.82/18]

20.a4?! 0.53/19

[20.Rb1! Nc4 21.g3 keeps a solid advantage.]

[20.g3± 1.13/19]

20...Nc6!±



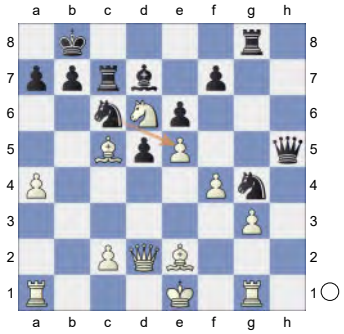
hitting b4. **21.Nb5 Qa5+** 1.04/20

[21...Qd8=]
[21...Qd8± 0.67/21 22.c3 Qh4+ 23.g3 Qxh5]

22.Qd2!± Qd8 23.Bc5!↑ Keeping Black busy. A strong pair of Bishops.

23...Qh4+ 24.g3 Qxh5 25.Nd6
[25.a5! 0.22/19 25.Bd6+ 0.86]

25...Rc7

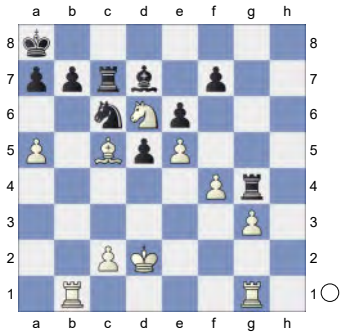


26.Rb1 Ka8? 3.33/20
[26...Qh3± 0.58/17]

27.a5? 0.37/18 It's a Rapids game, and thus White misses a number of decisive lines, e.g.,
[27.Nb5! with the idea Rcc8 5.34/20 *(⌓27...Rgc8* 3.45/20 *28.Bxg4 Qxg4)* 28.Nxa7!+- Nxa7 29.Qb4! b5 8.69/18 *(⌓29...Bb5* 4.34/18 *)* 30.Bxa7+-]
[27.Nb5!+- 3.33/20 Rgc8 28.Bxg4 Qxg4 29.Bd6 *(29.Nxc7+ Rxc7 30.Rb2 Qf5±)*]

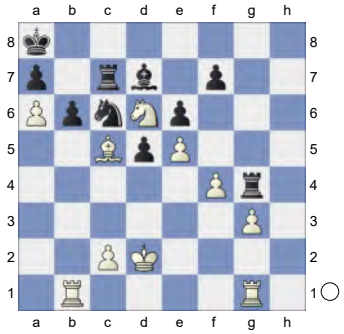
27...Qh2!? 1.29/23
[27...Bc8± 0.37/18]

28.Bxg4 Chess con chili. **28...Qxd2+ 29.Kxd2 Rxg4**



30.a6 0.51/21
[30.Bb6! axb6 31.axb6 Rc8 32.Nxc8 Bxc8 33.Rb3!+-]
[30.Nxf7 Nxa5 31.Bf2 Nc4+ *(31...Ba4?! 32.Ng5=)* 32.Ke1 Rg8=]
[30.Bb6!± 1.50/23 axb6 31.axb6]

30...b6 1.14/22
[30...bxa6± 0.51/21 31.Rh1 *(31.Nxf7 Bc8=)* 31...Rg8]



31.Bf2 0.69/21
[31.Rh1! Nb8 1.69/21 *(31...Rg8* 1.95/23 31...Rxg3 1.24 *32.Nb5 Rcc8 33.Bd6; 31...Rxg3±* 1.10/23 *32.Rh8+ Nb8 33.Bxb6 axb6 34.Rxb6 Rg2+ 35.Kd3 Rg3+ 36.Kd2 Bc8)* 32.Bf2±]
[31.Rh1!± 1.14/22 Nb8 *(31...Rxg3 32.Rh8+)* 32.Bf2]

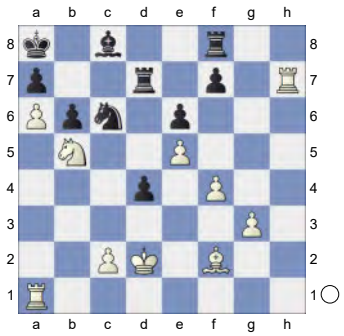
31...Bc8? 1.13/21
[31...Rg8±]
[31...Na5± 0.69/21]

32.Rh1 Rg8 Prevents Ne8. **33.Rh7** &Bianco is much more active. **33...Rf8** 1.89/23
[33...Bxa6± 1.02/20 34.Rxf7 Rxf7 35.Nxf7 Na5]

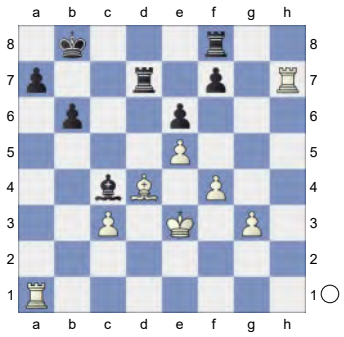
34.Nb5 0.86/21
[34.Rbh1 Bxa6 35.Rh8 Rb8 36.Rxb8+ Kxb8 37.Rh8+ Bc8 38.g4!+-]
[34.Rbh1+- 1.89/23]

34...Rd7 35.Ra1 d4 1.12/20
[35...Kb8± 0.47/18]

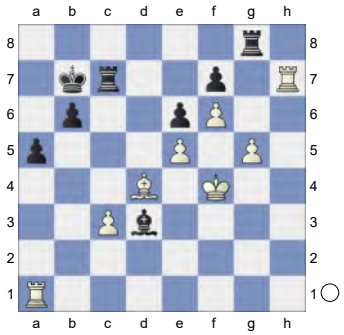
(Diagram)



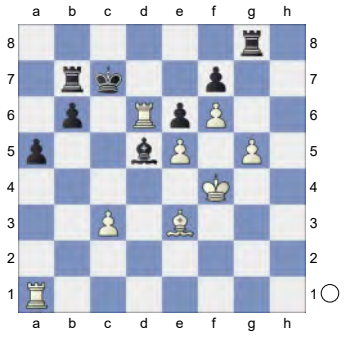
36.Nd6 Na5 37.Bxd4
[37.g4! Bxa6 38.g5 Bc8 39.Bxd4±]
37...Bxa6 38.Ke3 Kb8 39.c3 0.27/20
[39.Ra4± 1.30/18]
39...Nc4+!= 40.Nxc4
[40.Kf3 looks sharper. Bb7+ 41.Kf2 Nxd6 42.exd6 Rg8 43.c4]
40...Bxc4



41.g4 Rc7 0.43/19
[41...Rg8!= 0.01/20 should be considered.]
42.f5 Rg8 This is balanced, and the opposite-coloured bishops eventually secure the draw. **43.Kf4 Kb7 44.f6 a5! 45.g5 Bd3**



46.Rh2 Kc6 1.43/20
[46...Ka6! 47.Rb2 Rb8∓]
[46...Ka6= -0.01/21 remains equal.]
47.Rb2± Rb7 48.Rd2 0.60/21
[48.Rd1! Bg6 49.Bxb6! , although Rd7 Prevents Rd6+. 50.Rxd7 Kxd7 51.Bxa5 Kc6 will be drawn.]
[White must play 48.Rd1!± 1.59/23 Bg6 49.Bxb6!]
48...Bc4 2.07/20 Grischuk takes huge chances trying to keep things complicated.
[48...Bg6=]
[48...Bf5± 0.60/21]
49.Be3+- Kc7? And this should lose my guess is that he's trying to move instantly and intimidate his opponent..
50.Rd6!?
[50.Rad1! Bb5 Against Rd7+ 51.c4! Bc6 52.Rh2 Rbb8? 5.20/21 *(52...a4* 3.02/20 *53.Rh7 Be8)* 53.Rh7+- Be8 54.Rg7! Rf8 55.g6 a4 56.Rh7+-]
50...Bd5?! 3.82/23
[50...Bb3 1.96/19 was called for. 51.c4 a4]



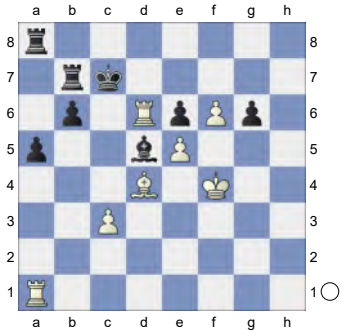
51.Bd4?! 1.19/20
[51.c4! Bxc4 *(51...Bc6 52.Rg1!±* and g5 next. *Be8 53.g6 fxg6 54.Rxe6)* 52.Rh1+- and Black is helpless in the face of Rh7, e.g.,. Rh7 is the strong threat. a4 53.Rh7 Kb8 54.Rxb6 Rxb6 55.Bxb6 Kb7 56.Be3 Kc6 57.Rxf7 a3 58.Ra7 a2 10.16/19 *(⌓58...Bd3* 5.10/18 *59.Rxa3 Bf5*

60.Ra6+ Kb7) 59.f7 etc.]
[51.Rxd5!+- 3.82/23 has better winning chances. exd5 52.e6 fxe6 53.Ke5 *(53.f7 Rf8±)*]

51...Ra8? 6.53/22
[51...Bb3± 1.19/20]

52.g6!?
[52.Rxd5! exd5 53.e6 fxe6 54.g6 and the pawns can't be stopped.]

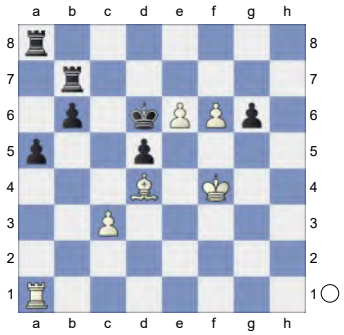
52...fxg6



53.Rxd5 exd5 Endgame KRR-KRB

54.e6 1.67/19
[54.Re1 Re8 55.Kg5+-]
[⌓54.Re1 4.21/21]

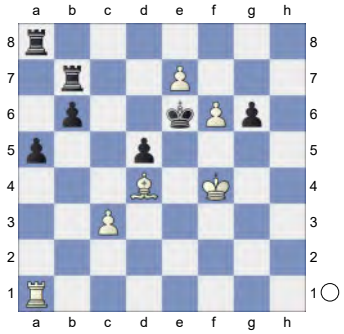
54...Kd6



55.e7 0.01/23
[55.Re1! Rh7 56.Kg4± *(56.f7* Hoping for Kg5. *Rh5!)*]
[55.Re1± 1.50/25 Rh7 56.f7]

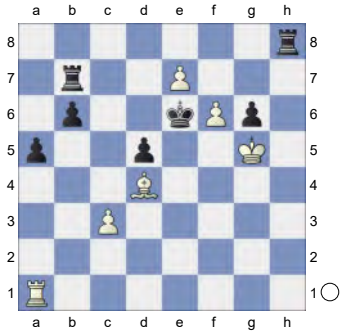
55...Ke6=

(Diagram)



Whoops. **56.Kg5** -1.01/19
[56.Be5!= -0.01/21 keeps the balance.]

56...Rh8? 1.58/25
[56...Rbb8∓ -1.01/19 57.Kf4 a4 58.Re1+ Kf7]



57.Rh1!! -0.01/20 **Re8?** 1.50/22
[57...Rc8= -0.01/20]
[57...Rbb8 58.f7]

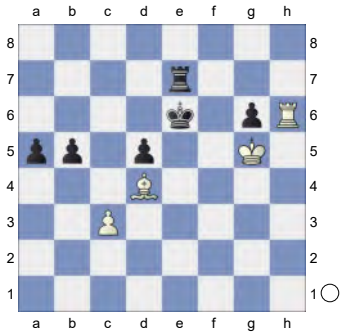
58.Rh7±
[58.Kxg6? Rg8+ 59.Kh7 Rbb8-+]

58...Rexe7 1.94/26
[58...Rbb8 59.Kxg6 -0.01/22 *(*Better is *59.Be3±* 1.36/21 *)* 59...a4= 60.Rg7 Black must now prevent f7. a3 61.f7! Rxe7 62.Rg8 Rxf7 63.Rxb8 Ra7 64.Rxb6+ Kd7=]
[58...Rbb8± 1.50/24 is a better defense.]

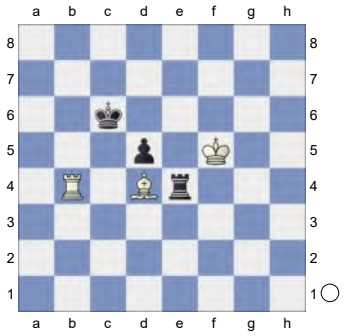
59.fxe7+-
[Worse is 59.Rxe7+ Rxe7 60.fxe7 Kxe7=]

59...Rxe7± KRB-KR **60.Rh6**
[Not 60.Kxg6? Rxh7 61.Kxh7 a4-+]

60...b5? 3.26/24
[60...Kd7 1.68/21 keeps fighting. 61.Bxb6 *(61.Rxg6 b5±)* 61...a4]

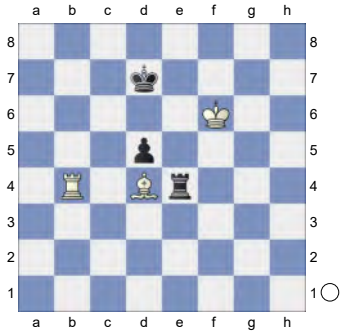


61.Rxg6++- Kd7 62.Rb6 1.86/23
[⌓62.Ra6 3.38/22]
62...b4 63.cxb4 axb4 2.56/26
[⌓63...Re4 1.76/27]
64.Rxb4 Re4 65.Kf5 Kc6

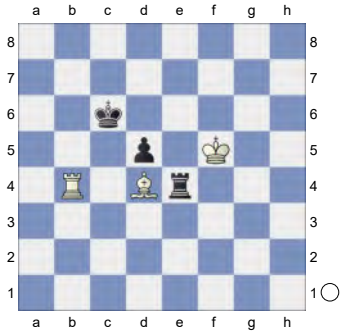


66.Rb6+ Kc7 67.Rb4? 0.01/23
[67.Bf2+- 3.08/21 Re8 68.Rf6]
67...Kc6!= 68.Kf6 Kc7? 3.24/22
[68...Kd6± 1.53/25]
69.Bb6+ 1.35/20
[69.Be5++- 3.24/22 and the rest is easy. Kc6 70.Rb8]
69...Kc6± 70.Bd4? -0.01/21
[70.Rb1+- 1.82/22]
70...Kd7? 2.46/23
[70...Kc7= -0.01/21 and Black is okay.]

(Diagram)



71.Kf5? 0.01/24
[White should play 71.Kg5+- 2.46/23 And now Kf5 would win. Kc6 72.Kf6]
71...Kc6!

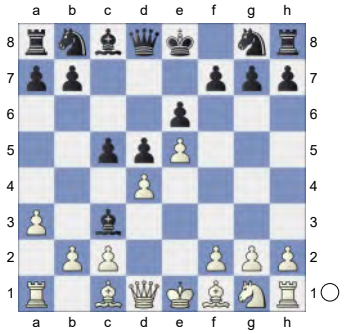


A massive fight.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/ Black=0.59
½-½

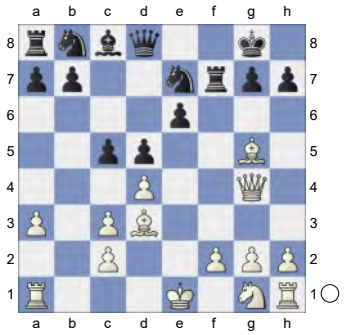
265 **C18**
□ **Arnason,Jon Loftur** **2510**
■ **Mcdonald,Neil** **2375**
45/333 Oakham 1988
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

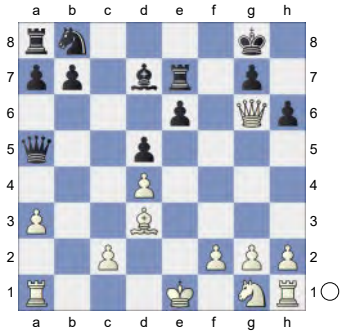
(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7



11.Qh4 h6 12.Bxe7 Rxe7 13.Qg3 cxd4 14.cxd4 Bd7 15.Qg6 The position is equal. **15...Qa5+**

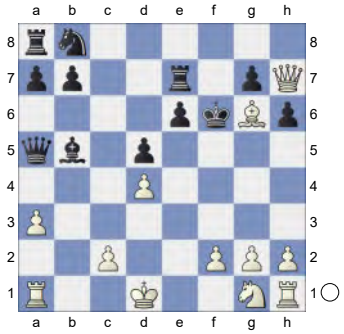


16.Kd1 Threatening Qh7+. **16...Bb5**

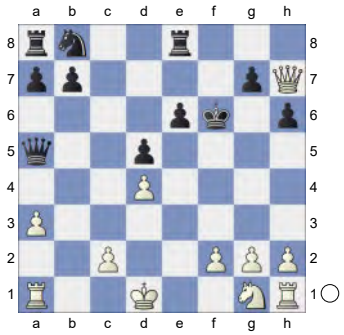
[16...Qc3 17.Rb1 e5 18.dxe5 *(18.Ne2 Qxa3 19.Qh7+ Kf7±)* 18...Rxe5 19.Qh7+ *(19.Ne2 Qxa3 20.g4 b6±)* 19...Kf7 20.Ne2 *(20.Nf3 Re6±)* 20...Qxa3 21.g4± *(21.Rxb7 Qa1+ 22.Nc1 Re7±)*]

17.Qh7+ Kf7! 18.Bg6+ Kf6

(Diagram)



Threatens to win with ...Nd7. **19.Bh5→** White has some attack. **19...Be8** Prevents Qg6+. **20.Bxe8 Rxe8**



21.Ne2 Against Qc3. aiming for Nf4.

21...Qa4N 1.11/22

[21...Nd7!= 0.01/19 remains equal.]

22.Rb1 0.79/20

[⌓22.h4 1.11/22]

22...Nc6 23.Rb3

[23.h4!? Rh8 24.Qd3±]

23...Nxd4 2.15/20

[23...Rac8± 0.84/19]

24.Rb4+-

[Not 24.Rxb7? Nf5 25.Rb4 Qxa3-+]

24...Qxa3 3.22/21

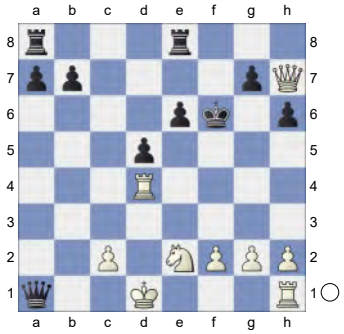
[⌓24...Qxc2+ 1.95/18 25.Qxc2 Nxc2 26.Kxc2 Rac8+ 27.Kd2 b6]

25.Rxd4 Chess con chili.

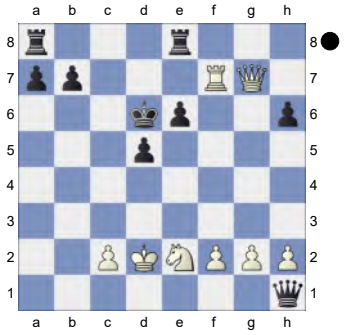
[But not 25.Rxb7? Qa1+ 26.Kd2 Qa5+ 27.Kd1 Nf5-+]

25...Qa1+

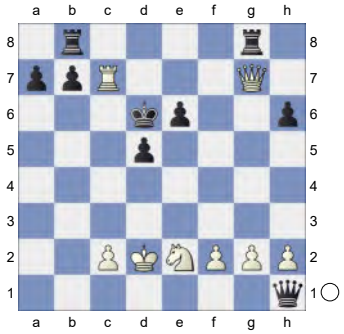
(Diagram)



26.Kd2 Qxh1? 13.50/23
[26...Qa5+ 3.75/20 27.Nc3 Rac8 28.Rf4+ Ke7 29.Qxg7+ Kd8]
27.Rf4+
[And not 27.Rg4 Re7 28.Rg6+ Ke5=]
27...Ke7 28.Qxg7+ Kd6 29.Rf7

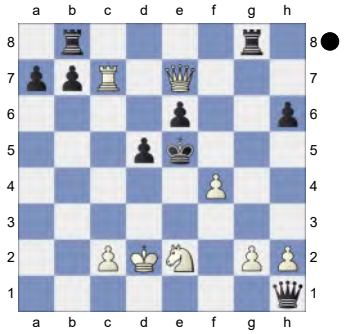


Threatening mate with Rd7+. **29...Rab8**
30.Rc7 Intending f4 and mate. **30...Rg8**



31.Qe7+ Ke5 32.f4+ 4.44/5
[⌂32.Qf7 #5/13 Qc1+ 33.Kxc1 Kd6 34.f4 Rg7 35.Qxg7 h5 36.Qe7#]

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.81
1-0

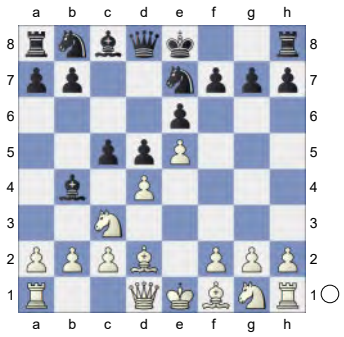
266 **C17**
□ **Vakhidov,Jahongir** **2507**
■ **Cheparinov,Ivan** **2623**
Wch Blitz Almaty (14) 30.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines
Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand,V: 'Inf 42/356'' Chandler,Murray G: 'Chandler,M: 'Inf 42/359'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N**
[4...Qd7 5.a3 *(5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.Bd2 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bb7 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 0-0-0 11.h4 Nh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Qf4 Rdg8 15.g3 Rg6 16.Qd2 a6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.Nf4 Nc4 19.Qc1 Rg4* Anand,V (2791)-Kamsky,G (2725) Nice FRA 2009 [Mikhalevski, V] 1-0 (62)*; 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd2 Bf8 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 a5 9.Bb3 Ba6 10.a3 Ne7 11.Ne2 a4 12.Ba2 c5 13.0-0 Nbc6 14.Re1 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.f4 Bc5 19.f5 Ne7* Anand,V (2420)-Seirawan,Y (2580) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Anand,Viswanathan] ½-½

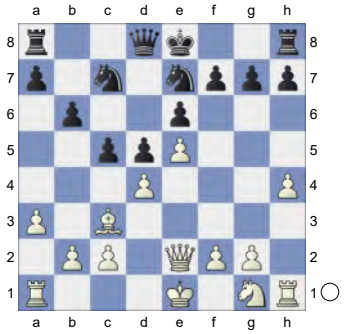
(45)) 5...Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.a4 Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qg4 f5 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qe2 Nb8 12.h4 h6 13.a5 Nc6 14.axb6 cxb6 15.Nh3 Nge7 16.Nf4 Rg8 17.g4 0-0-0 18.Rg1 fxg4 19.Rxg4 Chapter 10 C21 Reti Variation-Godart,F Russia 1991 Inf 46 [Sverre Eugen Olsen] ½-½ (35)]

[4...b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 h5 10.0-0 Nh6 11.Re1 Be7 12.c3 g6 13.Nf4 Nf5 14.Nh3 Bb5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Bg5 Nc6 17.Bf6 Bxf6 18.exf6 Qd8 19.dxc5 Chandler,M (2565)-Vaganian,R (2600) Dubai 1986 CI1-130 [Chandler,Murray G] 1-0]

5.Bd2 Ne7



6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 b6 8.h4 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Qe2 White has an edge. **10...Nc7**

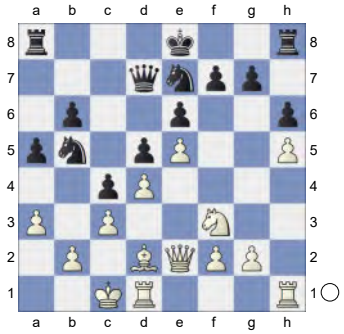


11.h5 h6 12.Nf3 Qd7 13.0-0-0 Nb5 14.Bd2 c4 0.83/20

[14...Nxd4= 0.19/18 15.Nxd4 cxd4]

15.c3 a5

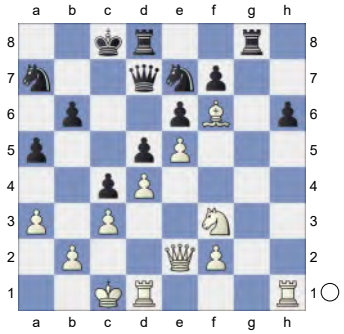
(Diagram)



16.g4 Na7 17.g5 hxg5 18.Bxg5 0-0-0 19.h6 gxh6 20.Bf6

[Of course not 20.Rxh6?! Rxh6 21.Bxh6 Nf5=]

20...Rhg8



21.Rxh6 Rdf8 22.Rh7 Nac6 1.59/20

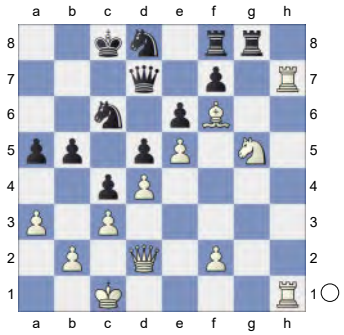
[⌓22...Nf5 0.73/19]

23.Ng5± Nd8 24.Rdh1 b5 25.Qd2 1.11/17 0x0.001fbb6f3187dp-1022s more active pieces. The black rooks are badly placed.

[⌓25.Qh5 1.50/18 Nec6 26.f4]

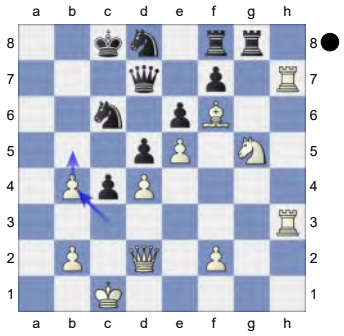
25...Nec6 2.03/19

[25...Nf5± 1.11/17 was necessary.]

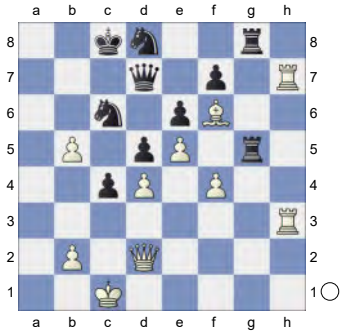


26.R1h3 b4 27.axb4 0.78/18

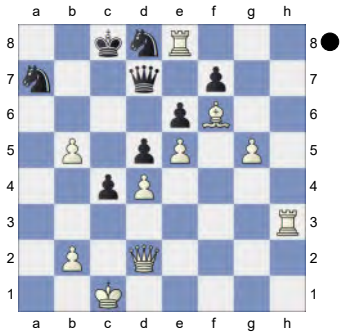
[Don't take 27.cxb4 axb4 28.axb4 Qb7]
[⮌27.f4 1.28/17]
27...axb4 28.cxb4



aiming for b5. **28...Rg6?** 4.23/20
[28...Qa7± 0.89/18]
29.f4? 1.43/19
[29.b5+- 4.23/20 is the precise move to win.]
29...Rfg8? 5.17/19 A mistake that costs the game.
[29...Qb7± 1.43/19]
30.b5+- White is clearly winning.
30...Rxg5



31.fxg5 Na7 32.Rh8 Re8 33.Rxe8



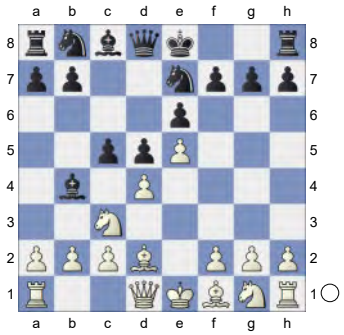
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.68
1-0

267 **C17**
□ **Shuvalova,Polina** **2506**
■ **Roebers,Eline** **2390**
FIDE Grand Swiss (Women) (1) 25.10.23
[Kitty Kat]

C17: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 sidelines
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]
[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3

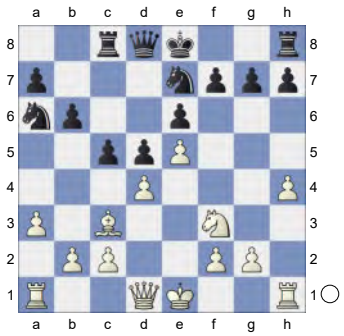
Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.Bd2 Ne7



6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 b6 8.Nf3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.h4 White has an edge.

10...Rc8



11.h5 h6 12.Qe2 Nb8 0.61/19

[12...cxd4= 0.27/18 13.Nxd4 Nc5]

13.Rh3 Qc7 14.g4 0.24/20

[14.0-0-0± 0.68/21 should be considered.]

14...Nbc6 0.55/20

[14...Nd7= 0.24/20 feels stronger.]

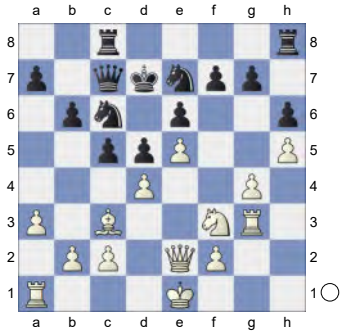
15.Rg3 0.19/19

[15.0-0-0± 0.55/20 is superior.]

15...Kd7 0.78/19

[15...cxd4= 0.19/19 16.Bxd4 0-0]

(Diagram)



16.dxc5 0.20/21

[16.0-0-0!± 0.78/19]

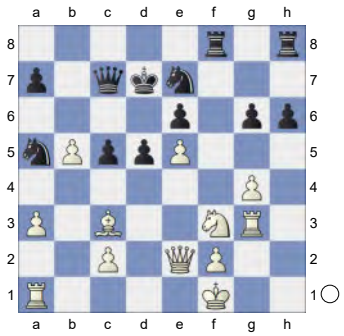
16...bxc5= 17.Kf1 g6 18.hxg6 fxg6 0.59/18

[18...Nxg6= -0.22/18 19.b4 h5]

19.b4± Rcf8 20.b5 -0.01/20

[20.bxc5± 0.55/17 Rf4 21.Rb1]

20...Na5=

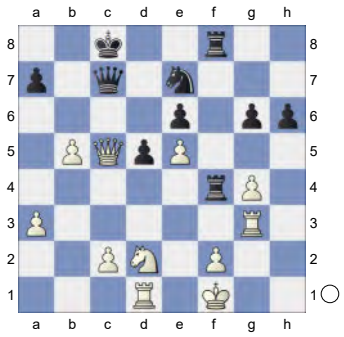


21.Rd1 Kc8 22.Nd2 Prevents Nc4.

22...Rf4 23.Bxa5 Qxa5 24.Qe3 Rhf8

[24...Qxb5+ 25.c4 Rxc4 26.Qd3±]

25.Qxc5+ Qc7



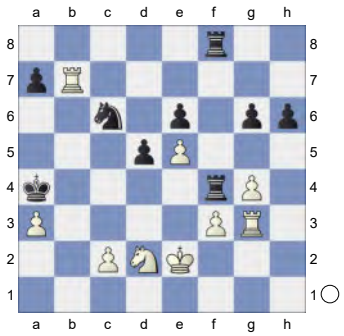
26.Qxc7+

[26.Nb3 is interesting. Rxf2+ 27.Kg1 Rxc2 28.Qd6]

26...Kxc7 27.f3 -0.54/20

[27.Rg2= -0.19/20]

27...Kb6!∓ 28.Ke2 Kxb5 29.Rb1+ Ka4 30.Rb7 Nc6



31.Rc7 Kb5 32.c3 -0.81/20

[32.Rh3= -0.22/20]

32...Ra4 -0.34/22

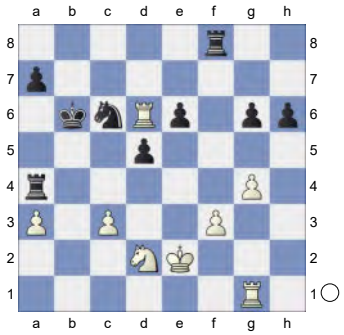
[32...Nxe5∓ -0.81/20 33.Rxa7 Ra4 34.Rxa4 Kxa4]

33.Rg1 Kb6

[33...Nxe5 34.Rb1+ Ka6 35.Nb3±]

34.Rd7 And now Rb1+ would win.

34...Nxe5 35.Rd6+ Nc6



Hoping for ...Rf6. **36.Rxe6** -0.01/19

[36.Rb1+∓ -0.35/21 Kc7 37.Rxe6]

36...g5 0.58/22

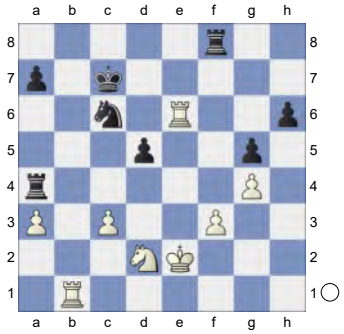
[36...Rxa3= -0.01/19 37.Rb1+ Kc7]

37.Rb1+±

[37.Rxh6 Rxa3 38.Rb1+ Kc7=]

37...Kc7

(Diagram)



38.Rb3 0.34/22

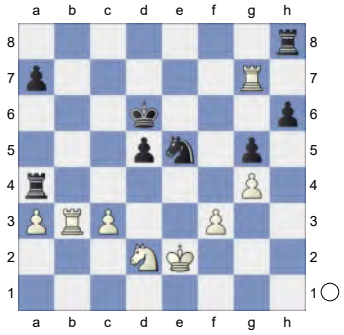
[Don't play 38.Rxh6 Re8+ 39.Kd3 Rxa3=]

[38.Rb5!± 0.78/21]

38...Rh8 39.Rg6 -0.01/20

[39.Rb5!± 0.39/20]

39...Ne5= 40.Rg7+ Kd6



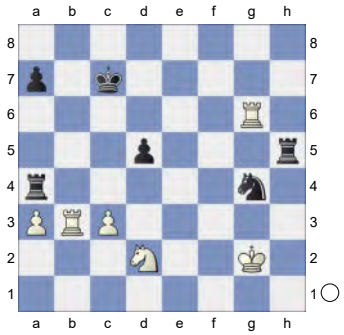
41.Kf2 h5 42.gxh5 Rxh5 43.Kg2 Prevents Rh2+. **43...g4**

[43...Rah4!? 44.Nf1 g4 45.fxg4 Rxg4+ 46.Rxg4 Nxg4=]

44.fxg4 Nxg4 -0.01/19

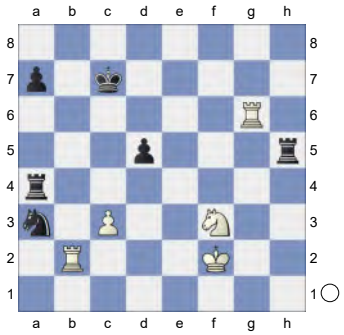
[44...Rxg4+∓ -0.53/21 45.Rxg4 Nxg4]

45.Rg6+ Kc7

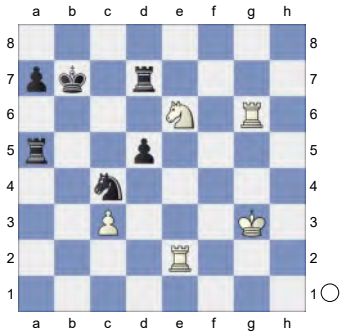


46.Rg7+ Kd6⇄ Black is not keeping still

47.Rg6+ Kc7 0.01/21
[47...Ke5∓ -0.39/22 is more appropriate. 48.Nf3+ Kf4]
48.Nf3 Ne3+ 49.Kf2 Nc2 50.Rb2 Nxa3

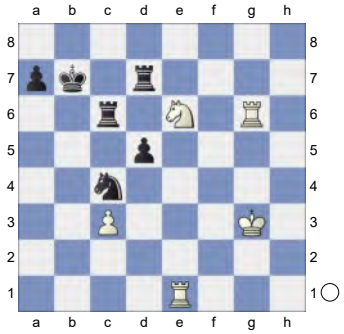


Active counter play! **51.Ra2 Ra5 52.Kg3** -0.65/22
[52.Rg7+= -0.01/22 Kb6 53.Rg6+ Kc7 54.Rg7+ Kd6 55.Rg6+ Kc7]
52...Nc4∓ 53.Re2 Rh7 Against Re7+ **54.Ng5 Rd7 55.Ne6+ Kb7**

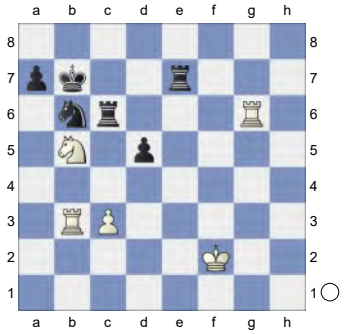


56.Re1 Rb5 Inhibits Rb1. **57.Nd4** -1.33/23
[⍝57.Nf8 -0.87/19 Rc7 58.Ne6]
57...Rb2 -0.64/19
[57...Rb6∓ -1.33/23 58.Ne6 a5 59.Nc5+ Kc7]
58.Ne6! Rb5 0.01/18 Inhibits Nc5+.
[58...Kc6∓ -0.79/21]
59.Nd4!= Rb6 60.Ne6 Rc6 -0.77/19
[Better is 60...a5 -1.37/19 Threatens to win with ...Ka7. 61.Nc5+ Kc7 62.Na6+ Kc8 63.Rxb6 Nxb6]

(Diagram)

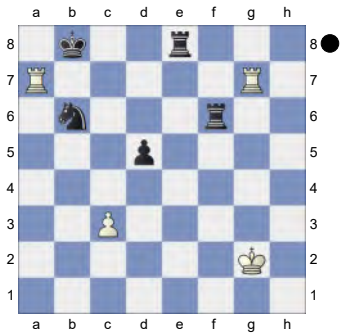


Against Nc5+ **61.Rb1+∓ Nb6 62.Rb3 Rc4 63.Kf2 Re7** -0.38/17
[63...Rd6∓ -0.73/19]
64.Nd4 Rc8 65.Nb5 Rc6 -0.28/19
[65...Rb8∓ -0.71/18]

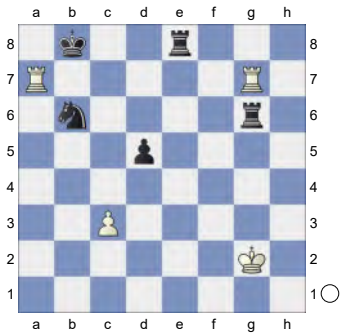


66.Nd6+ -1.08/23
[66.Ra3= -0.28/19 remains equal. Nc8 67.Rxc6 Kxc6 68.Nd4+ Kb6 69.Rb3+ Kc5 70.Rb4 *(70.Rb5+ Kc4∓)*]
66...Kb8 67.Ra3 -1.54/23
[White should try 67.Rg8+ -0.99/22 Kc7 68.Nb5+ Kb7 69.Ra3 *(69.Nd4 Rf6+ 70.Kg3 a5∓)* 69...Rf6+ 70.Kg2]
67...Re8 68.Rg7? -5.07/22 This costs White the game.
[68.Nxe8∓ -1.53/22 is more resistant. Rxg6 69.Ra5]
68...Rxd6-+ Black is clearly winning.
69.Raxa7 Rf6+ 70.Kg2

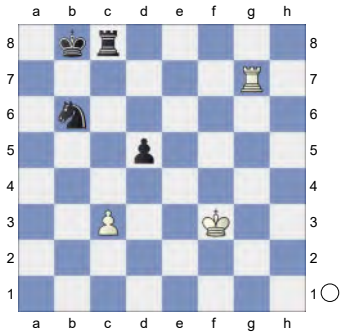
(Diagram)



Rg6+!!



71.Kf3 Rxg7 72.Rxg7 Rc8

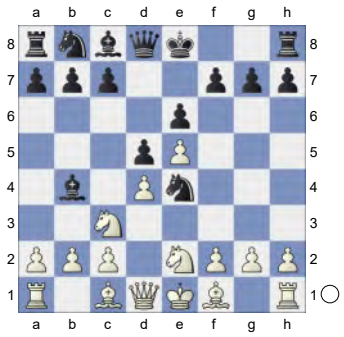


Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.19 (very precise)
0-1

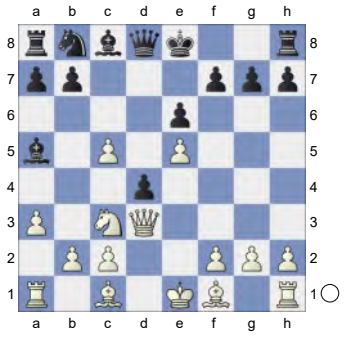
268 **C15**
☐ **Arnason,Jon Loftur** **2500**
■ **King,Daniel J** **2515**
49/286 Reykjavik 1990
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves

Nogueiras Santiago,Jesus: 'Nogueiras,J: 'Inf 77/(285)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.e5 Ne4**

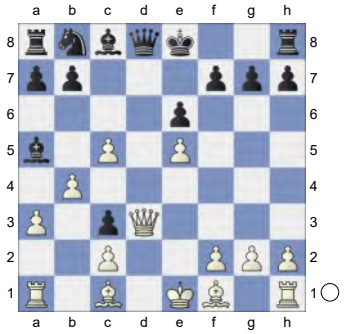


6.Qd3 c5N
[6...0-0 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.Nxc3 Nxc3 9.Qxc3 b6 10.Qg3 f5 11.exf6 Qxf6 12.Be3 Rf7 13.0-0-0 a5 14.h4 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Nxa6 16.h5 b5 17.Rh4 Perez Garcia,R (2478)-Adla,D (2470) Espana 77/(285) 1999 CI1-130 [Nogueiras Santiago,Jesus]]
7.a3 Ba5 0.58/20
[7...c4= 0.27/19 8.Qf3 Qa5]
8.dxc5± White is slightly better. **8...Nxc3 9.Nxc3 d4** 0.97/22
[9...0-0± 0.51/17]

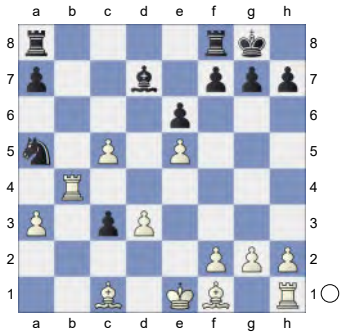


10.b4!± dxc3

(Diagram)

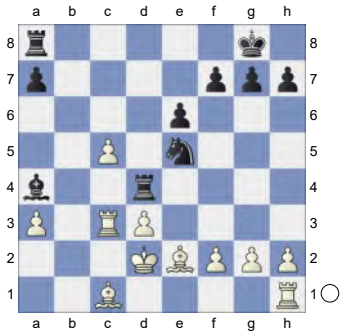


11.bxa5 Qxd3 12.cxd3 Bd7 13.Rb1 Nc6 14.Rxb7 Nxa5 15.Rb4 0-0!



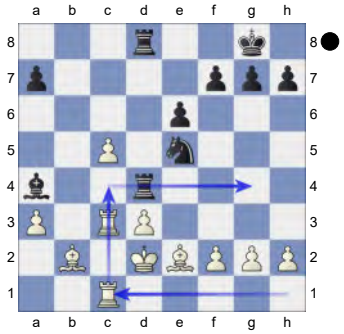
16.Kd1 Nc6 17.Rc4 Nxe5 18.Rxc3 Ba4+ 19.Kd2 Rfd8 20.Be2 Rd4 0.96/19

[20...Bc6± 0.47/20 is superior.]



White stays focused until the end. **21.Bb2** aiming for c6! **21...Rad8 22.Rhc1**

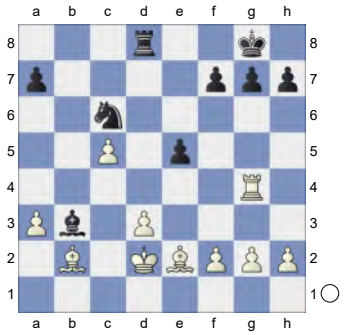
(Diagram)



c6 is the strong threat. **22...Nc6** 1.32/20

[⌓22...Bc6 0.99/23]

23.Rc4 Rxc4 24.Rxc4 Bb3 25.Rg4 e5



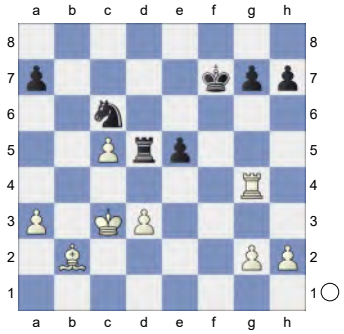
26.f4 f6 2.09/22

[26...h5± 1.53/22 keeps fighting.]

27.fxe5 fxe5 28.Bf3 Inhibits Rd5. **28...Bd5 29.Kc3** Threatens to win with Bxd5+. **29...Kf7** 2.53/20

[29...Bxf3± 1.58/22 30.gxf3 Rb8]

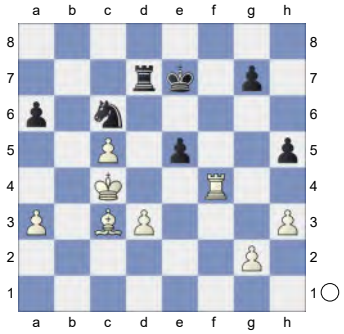
30.Bxd5++- Rxd5



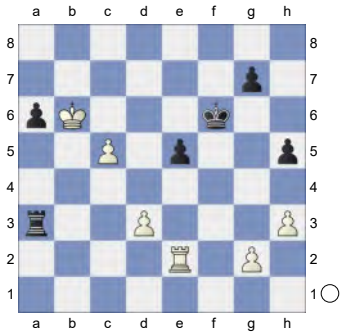
Endgame KRB-KRN **31.Kc4 Rd7 32.Bc3 Kf6 33.Re4 h5 34.h3 a6?** 3.64/25

[34...Ke6 1.97/21 was necessary. 35.Re3 Nd4]

35.Rf4+ Ke7



36.Rf2 Rb7 37.Kd5 Rb3 38.Kxc6 Rxc3 KR-KR **39.Re2 Kf6 40.Kb6 Rxa3**



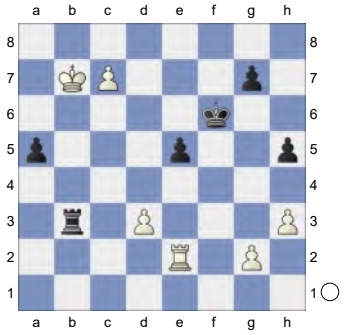
41.c6 Rc3 Inhibits Rc2. **42.Kb7** Black must now prevent c7. **42...a5?** 7.30/23

[42...Ke6 3.03/22 43.Re4 *(43.Kxa6 Rxc6+ 44.Kb5 Rd6=)* 43...Rb3+ 44.Kc8 *(44.Kxa6 Kd6=)* 44...Rxd3]

43.c7 Rb3+ 44.Ka7 Rc3 45.Kb7 0.01/20

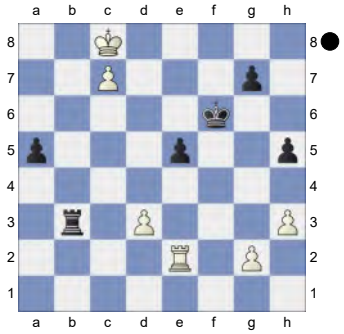
[45.Kb8+- 7.71/23]

45...Rb3+=



46.Kc8

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.20 (precise)

1-0

269 **C18**

☐ **Abdumalik,S.** **2491**

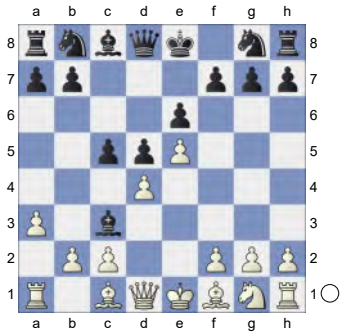
■ **Bellahcene,Bilel** **2508**

Battle of the Sexes 2022 (3.3) 26.01.22

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.a4 Qa5 8.Bd2 Nge7 9.h4 Bd7 White has an edge.

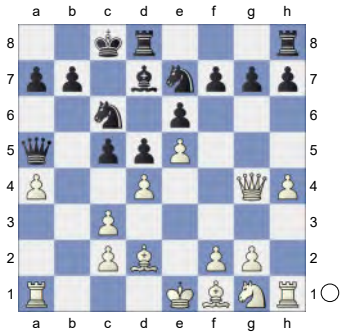
[9...Qc7 10.Nf3 Bd7 11.Bd3 f6 12.Bf4 c4 13.Be2 Ng6 14.Bg3 fxe5 15.dxe5 0-0 16.Qd2 h6 17.h5 Nge7 18.Bf4 Rf7 19.Rh3 Raf8 20.Bh2 Qb6 21.g4 Qb2 22.Rd1 Kh7 23.g5 Rf5 24.Rg3 Short,N (2698)-Kramnik, V (2800) London 2011 CBM 146

[Kramnik,Vladimir] 0-1 (43) Be8 25.Rh3 a5 26.Kf1 Nd8 27.Kg1 Bxa4 28.Nd4 Rxg5+ 29.Kh1 Rxf2 30.Bg3 Rxe2 31.Qxe2 Nf5 32.Bf4 Nxd4 33.cxd4 Bxc2 34.Bxg5 Be4+ 35.Qxe4+ dxe4 36.Bxd8 c3 37.Rg1 c2 38.Rhg3 g5 39.hxg6+ Kalinin,A (2350)-Chapter Part (2506) Khanty Mansiysk RUS 2023 Inf22 [Von Gottschall] 0-1 (43)]

10.Qg4N

[10.h5 Qc7 11.Nf3 f6 12.h6 fxe5 13.hxg7 Rg8 14.Rxh7 0-0-0 15.dxc5 Nf5 16.Ng5 e4 17.Qc1 Rxg7 18.Rxg7 Nxg7 19.Nf7 Rg8 20.Nd6+ Kb8 21.Rb1 Bc8 22.Ba6 Na5 23.Bf4 Nh5 24.Bxb7 1-0 (24) Pilnik,H-Trifunovic,P unknown 1948]

10...0-0-0



11.Nf3 f6 12.Qxg7 0.01/19

[12.h5± 0.38/17]

12...Nf5

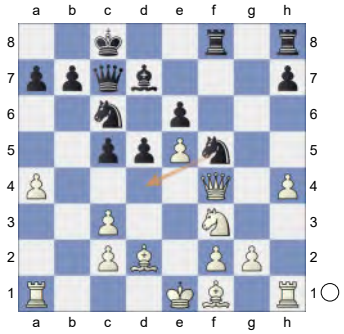
[12...Rhg8!? 13.Qf7 *(13.Qxf6 Rdf8∓; 13.Qxh7 Nf5=)* 13...Nf5∓]

13.Qg4

[But not 13.Qxf6 Rdf8 14.Qg5 Rhg8∓]

13...fxe5 14.dxe5 Qc7 15.Qf4 Rdf8

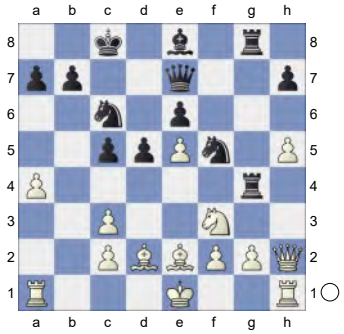
(Diagram)



Threatens to win with ...Nfd4! **16.Qh2! Be8 17.h5 Rhg8 18.Ng5**

[18.a5!?]

18...Qe7 19.Nf3 Rg4 Black has compensation. **20.Be2 Rfg8**



21.g3 Qc7 22.Kd1! Qa5 0.24/17

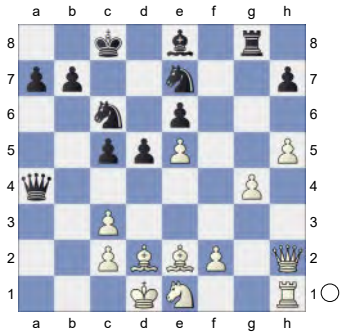
[⌓22...Na5! -0.13/16]

23.Ne1 -0.62/18

[23.Qh3!= 0.24/17]

23...Rxa4 0x0.001fbb6f315adp-1022s more active pieces. **24.Rxa4 Qxa4 25.g4 Nfe7** -0.16/18

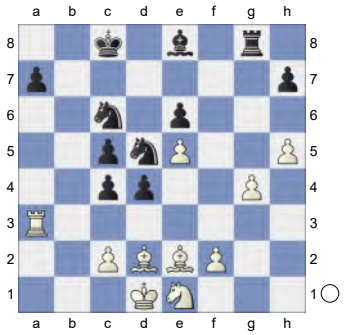
[25...Qa1+∓ -0.56/20 26.Bc1 Nfe7]



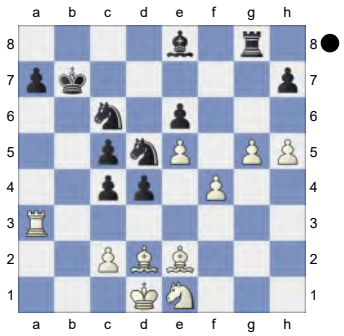
26.Qg3 -0.52/17

[26.Bf3= -0.16/18]

26...d4 -0.01/20
[26...Qa1+∓ -0.52/17 27.Bc1 a5]
27.c4!= b5 28.Rh3 -1.37/18
[28.Qd3= 0.12/18]
28...bxc4∓ 29.Qa3 Qxa3
[29...Nxe5? 30.Qxc5+ N7c6 31.Ra3+-]
30.Rxa3 Nd5
[Much weaker is 30...Nxe5?! 31.Rxa7 N5c6 32.Ra4=]

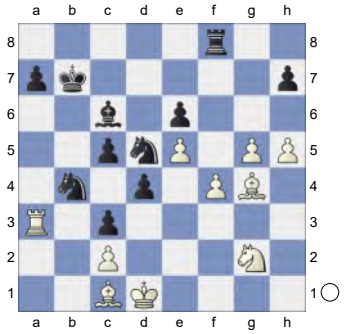


31.f4 -2.24/20
[31.Bxc4∓ -1.23/20 Rxg4 32.h6]
31...Kb7? -0.46/18
[Black should play 31...c3-+ -2.24/20 32.Bc1 a5]
32.g5? -2.86/19
[White has to play 32.Bxc4∓ -0.46/18 Rxg4 33.Nd3]

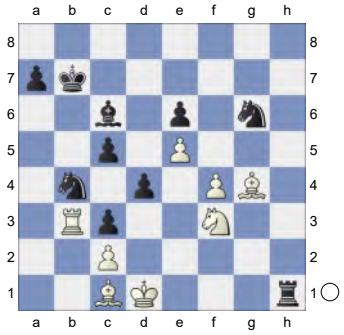


Now White is beyond hope. **32...c3!-+**
33.Bc1 Ncb4 34.Bg4 Rf8 35.Ng2 Bc6

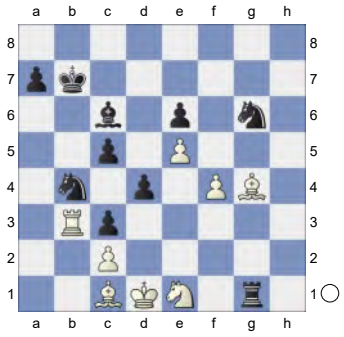
(Diagram)



36.g6? -5.82/20
[36.Bh3 -3.17/18]
36...hxg6 Black is clearly winning.
[Stronger than 36...Nxc2 37.Kxc2 Nb4+ 38.Kd1 Bxg2 39.g7∓]
37.hxg6 Ne7 Pair of Knights! **38.Nh4 Rh8 39.Nf3 Nxg6 40.Rb3 Rh1+**



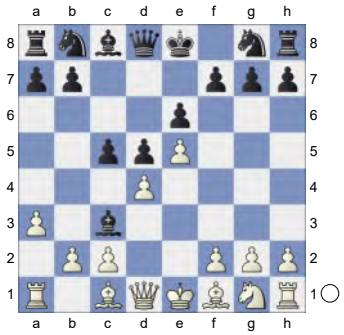
41.Ne1 Rg1



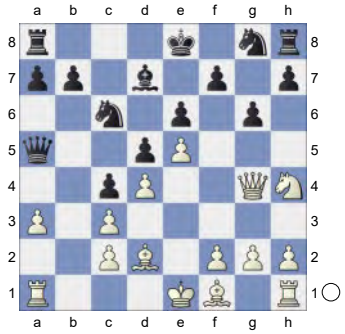
Weighted Error Value: White=0.55/ Black=0.22 (precise)
0-1

270 **C18**
□ **Martinez Duany,Lelys Stanley** **2486**
■ **Carrasco Martinez,Juan Manuel**
TCh-ESP 2nd Div 2023 (2.16) 14.08.2023
[Kitty Kat]

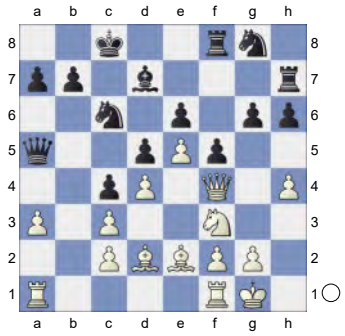
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Maksimovic,Branimir: 'Maksimovic,B: 'Inf 56/(313)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Qa5
[7...Bd7 8.h4 Qa5 9.Bd2 c4 10.a4 0-0-0 11.h5 f5 12.Qc1 Nh6 13.Qa3 Nf7 14.Be2 Rdg8 15.Kd1 g5 16.h6 g4 17.Ne1 Ng5 18.f3 gxf3 19.gxf3 Nf7 20.Bf1 Rg6 21.Ng2 Rhg8 22.Nf4 Bologan,V (2683)-Volkov,S (2612) Moscow 2005 CBM 106 [Mueller,Karsten] ½-½ (78)]
8.Bd2
[8.Qd2 b6 9.Bd3 Ba6 10.0-0 h6 11.a4 Nge7 12.Ba3 Bxd3 13.Qxd3 cxd4 14.cxd4 Rc8 15.c3 Nb8 16.Qb5+ Nbc6 17.Rfc1 Qxb5 18.axb5 Na5 19.Nd2 a6 20.bxa6 Ra8 21.Bc5 Rxa6 22.Bxb6 Rxb6 Isetoft,B (2208)-QGA/13 (2168) Jugoslavija 46/(431) 2023 CBM 068 ext [John Watson] ½-½ (33)]
8...c4N
[8...Qa4 9.h4 *(9.dxc5 f6 10.Nd4 Nxd4 11.cxd4 Qxd4 12.Bb5+ Bd7 13.Bxd7+ Kxd7 14.0-0 Ne7 15.exf6 gxf6 16.Rb1 Rab8 17.Rb4 Qxc5 18.Be3 Qa5 19.c4 b5 20.cxb5 Rxb5 21.Ra4 Qc7 22.Rxa7 Rb7 23.Qa4+ Nc6* Kumar,N (2490)-E5 Others (2355) Hilversum 2000 Telechess CBM 89 [Seeliger, FS 2/1988 p33]*)* 9...f6 10.Rb1 c4 11.Bc1 Qa5 12.Qd2 fxe5 13.dxe5 Nh6 Sibarevic,M (2350)-Maksimovic,B (2325) Jugoslavija (ch) 56/(313) 1992 CI1-130 [Maksimovic,Branimir]]
9.Nh4 Bd7 10.Qg4 White is slightly better. **10...g6**

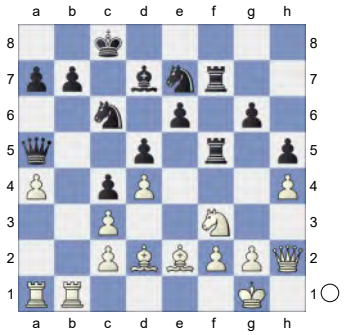


11.Qf4 0.13/19
[11.Be2± 0.64/17]
11...h6= 12.Nf3 Rh7 0.51/18
[12...Qa4= 0.00/19]
13.h4 0-0-0 14.Be2 Rf8 15.0-0 0.16/21
[15.a4± 0.59/19 should be considered.]
15...f5!

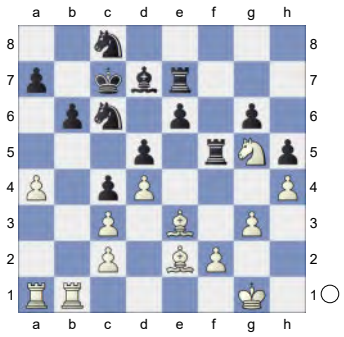


16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Qh2 Nge7 0.69/19
[17...Rf5= 0.26/19 was preferrable.]
18.Rfe1 Rhf7 0.76/18

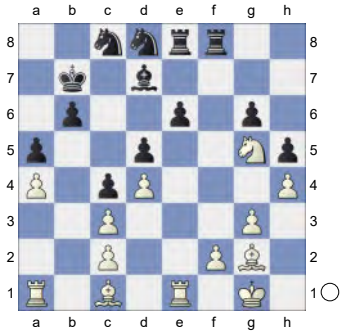
[18...Rff7⩲ 0.43/19]
19.a4
[Reject 19.Bxh6?! Qxc3 20.Bg5 Nxd4 21.Bxf6 Nxf3+ 22.Bxf3 Qxf6=]
19...Rf5 20.Reb1 h5



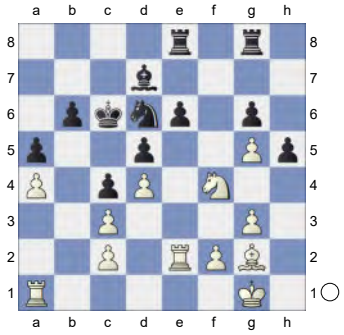
21.Qd6 aiming for Rxb7! **21...Qc7 22.Qxc7+ Kxc7 23.Be3 Nc8 24.Ng5 Re7 25.g3 b6**



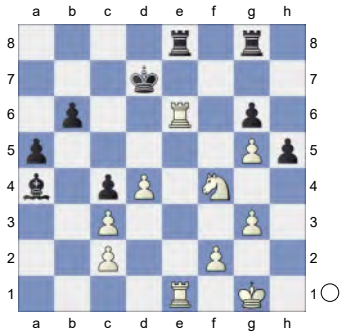
26.Bf4+ Kb7 27.Bf3 a5 28.Re1 Nd8 29.Bg2 Rf8 30.Bc1 Ree8



31.Nh3 0.79/20
[⌓31.Bh3 1.19/19]
31...Rg8 1.11/20
[⌓31...Nd6 0.79/20]
32.Bg5⩲ Nf7 33.Nf4 1.34/22
[⌓33.Bf6 0.96/20]
33...Kc6 34.Re2 0.59/20
[34.Bf6⩲ 1.26/22]
34...Nxg5⩲ 35.hxg5 Nd6

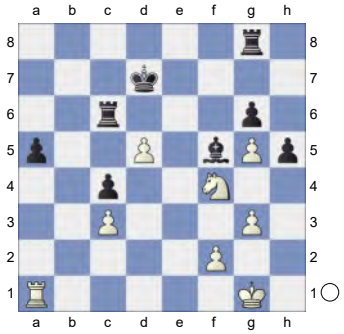


36.Rae1 Ne4? 1.67/22
[36...b5= 0.03/21]
37.Bxe4+- dxe4 38.Rxe4 Kd6 2.28/22
[⌓38...Kc7 1.80/22]
39.Re5 Bxa4 40.Rxe6+ 0.95/23
[40.Nxe6 Bxc2 41.Nf4 Rxe5 42.dxe5+ Kc5=]
[40.Rb1+- 1.74/23]
40...Kd7⩲

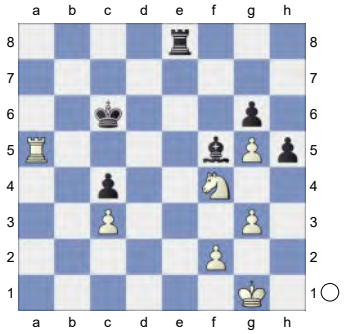


41.d5 0x0.001fbb6f3187dp-1022s more active pieces. **41...Bxc2** White must now prevent ...Bf5. **42.Rc1 Bf5 43.Rxb6 Rb8** 1.40/23 Prevents Rb7+.
[⌓43...a4 0.88/22]
44.Rc6 Rbc8 1.23/20
[Black should play 44...Rgc8 1.57/21]
45.Ra1 And now Rxc8 would win.
45...Rxc6

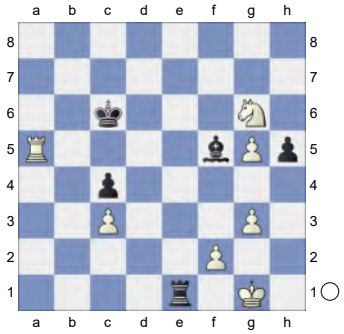
(Diagram)



46.dxc6+ Kxc6 47.Rxa5 Re8 2.33/22
[47...Rb8± 1.41/22 is a better defense. 48.Ra6+ Kb5]

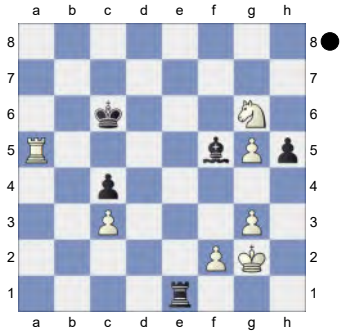


48.Nxg6!+- Re1+



49.Kg2!
[Less strong is 49.Kh2 Be4 50.g4 *(50.Ne5+ Kb6∓)* 50...Rh1+ 51.Kg3 Rg1+ 52.Kf4 Rxg4+ 53.Ke3 Bxg6±]

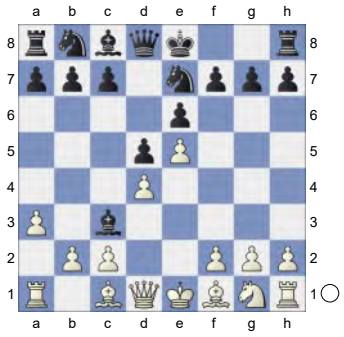
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.21 (precise)
1-0

271 **C18**
□ **Solleveld,Maarten** **2486**
■ **Del Rio Angelis,Salvador Gabriel**
22è Open Internacional d'Andorra (8.8)
[Kitty Kat]

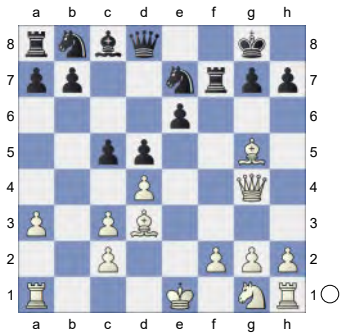
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 c5N
[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT

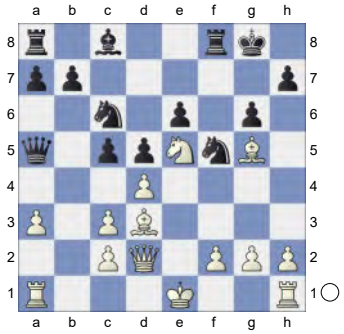
2011 [ChessBase II]) 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)) 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7



11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Qa5 13.Qd2 Nbc6 14.Nf3 Nf5 White is slightly better. **15.Ne5 Rf8**

(Diagram)



16.g4 Nxc6 is the strong threat. **16...Ng7 17.h4 Qa4** 1.42/21

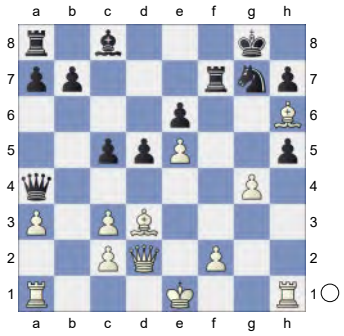
[Better is 17...Qc7± 0.66/20]

18.h5± gxh5 2.38/20

[18...cxd4± 1.36/21 19.Nxc6 Qxc6]

19.Bh6 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Rf7

[20...Qxg4? 21.Be2 Qg6 22.0-0-0 Rxf2 23.Bxg7+-]



21.gxh5 aiming for Rg1.

[21.Qg5 Qxg4 22.Qxg4 *(22.Qd8+ Rf8±)* 22...hxg4=]

21...Qg4

[21...c4? 22.Bg6! Rc7 23.Rg1+-]

22.Be2 A strong pair of Bishops.

22...Qe4 23.0-0-0

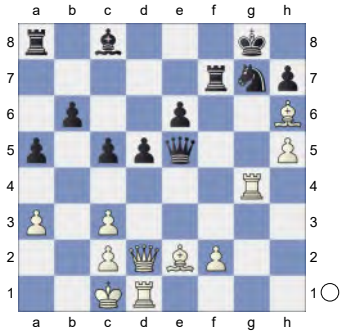
[23.Rg1 Qxe5 24.Qe3 Qxe3 25.Bxe3 h6±]

23...Qxe5 24.Rhg1 b6? 3.40/21

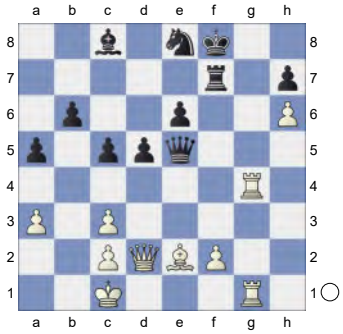
[24...Kh8± 1.48/19]

25.Rg4 Hoping for Rdg1. **25...a5**

(Diagram)

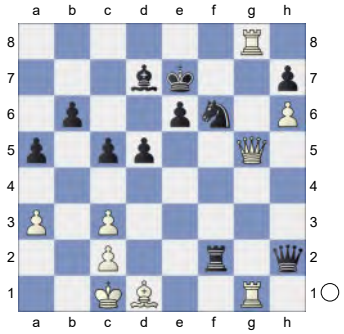


26.Rdg1 Raa7 27.Bf4 Rxf4 28.Rxf4 Rf7 10.80/23
[⍝28...h6 4.70/20 29.Rfg4 Qf6]
29.Rfg4 5.29/24
[⍝29.Rxf7 10.80/23 Kxf7 30.Qh6!]
29...Kf8+- 30.h6 Ne8

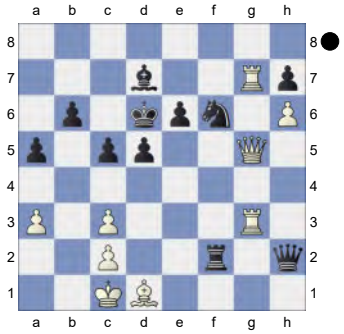


31.Rg5 Qh2 8.82/20
[⍝31...Rf5 4.07/22 32.Rg8+ Ke7]
32.Bh5 Rxf2 33.Rg8+ Ke7 34.Qg5+ Nf6 35.Bd1? 0.38/23
[Weaker is 35.Rxc8 Kd7 36.Re8 *(36.Rf8? Rxc2+ 37.Kd1 Rb2-+)* 36...Rxc2+ 37.Kd1 Rd2+ 38.Kc1 Rc2+ 39.Kd1 Nxe8=]
[35.Qg7+!+- 9.12/22 Kd6 36.Qf8+ *(36.Rxc8 Rxc2+ 37.Kb1 Rb2+ 38.Ka1 Ra2+ 39.Kb1 Qc2#)* 36...Kc6 37.Qxc8+ Qc7 38.Qxe6+ Kb5 39.Be8+ Ka6 40.Bc6 Nxg8 41.Rxg8 Qf4+ 42.Kb2 Rxc2+ 43.Kxc2]
35...Bd7±

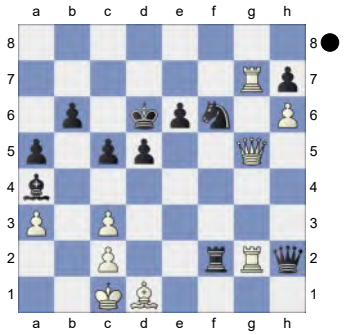
(Diagram)



36.Rg7+ Kd6 37.Rg3 -1.07/23
[37.Rf7!= -0.01/20 keeps the balance.]

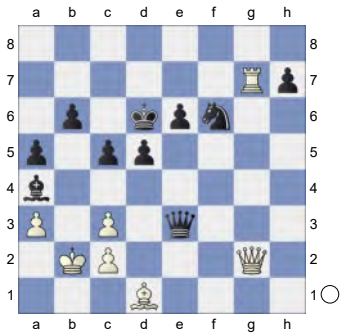


37...Ba4!↑ Keeping White busy. Active counter play! **38.Rg2**



Rxg2 Really sharp! **39.Qxg2 Qxh6+ 40.Kb2! Qe3**

(Diagram)



And now ...d4 would win. **41.Rf7 Ne4** 0.01/24

[41...Qe5∓ -0.34/20 is superior.]

42.Qg7= White wants to mate with Qf8+.

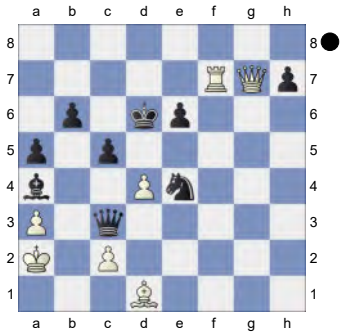
42...d4 43.cxd4 -#6/14

[43.Qf8+= 0.01/23 Kd5 44.Qd8+ Ke5 45.Qh8+ Kd6 46.Qd8+ Ke5 47.Rf3 dxc3+ 48.Ka2]

43...Qc3+ Black mates.

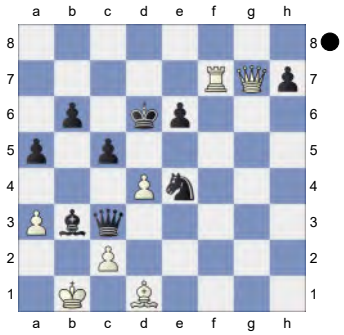
[43...cxd4? 44.Rf3 Qg5 45.Qxd4+ Qd5 46.Qxa4+-]

44.Ka2

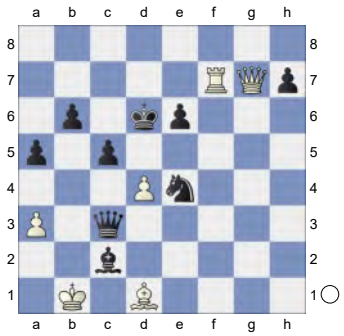


Bb3+! 45.Kb1

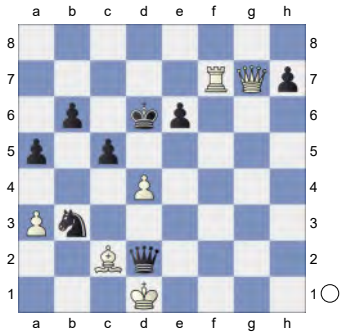
[45.cxb3 Qd2+]



45...Bxc2+!



46.Bxc2 Nd2+ 47.Kc1 Nb3+ 48.Kd1 Qd2#



Never resign too early!

Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/ Black=0.19 (very precise)

0-1

272 **C18**

□ **Parkhov,Yair** **2484**

■ **Djordjevic,Vuk** **2385**

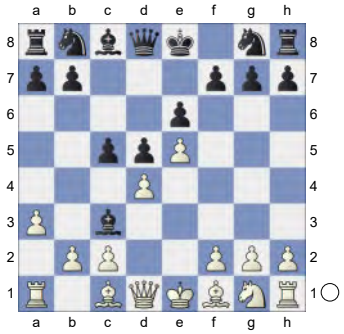
Belgrade Serbia op (3) 18.07.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)

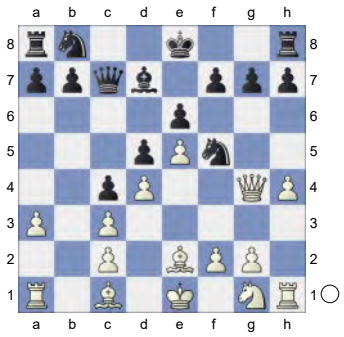


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Bd3 c4 9.Be2 Nf5 10.h4

[10.Nf3 Nc6 11.Qh5 Bd7 12.g4 Qa5 13.Bd2 Nh6 14.Qg5 0-0 15.Rb1 f6 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Rxb7 Rg6 18.Qf4 e5 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.Qxe5 Re8 21.Rb8 Rge6 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Qf4 Nxg4 24.Rg1 ½-½ (24) Logan,T (2605)-Caulkett,P (2650) corr ICCF 1995 CBM 098 [Rause]]

10...Bd7N

[10...Qa5 11.Bd2 Qa4 12.h5 h6 13.Kd1 Nc6 14.Nf3 Bd7 15.Nh4 Nce7 16.Nxf5 Nxf5 17.Qf4 Qa5 18.g4 Ne7 19.Rh3 Qc7 20.Be3 Ba4 21.Rb1 Qd7 22.Kd2 Rg8 23.Rf3 Rf8 24.g5 Nf5 25.Bf1 Vaishali,R (2449)-Ganguly,S (2589) chess24.com INT 2022 1-0 (56)]

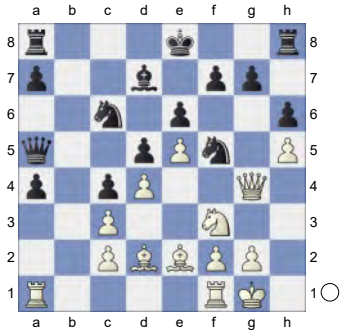


11.h5 h6 12.a4 White is slightly better.

12...Qa5 13.Bd2 Nc6

[13...Bxa4 14.Nf3=]

14.Nf3 b5 15.0-0 bxa4



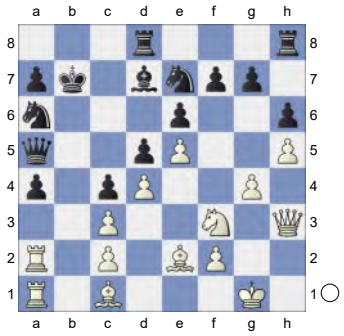
16.Qh3 0-0-0 17.Ra2 White has strong compensation. **17...Kb7** 1.12/19

[⌓17...Rde8 0.74/18]

18.Rfa1 Nb8 19.g4 Ne7 20.Bc1 Na6 1.30/18

[20...Qxc3? 21.Rb1+ Ka8 22.Bd2 Qxd2 23.Nxd2+-]

[⌓20...Bb5 0.80/16]



21.Nd2± Bc6 1.65/19

[21...Bb5± 1.27/19]

22.Ba3 0.75/17

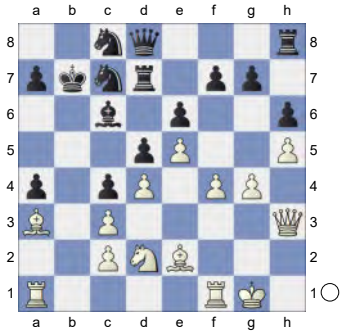
[22.Qf3!+- 1.65/19 and White stays clearly on top.]

22...Nc8 23.f4 Rd7 24.Rf1 0.42/19

[24.Rb1+± 0.84/14 Ka8 25.Rab2]

24...Qd8± 25.Raa1 Nc7

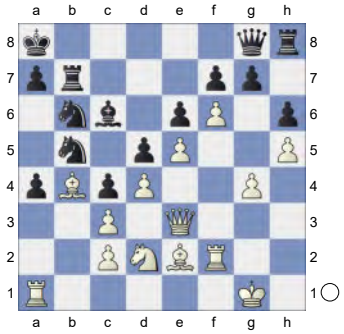
(Diagram)



26.Rf2 Nb5 27.Bb4 Ka8 28.Qe3 Rb7 0.51/16

[28...a5= 0.11/19 29.Bc5 Rb7]

29.f5 Nb6 30.f6 Qg8



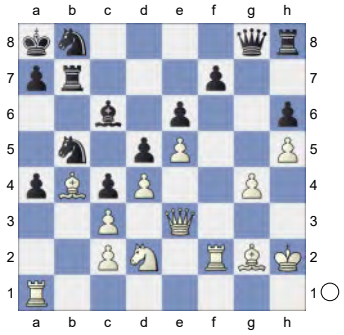
31.fxg7

[31.Kf1 is interesting. gxf6 32.Rxf6 Nd7 33.Rf4]

31...Qxg7 32.Kh2 Qh7 33.Bd1 Nd7 34.Bf3 Nb8

[34...Qxc2? 35.Nxc4! Qh7 36.Na5+-]

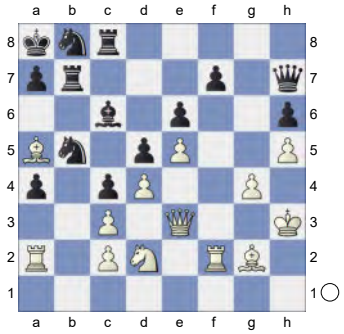
35.Bg2 Qg8



36.Kh3 Qh7 37.Nb1 Na6 38.Ba5 Rhb8 0.67/19

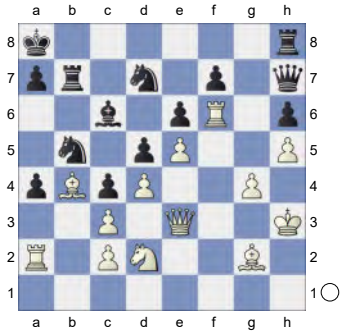
[38...Rg8= 0.20/19]

39.Nd2 Rc8 40.Ra2 Nb8



41.Rf6 Rh8 42.Bb4 A strong pair of Bishops. **42...Nd7** 1.64/21

[42...Qg7!⩲ 0.42/20]



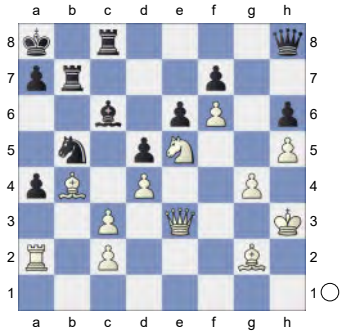
43.Nxc4!+- Nxf6

[43...dxc4? 44.Bxc6 Nxf6 45.exf6+-]

44.exf6 Rc8 2.32/21

[44...Nc7 1.67/20 was worth a try.]

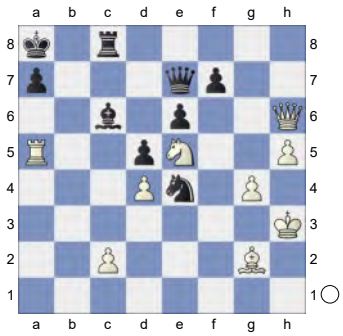
45.Ne5 Qh8



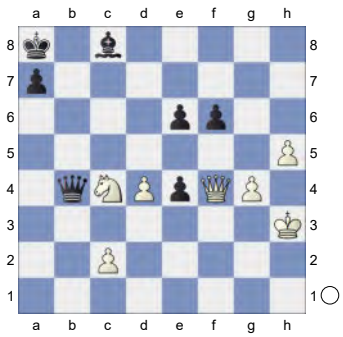
46.Be7 Black must now prevent c4.

46...Qe8 47.Rxa4 Nxc3 48.Ra5 Ne4 49.Qxh6 Rxe7 50.fxe7 Qxe7

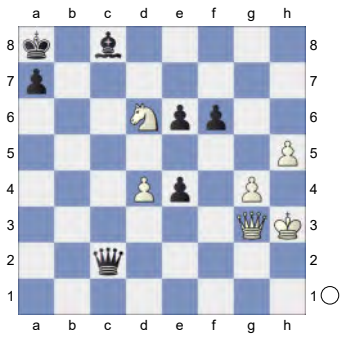
(Diagram)



51.Bxe4 dxe4 52.Rc5 Bb7 53.Rxc8+ Bxc8 54.Qf4 f6 55.Nc4 Qb4? 6.08/19
[55...e3 2.89/19 56.Nxe3 Bb7]

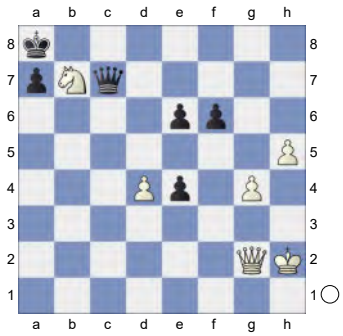


56.Nd6? 1.70/18
[56.h6! 6.08/19]
56...Qc3+ 57.Qg3 Qxc2

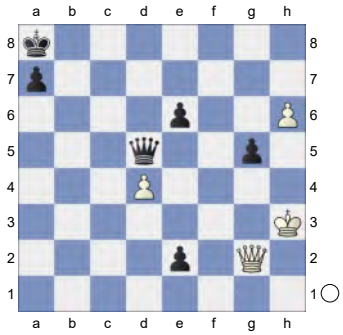


58.Qg2? 0.01/17
[58.h6?! Qc1±]
[58.Qe3!+- 1.81/20 f5 59.h6]
58...Qc3+!= 59.Kh2 Hoping for h6.
59...Bb7 60.Nxb7 Qc7+ 1.75/20
[60...Qe1!= 0.01/22 and Black stays safe.]

(Diagram)

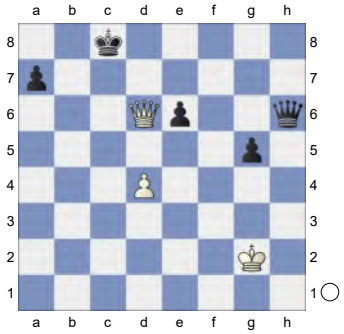


61.Kh3+- Qxb7± Endgame KQ-KQ
62.g5 0.01/20
[62.Qf2± 1.22/17 f5 63.h6 *(63.gxf5 Qh7=)*]
62...Qd5 0.38/21
[62...Qb3+= 0.01/20 63.Kh4 fxg5+ 64.Qxg5 Qf3]
63.h6±
[Much worse is 63.gxf6 Qxh5+ 64.Kg3 Qg6+ 65.Kh3 Qf5+ 66.Qg4 Qxf6 67.Qxe4+ Kb8∓]
63...fxg5? 2.95/21
[Better is 63...Kb7± 0.46/20]
64.Qf2? 0.01/20
[64.Qf1+- 2.95/21 g4+ 65.Kg3 *(65.Kxg4 e3±)*]
64...e3!= 65.Qg2 e2!

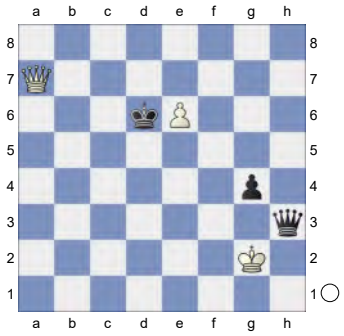


66.Qxe2 Qh1+ 67.Kg3 -0.61/26
[67.Qh2= -0.01/26 Qf3+ 68.Qg3 Qh5+ 69.Kg2 Qxh6 70.Qc7]
67...Qh4+ -0.01/23
[67...Qxh6∓ -0.61/26 68.Kg2 Qg6 69.Qf3+ Kb8 70.Qf8+ Kc7 71.Qe7+ Kc8 72.Qxa7 Qe4+ 73.Kg3 Qf4+ 74.Kg2 Kd8]

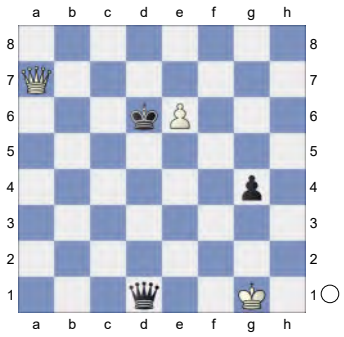
68.Kg2! The position is equal. **68...Qxh6 69.Qa6 Kb8** Inhibits Qc8+. **70.Qd6+ Kc8**



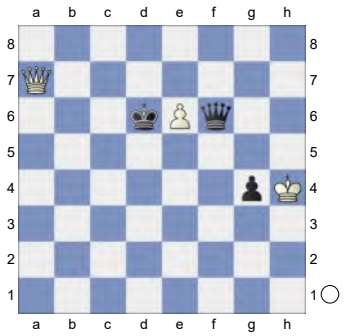
71.d5 g4 And now ...Qh3+ would win. **72.Qc6+ Kd8** Strongly threatening ... Qh3+. **73.Qa8+ Ke7** aiming for ...Qh3+. **74.Qxa7+ Kd6** ...Qh3+ is the strong threat. **75.dxe6** Active counter play! **75...Qh3+**



76.Kg1 Qg3+ 77.Kh1 Qf3+ 78.Kg1 Qd1+ 79.Kg2 Intending Qd7+ and mate. **79...Qf3+ 80.Kg1 Qd1+**



81.Kg2 White threatens Qd7+ and mate. **81...Qd5+ 82.Kg3** Threatening mate with Qd7+. **82...Qf3+ 83.Kh4 Qf6+**
(Diagram)



Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.33
½-½

273 **C18**
□ **Pruijssers,Roeland** **2483**
■ **Berelowitsch,Alexander** **2574**
Bundesliga 2010/11 (15) 10.04.2011
[Kitty Kat]

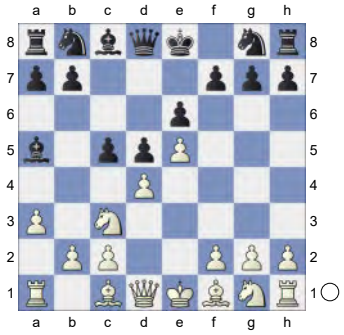
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 Cl1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)

10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.a3 Ba5



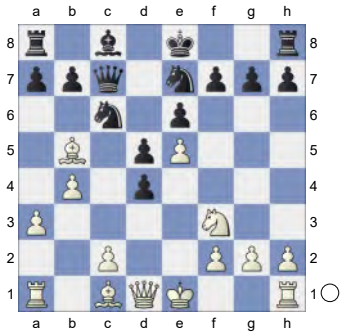
6.b4 cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.Nf3

[8.Qxd4 Nc6 9.Nxc7+ Qxc7∓]

8...Nc6 9.Nxc7+

[Don't play 9.Nbxd4 Nxe5 10.Bb2 Nxf3+ 11.Nxf3 Nf6∓]

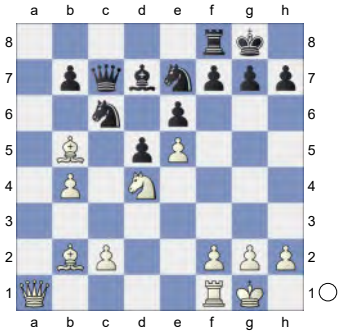
9...Qxc7 10.Bb5 Nge7



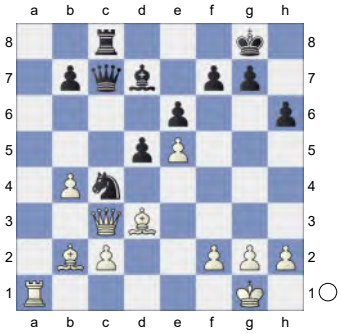
The position is equal. **11.0-0 a5 12.Bb2 axb4 13.axb4 Rxa1 14.Qxa1 0-0 15.Nxd4** -0.43/23

[15.Bxd4= -0.03/21 Nxd4 16.Qxd4]

15...Bd7∓



aiming for ...Nxd4. **16.Nxc6 Nxc6 17.Qa3 Na5** 0.16/25 **18.Bd3=** This bishop pair is nice. **18...Nc4 19.Qc3 Rc8 20.Ra1 h6**



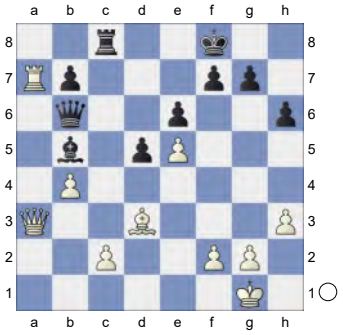
21.Qd4 Be8 22.h3 Kf8 23.Ra7 0.01/23

[23.h4± 0.37/22]

23...Nxb2 24.Qxb2 Qb6 Inhibits Qd4. **25.Qa3** -0.01/24

[25.Ra5± 0.37/24 is superior.]

25...Bb5

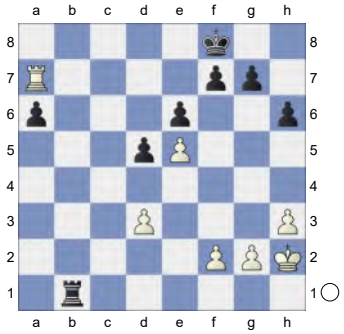


26.Qa5 Qxa5 27.bxa5 Bxd3

[27...Rc5 keeps more tension. 28.Rxb7 Bxd3 29.Rb8+ Ke7]

28.cxd3 Endgame KR-KR **28...Rc1+**

29.Kh2 Rb1 30.a6 bxa6



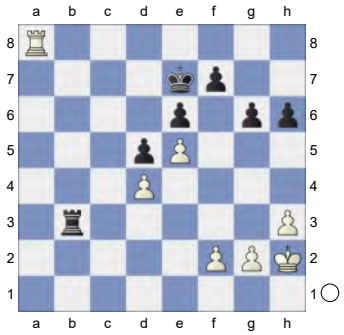
31.Ra8+ Ke7 32.Ra7+ Ke8! 33.Rxa6 Rb3 0.01/26

[33...g6∓ -0.46/22]

34.d4 -0.54/24

[34.Ra8+= 0.01/26 Kd7 35.Ra7+ Ke8 36.Ra8+ Ke7 37.Ra7+ Kf8 38.Ra8+ Ke7 39.Ra7+ Kf8 40.Ra8+ Ke7]

34...g6∓ 35.Ra8+ Ke7



36.Ra7+ Kf8 And now ...Rb4 would win.

37.Ra8+ Kg7 38.Ra4 Prevents Rb4.

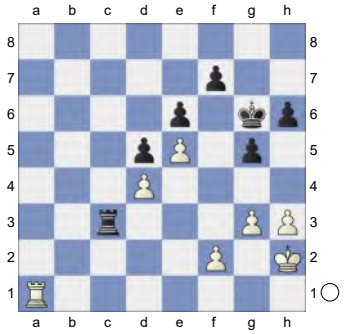
38...Rc3 39.Ra1 g5 40.g3 -1.30/24

[40.g4∓ -0.52/25]

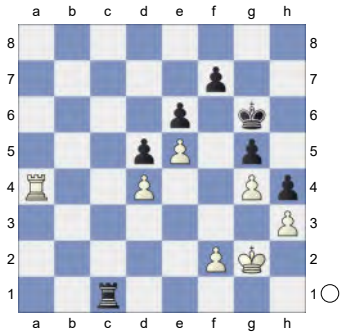
40...Kg6 -0.39/25

[40...h5!∓ -1.30/24 41.Kg2 g4 42.hxg4 hxg4]

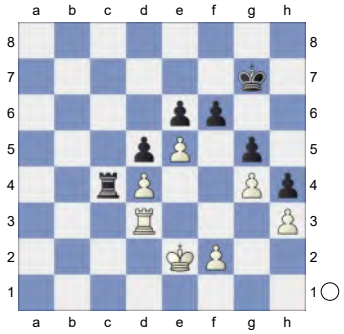
(Diagram)



41.g4! Rd3 42.Ra4 h5 43.Kg2 h4 44.Rb4 Rc3 45.Ra4 Rc1



46.Rb4 Ra1 47.Rb3 Ra4 48.Rd3 Rc4 49.Kf1 Kg7 50.Ke2 f6

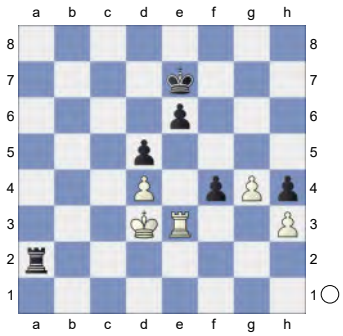


51.exf6+ Kxf6 52.Rf3+ Ke7 53.Kd3 -1.70/29

[White has to play 53.Rd3∓ -0.67/25]

53...Ra4-+ Hoping for ...Ra3+. **54.Re3 Ra2 55.f4 gxf4**

(Diagram)



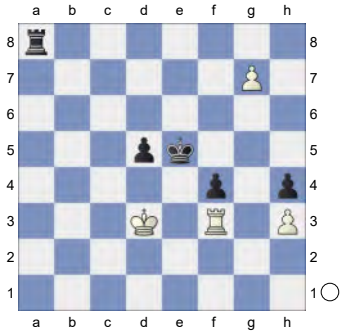
56.Rf3 Ra4 White must now prevent ... e5! **57.g5** -2.51/26

[⌓57.Rxf4 -1.67/26 e5 58.Rf5]

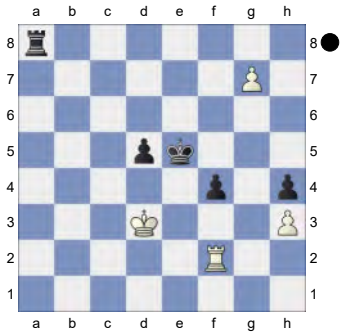
57...e5! 58.dxe5 Ke6 59.g6 Kxe5

[Weaker is 59...Ra3+ 60.Ke2 Ra2+ 61.Kf1=]

60.g7 Ra8

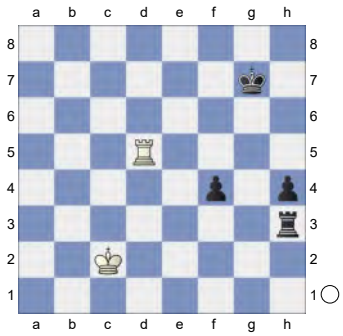


61.Rf2



Ra3+! 62.Kc2 Rg3 63.Re2+ Kf6 64.Rd2 Kxg7 65.Rxd5 Rxh3

(Diagram)

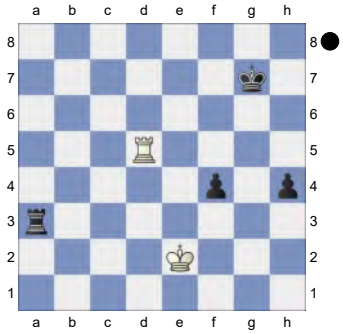


Strongly threatening ...Kg6. **66.Kd2 Ra3?** -0.60/27

[Stronger than 66...Re3 67.Rd4=]

[66...Rh2+-+ -3.80/27 67.Ke1 h3]

67.Ke2∓



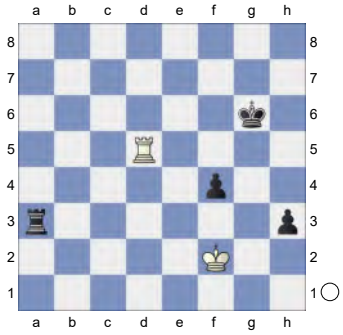
Kg6 -0.58/27 Against Rf5

[67...h3!∓ -0.90/29 ...Ra1 is the strong threat. 68.Rh5 Kf6]

68.Kf2 -1.60/26

[White should try 68.Rd6+∓ -0.58/27 Kg5 69.Rd8]

68...h3∓ Diagram



Our previous CT issue featured a similar endgame. White should be OK here, but there is always room for error. (-> ... Ra1) **69.Rd8 Ra7** Instead of that he

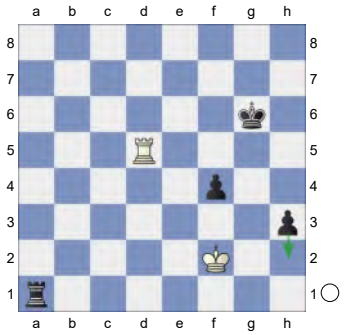
"repeated" the position with **70.Rd5??** -#18/22

[Here White could play 70.Kg1]

[or simply wait by playing something like 70.Rb8 -2.16/26 70.Kg1 -1.47]

[70.Rc8-+ -1.70/28]

and after **70...Ra1!**



had to give up.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless)

0-1

274 **C15**

☐ **Lattarulo,A.** **2481**

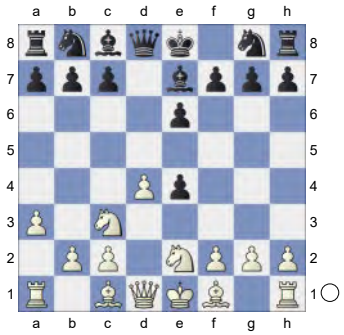
■ **Campos,Jose Felix** **2643**

21st Chicago Open (1.2) 16.04.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 dxe4 5.a3 Be7



6.Nxe4 Nf6 7.Nxf6+ Bxf6 8.Be3 b6

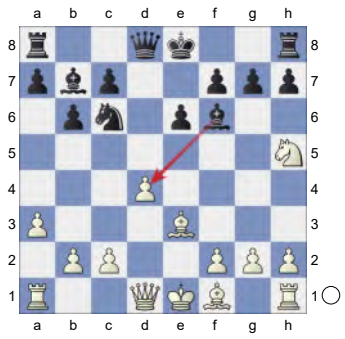
9.Nf4

[9.Qd2 Bb7 10.f3 Nc6 11.0-0-0 0-0 12.g4 Na5 13.Ng1 Qd5 14.Qc3 c5 15.Kb1 Rac8 16.Qd2 Rfd8 17.Ne2 Nc4 18.Qd3 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 cxd4 20.Nxd4 Bxd4 0-1 (20) Nagua Valladares,K (2235)-Semi Slav Cxd5 (2606) London 2023 CT-2879 [John Watson]]

9...Bb7 Prevents Qf3. **10.Nh5N** White is slightly better.

[10.Qg4 Nd7 *(10...g6 11.Bb5+ c6 12.Bc4 Qd6 13.0-0-0 Nd7 14.Nxe6 fxe6 15.Bf4 Qe7 16.Rhe1 0-0-0 17.Rxe6 Qf8 18.Rxc6+* 1-0 (18) Jobava,B (2701)-Lopez Martinez,J (2552) Espana 131/101 2017 Chess Informant 131 [Pikula,Dejan]*)* 11.0-0-0 Qe7 12.Be2 g6 13.Bf3 c6 14.Nd3 Qd6 15.c3 h5 16.Qe4 g5 17.h3 0-0-0 18.g4 hxg4 19.hxg4 Qd5 20.Nb4 Qxe4 21.Bxe4 Rxh1 22.Bxh1 Kc7 23.Nd3 Ba6 24.Be4 Rh8 Lechtynsky,J-Bronstein,D Tallinn 1979 French Nc3 [Myers] ½-½ (32)]

10...Nc6



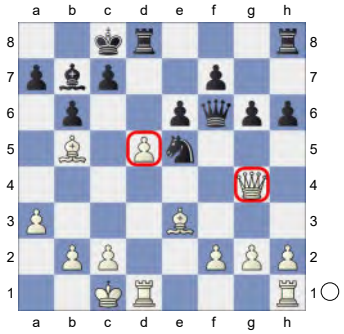
11.Qg4 g6 12.Nxf6+

[12.Bb5 is more complex. gxh5 13.Qf3 Kd7 14.0-0-0]

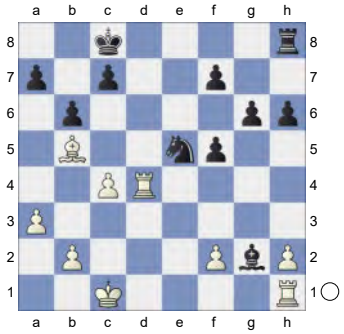
12...Qxf6 13.0-0-0 Strongly threatening Bg5. **13...h6** 0.81/21 Inhibits Bg5.

[13...0-0-0 14.Bg5 Qxf2 15.Bxd8 Rxd8 16.d5 Ne5 17.Qg3 Qxg3 18.hxg3 Black must now prevent

dxe6. Rxd5 19.Rxd5 Bxd5 20.Rxh7]
[13...0-0-0± 0.37/22 was preferrable.]
14.Bb5 0.47/21 &Bianco is more active.
[14.d5± 0.81/21 exd5 15.Bb5 *(15.Rxd5 Ne5=)*]
14...0-0-0!±
[Less strong is 14...a6 15.d5 axb5 16.dxc6±]
15.d5! Ne5

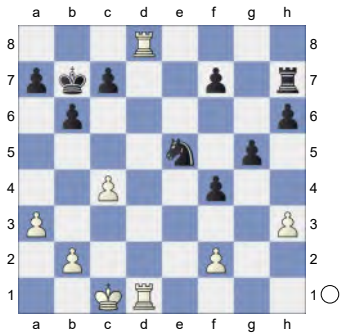


16.Qf4 Qf5 17.Qxf5 exf5 18.Bd4 A strong pair of Bishops. **18...Rxd5 19.c4 Rxd4 20.Rxd4** Re1 is the strong threat. **20...Bxg2**

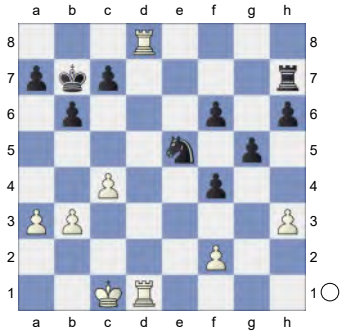


21.Ba6+ -0.35/23
[21.Rhd1= 0.01/23]
21...Bb7 0.01/21
[21...Kb8∓ -0.35/23 22.Rhd1 c5]
22.Bxb7+= Kxb7 Endgame KRR-KRN
23.h3 -0.36/19
[23.f4= 0.09/19 Ng4 24.Rd7]
23...f4 -0.01/22
[23...g5∓ -0.36/19 might be stronger.]
24.Rhd1 g5 25.Rd8 Rh7

(Diagram)



26.b3 f6 0.16/23
[26...h5 -0.17/22 feels stronger.]
27.Rf8 White has compensation.
27...Nd7 28.Rd8 0.01/19
[28.Rg8!± 0.35/21]
28...Ne5 29.Rf8 Nd7 30.Rd8 Ne5

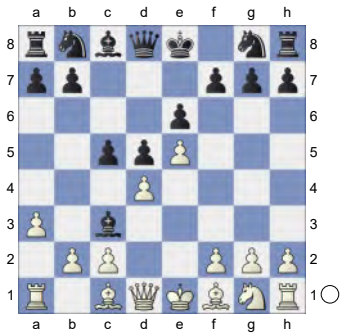


Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

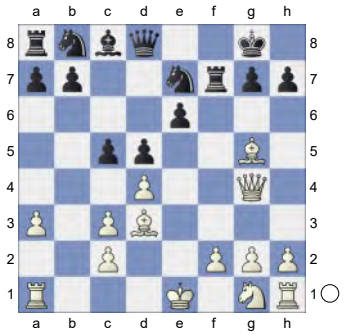
275 **C18**
□ **Leisebein,Peter** **2478**
■ **Zielinski,Sergej** **2481**
corr RSS7E high-187 24.10.2016
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

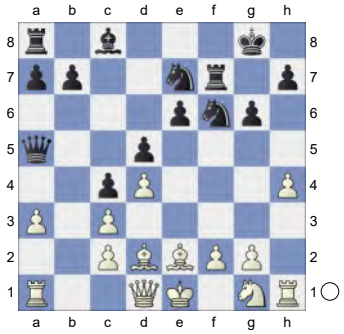
(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7

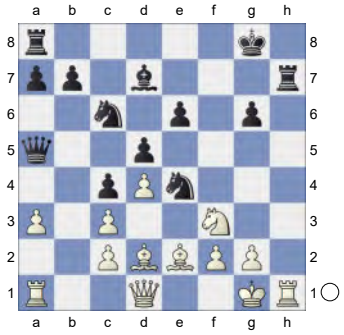


11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Qa5 13.Bd2 c4 14.Be2 Nd7 White is slightly better.
15.h4 Nf6

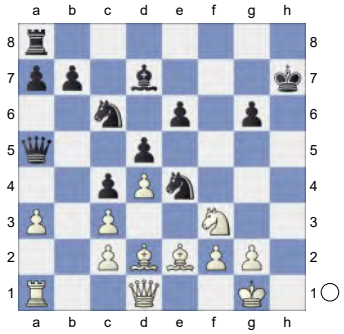


16.Nf3 Nc6 17.h5 Ne4
[17...Nxh5 18.Ng5 Nf6 19.Nxf7 Kxf7 20.Kf1±]
18.hxg6 hxg6 19.Kf1 Bd7 20.Kg1N
[20.Qc1 Qc7 21.Rh4 e5 22.dxe5 Nxe5 23.Bf4 Qb6 24.Qe3 Ng4 25.Qxb6 axb6 26.g3 Re8 27.Ng5 Nd2+ 28.Ke1 Rfe7 29.Be3 Nxe3 30.Kxd2 Nxc2 0-1 (30) Istratescu,A (2670)-Ivanov,S (2548) Vaujany 2014 EXT 2017 [Istratescu,Andrei]]

20...Rh7 0.84/21
[Black should try 20...e5± 0.33/18]

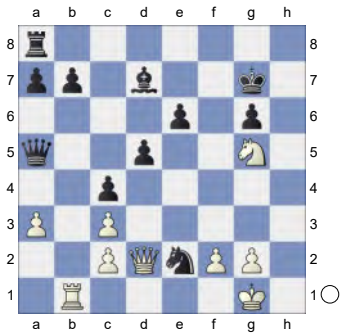


21.Rxh7± Kxh7

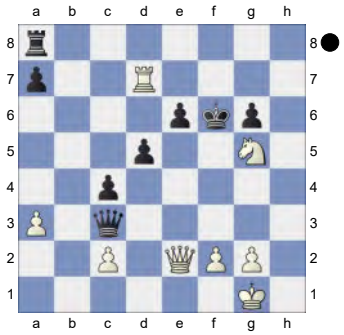


22.Qe1! Kg7 23.Ng5 Nxd4 2.21/21
24.Rb1? 0.37/21
[Not 24.Nxe4 Nxe2+ 25.Qxe2 dxe4±]
[24.cxd4+- 2.21/21 Qxd2 25.Nxe4 Qxe1+ 26.Rxe1 dxe4 27.Bxc4]
24...Nxd2±
[Much less strong is 24...Nxc2 25.Qd1 Nxf2 26.Kxf2 *(26.Qxc2 Qc5∓)* 26...Qc5+ 27.Kf1± *(27.Kg3 Ne3±)*]
25.Qxd2
[25.cxd4 keeps more tension. b6 26.Rb4 Ne4 27.Nxe4 dxe4 28.Bxc4 Qf5 29.Qd2]
25...Nxe2+

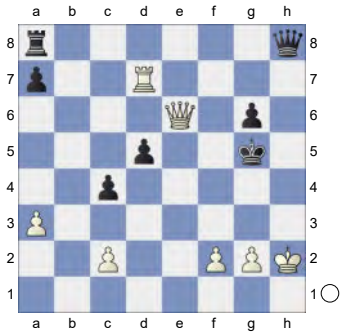
(Diagram)



26.Qxe2 Qxc3 27.Rxb7 Kf6! 28.Rxd7
[28.Nf3!? Ba4 29.Nh2=]

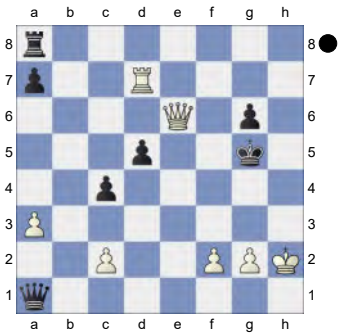


White wants to mate with Nh7+. &Bianco is more active. **28...Kxg5 29.Qxe6 Qa1+ 30.Kh2** Threatening mate with Qe3+. **30...Qh8+**



31.Kg1 -0.01/20
[31.Qh3± 0.41/27 Qxh3+ 32.gxh3]
31...Qa1+= 32.Kh2

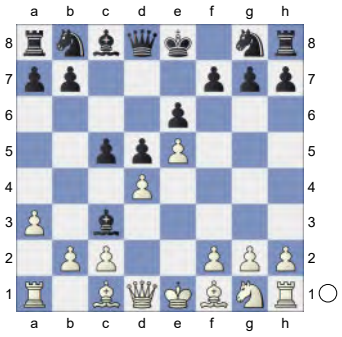
(Diagram)



[Event "RSS7E high-187"].
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

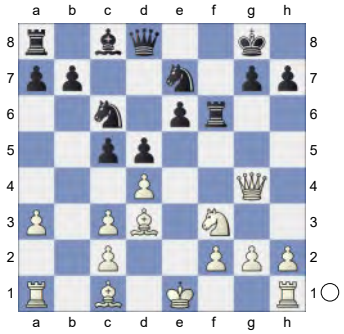
276 **C18**
□ **Leisebein,Peter** **2478**
■ **Schatz,Dieter** **2201**
corr RSS7E pro-202 05.09.2016
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Nf3 f5 10.exf6 Rxf6

(Diagram)



11.Qh5

[Don't blunder 11.dxc5? e5 12.Qh4 e4-+]

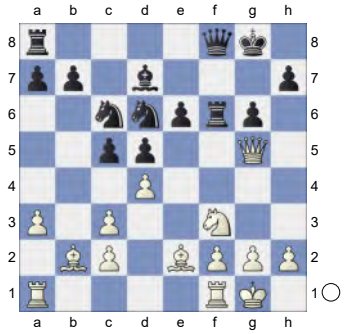
[11.Bxh7+? Kxh7 12.Bg5 Rf8 13.Qh5+ *(13.Bxe7? Qxe7 14.Qh5+ Kg8∓)* 13...Kg8 14.Bxe7 Qxe7-+]

11...g6N 0.54/19

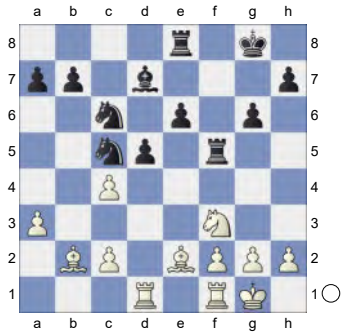
[11...h6= 0.15/20 12.0-0 *(12.Bd2 c4 13.Be2 Bd7 14.g4 Be8 15.Qh3 Bg6 16.g5 hxg5 17.Bxg5 Rf7 18.Kd2 Qd6 19.Rhg1 Bf5 20.Qh5 Bg6 21.Qh4 Be4 22.Ne5 Nxe5 23.dxe5 Qc5 24.Be3 Qc7 25.Bh5 g6 26.Rg5 Rg7* Yurchenko,G (2270)-Schneider,R (2230) Aalborg 1994 Lessons with a GM [Keilhack/Schlenker] 1-0 (42)*)* 12...c4 13.Be2 Bd7 14.Re1 Be8 15.Qh3 Bg6 16.Bd1 Nf5 17.g4 Nd6 18.g5 Bf5 19.Qg2 hxg5 20.Bxg5 Ne4 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Re3 Rf8 23.h4 Qh6 24.Ng5 Qxh4 25.Nxe4 Bxe4 26.Bf3 Bf5 Fedoseev,V (2688)-Aumann,W (2316) Chess.com INT 2022 1-0 (37) 27.Qg3 Qe7 28.Bxd5 Rf6 29.Kf1 Rg6 30.Qf3 Qg5 31.Bxc4 Qg1+ 32.Ke2 Qxa1 33.Qxf5 Rf6 34.Bxe6+ Kf8 35.Qc5+ Ne7 36.Bb3 Rf7 37.Bxf7 1-0 (37) Fedoseev,V (2674)-Manukyan,S (2253) Chess.com INT 2023]

12.Qg5⩲ Qf8 13.Be2 Nf5 White is slightly better. **14.Bb2 Nd6 15.0-0 Bd7**

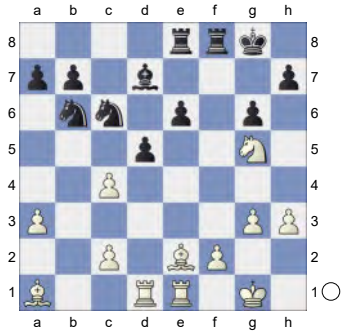
(Diagram)



16.dxc5 Ne4 17.Qe3 Hoping for c4. **17...Qxc5 18.Qxc5 Nxc5 19.c4 Rf5 20.Rad1 Re8**



21.h3 Na4 22.Ba1 Nb6 23.Rfe1 Rf4 24.g3 Rf7 25.Ng5 Rff8

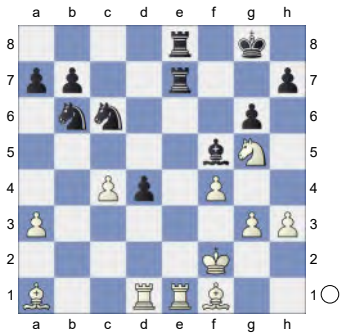


26.f4 Re7 27.cxd5 &Bianco is more active. **27...exd5 28.c4 Rfe8 29.Kf2 d4**

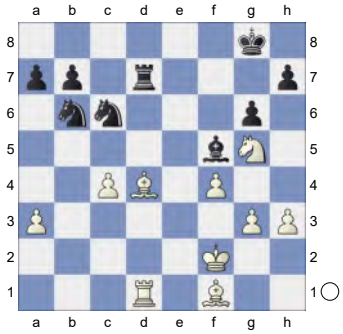
[29...Nxc4? 30.Bxc4 Rxe1 31.Bxd5+ R1e6 32.Re1+- *(32.Nxe6 Bxe6 33.Bg2 Rf8±)*]

30.Bf1 Bf5

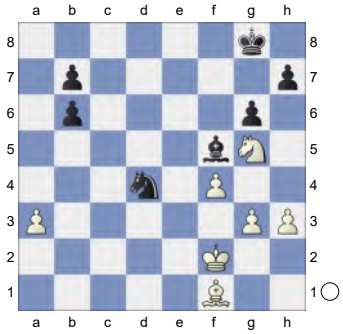
(Diagram)



31.Rxe7 Rxe7 32.Bxd4 Rd7

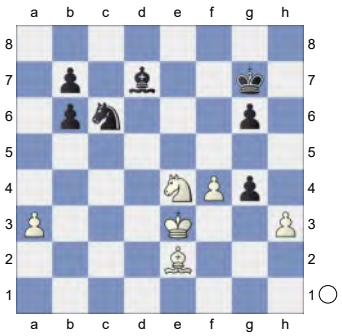


33.c5! Rxd4
[33...Nxd4 34.cxb6]
34.Rxd4 Nxd4 35.cxb6 axb6±

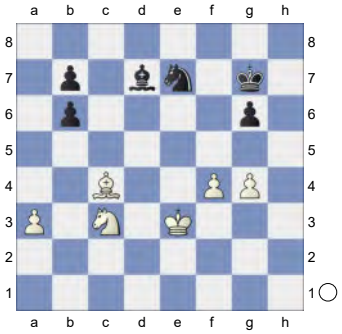


Endgame KBN-KBN **36.g4 Bd7 37.Bd3** Inhibits Nc2. **37...Kg7 38.Ne4 h5** 1.18/22
[Better is 38...Nb5 0.77/20]
39.Ke3 Nc6 40.Be2 hxg4 1.41/24
[Black should play 40...Na5 1.01/20]

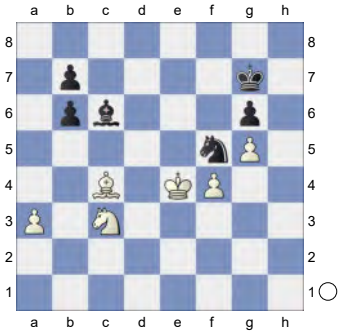
(Diagram)



41.hxg4 Kf7 42.Nc3 Ne7 1.55/24
Prevents Nd5.
[⌓42...Na5 1.20/24 43.g5 Bc6]
43.Bc4+ Kg7

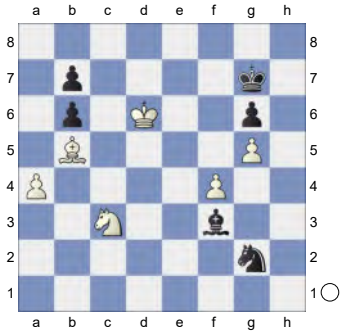


44.g5 Nf5+ 45.Ke4 Bc6+

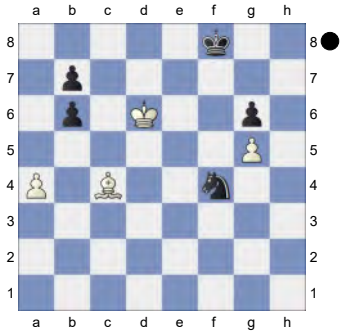


46.Ke5 Ne3 47.Bd3 Ng2 48.a4 Ne3 2.94/25
[⌓48...Kf7 1.94/24 49.Be4 Ne3]
49.Kd6+- And now Kc7 would win.
49...Ng2 50.Bb5 Bf3 3.53/25
[50...Bxb5 2.47/24 is a better defense. 51.axb5 Nxf4]

(Diagram)



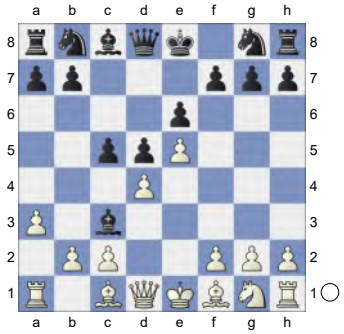
51.Nd5 Kf8 52.Bc4
[52.Nxb6 Nxf4 53.Ke5 Nh5+-]
52...Bxd5? 6.95/25
[52...Kg7 2.78/20 53.Ke5 *(53.Nxb6 Nxf4 54.Kc7 Kf8+-)* 53...Ne1 54.Nxb6 Nc2]
53.Bxd5 Nxf4 54.Bc4



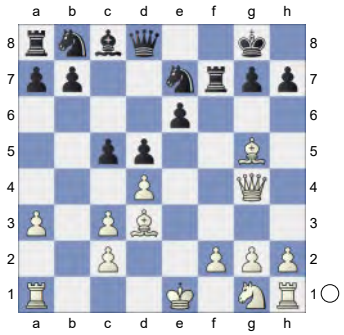
[Event "RSS7E pro-202"].
Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.22 (precise)
1-0

277 **C18**
□ **Leisebein,Peter** **2478**
■ **Zielinski,Sergej** **2481**
corr RSX-4-Jahreszeiten Sommer 16-1
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+
(Diagram)



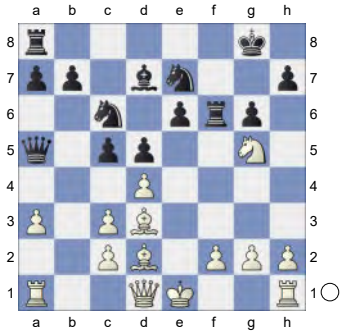
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7



11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Nbc6 13.Nf3 Qa5 14.Bd2 Bd7
[14...Qc7 15.0-0 e5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Be2 Bd7 18.Re1 Nxf3+ 19.Bxf3 Bc6 20.Bg5 Raf8 21.Bxe7 Rxe7 22.Bxd5+ Bxd5 23.Qxd5+ Kg7 24.Rad1 Rf5 25.Rxe7+ Qxe7 26.Qd7 Rf7 27.Qxe7 Rxe7 28.Kf1 h5 29.f3 Eljanov,P (2741)-Naiditsch,A (2684) Douglas 2016 CBM 178 [Marin, Mihail] 1-0 (61)]
15.Ng5N c4 is the strong threat.
[15.h4 e5 *(15...c4 16.Be2 Raf8 17.h5 gxh5 18.Rxh5 Ng6 19.Kf1 Nf4 20.Rh4 Ng6 21.Rh5 Nf4 22.Rh4 Ng6 23.Rh6 Nf4 24.Ng5 Rg7 25.Bxf4 Rxf4 26.Qd2 Qc7 27.Nxe6 Bxe6 28.Rxe6 Rh4 29.Rh6 Qh2 30.Rxh4* Timmerman,G (2725)-Elwert,H (2620) corr 1994 UltraCorr3a [Elwert] ½-½ (68) *Qxg2+ 31.Ke1 Qg1+ 32.Bf1 Re7+ 33.Qe2 Rxe2+ 34.Kxe2 Qg6 35.Rh3 Qxc2+ 36.Ke1*

Qb2 37.Rd1 Qxa3 38.Bg2 Ne7 39.Kf1 Qa5 40.Re1 Ng6 41.Kg1 Qd8 42.Rh5 Nf4 43.Rhe5 Qd7 44.R1e3 Kf7 45.Rg3 Timmerman,G (2725)-Elwert,H (2620) Norway 1994 Myers [Elwert] ½-½ (68) *)* 16.c4 Qa4 17.Ng5 dxc4 18.Be4 Bf5 19.Nxf7 Bxe4 20.Qg4 c3 21.Bg5 Bf5 22.Nh6+ Kf8 23.Bxe7+ Nxe7 24.Qg5 Kg7 25.Qxe7+ Kxh6 26.h5 Qe8 27.hxg6+ Kxg6 28.Qxh7+ Kf6 29.Rh6+ Kg5 Epishin,V (2550)-Ulybin, M (2500) Minsk 1990 CBM 017 [Knaak,Rainer] 1-0 (35)]

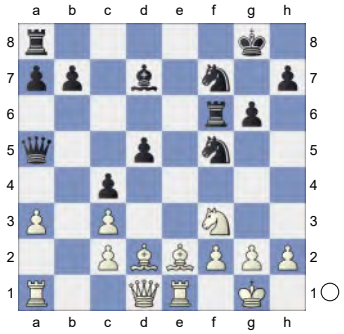
15...Rf6



White is slightly better. **16.0-0?** -1.11/20

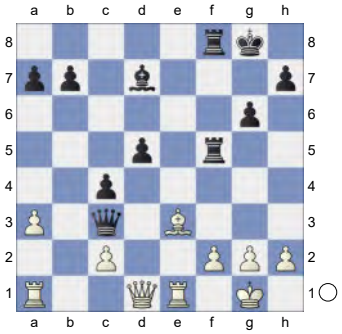
[16.Be2± 0.44/17 keeps the upper hand.]

16...c4∓ 17.Be2 e5 18.dxe5 Nxe5 19.Nf3 Nf7 20.Re1 Nf5



21.Ng5 Rf8 22.Bg4 Nxg5 23.Bxg5 R6f7 24.Bxf5 Rxf5 25.Be3 Qxc3

(Diagram)



26.Bd4 Qa5 27.Rb1 Bc6 28.f3 0.01/18

[28.Re7± 0.48/20 R8f7 29.Rxf7 Rxf7 30.Qe2]

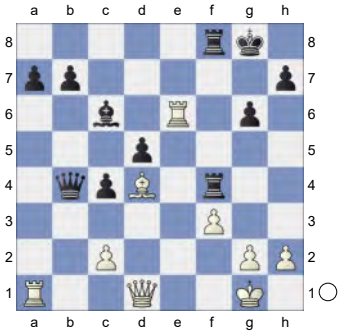
28...Qxa3 0.44/22

[28...R8f7= 0.01/18 is superior.]

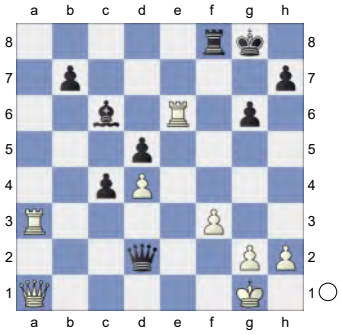
29.Re6± Rf4 0.72/21

[29...Qa5± 0.31/21]

30.Ra1± Qb4

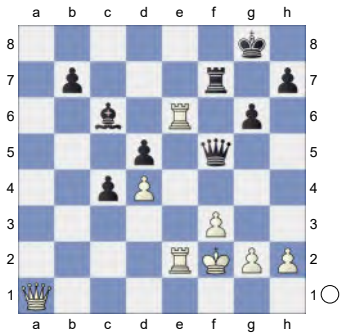


31.c3↑ White is in control. **31...Qb2 32.Rxa7 Qb3 33.Qa1** &Bianco is more active. **33...Rxd4 34.cxd4 Qb4 35.Ra3** Inhibits c3. **35...Qd2**

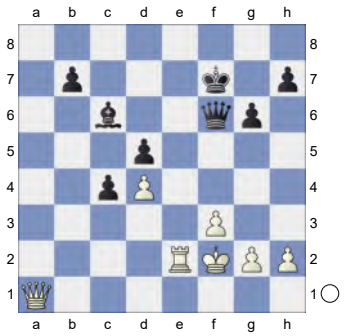


36.Ra2 Qd3 37.Kf2 Rf7 38.Rae2! Qf5 1.76/20

[38...Rf4± 0.88/19]



39.Re7!+- Qf6 40.Rxf7 Kxf7 Endgame



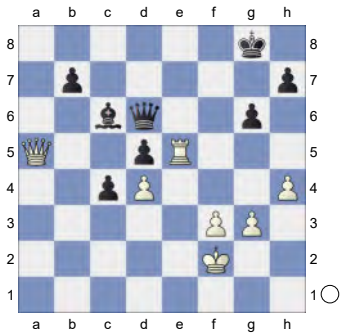
KQR-KQB **41.g3! Qd6 42.Qa8 Qf8** 2.21/26

[42...Qf6 1.76/20 might work better.]

43.Qa5 And now Qc7+ would win.

43...Qd6 Inhibits Qc7+. **44.Re5 Kg7 45.h4 Kg8?** 3.67/24

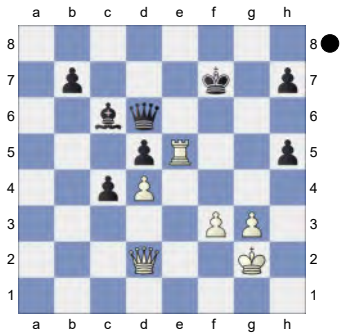
[45...h5 1.90/25 46.Qa8 Qf6]



46.h5 Kf7 47.Kg2 gxh5 48.Qd2

[Much less strong is 48.Rxh5 h6 49.Qd2 Kg7+-]

(Diagram)



[Event "RSX-4-Jahreszeiten Sommer. Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.18 (very precise)

1-0

278 **C18**

□ **Leisebein,Peter** **2478**

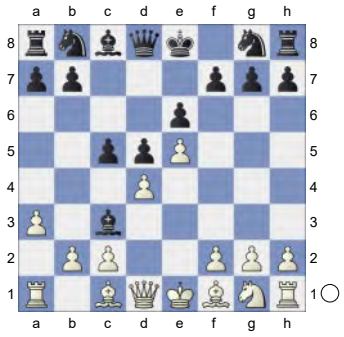
■ **Zielinski,Sergej** **2481**

corr RSS7E pro-199 28.06.2016

[Kitty Kat]

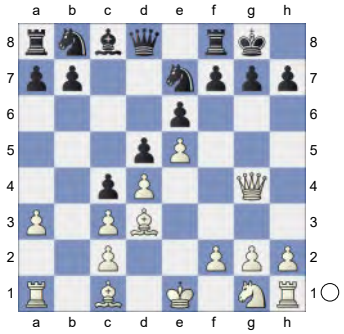
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

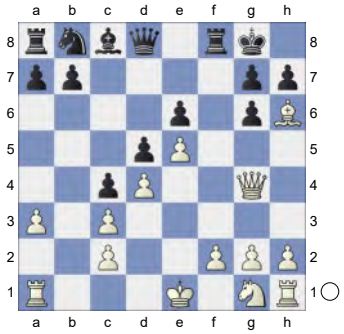


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 c4

(Diagram)



9.Bh6! Ng6 10.Bxg6 fxg6



11.Bd2 White is slightly better.

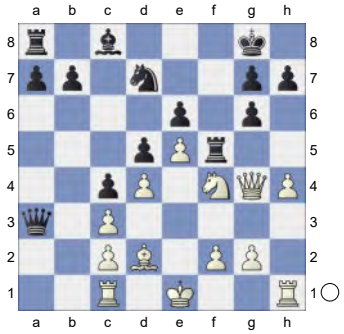
[11.Be3 Qe8 12.h4 Nc6 13.h5 gxh5 14.Rxh5 Ne7 15.Nf3 Rf5 16.Bg5 Ng6 17.0-0-0 h6 18.Rdh1 hxg5 19.Nxg5 Rxf2 20.Qh3 Kf8 21.Qe3 Rf7 22.Nxf7 Kxf7 23.Rf1+ Kg8 24.Rhh1 Ne7 25.Qh3 Nf5 8.♕e2 cd4 9.♖d1 (2555)-Jaivardhan,R (2595) Huy Thua Thien 1988 Telechess CBM 89 [Stoica,V] 1-0]

11...Qb6N

[11...Nc6 12.h4 Rf5 *(12...Ne7 13.Nh3 Qe8 14.a4 a5 15.Nf4 h6 16.Qe2 Bd7 17.g4 Ra6 18.h5 g5 19.Nh3 Bxa4 20.Be3 Bd7 21.f4 gxf4 22.Bxf4 Kh7 23.Qe3 b5 24.Bg3 Ra8 25.Bh4 Rf7 26.g5 Rf5 27.g6+* Martin Carmona,G (2205)-Cuenca Jimenez,J (2513) Linares ESP 2017 [John Watson] 0-1 (47)*)* 13.Ne2 Ne7 14.h5 gxh5 15.Rxh5 Rxh5 16.Qxh5 Bd7 17.Bg5 Qe8 18.Qh3 Ng6 19.Kd2 Qf7 20.Be3 Re8 21.Rh1 Nf8 22.g4 Qe7 23.f4 Qf7 24.Ng3 Qg6 25.f5 exf5 26.gxf5 Jakobsson,M-Hansen,K corr 1995 1-0 (46)]

[11...Qe8 12.h4 Nc6 13.Ne2 Qf7 14.Nf4 Qf5 15.Qxf5 Rxf5 16.a4 Bd7 17.a5 a6 18.Bc1 Na7 19.Ne2 Rf7 20.Ba3 Ba4 21.Ra2 Bd7 22.f3 Nb5 23.Bb4 Rc8 24.Kf2 Be8 25.g4 Rd7 26.Nf4 5.c3 ♗d7 6.d4 ♘ge7 7.♗e (2395)-Catalan/4 (2317) Rostock 2012 CYB 12 [SB 6/78 #199] 1-0 (57)]

12.h4 Rf5 13.Ne2! Nd7 14.Nf4 Qb2 15.Rc1 Qxa3



16.h5

[16.Nxe6? Nb6 17.0-0 Bxe6-+]

16...gxh5

[16...Nxe5? 17.dxe5 g5 18.Ne2+-]

17.Nxh5 Rf7 1.19/21

[17...g6± 0.51/21]

18.Ke2 0.32/20

[18.Qxe6?! Nb6 19.Qe8+ Rf8±]

[18.Bh6± 1.19/21 g6 19.Rh3]

18...Qe7 0.83/22

[18...a5± 0.32/20]

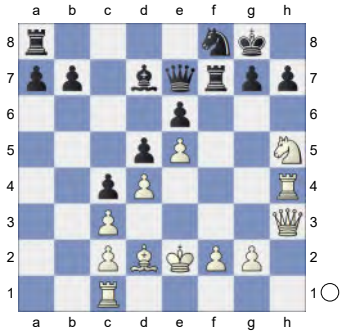
19.Rh4 White has strong compensation. 0x0.001fbb6f3187dp-1022s more active pieces. **19...Nf8 20.Qh3!**

[20.Nf6+?! Rxf6 21.exf6 Qxf6=]

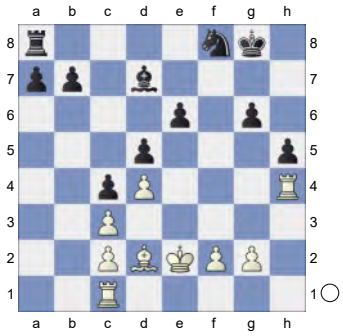
20...Bd7 1.28/21

[Better is 20...a5± 0.36/20]

(Diagram)

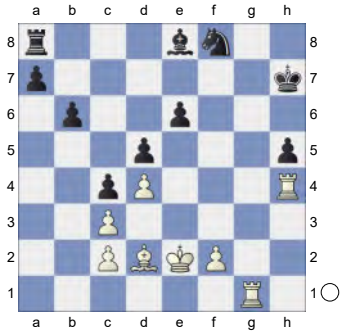


21.Rg4!± aiming for Bg5. **21...g6** 1.87/21
[21...Ng6? 22.Rh1+-]
[21...Be8± 1.14/19]
22.Nf6++- Rxf6 23.exf6 0.58/21
[23.Bg5± 1.58/21]
23...Qxf6± 24.Qh4 Qxh4 25.Rxh4 h5 1.02/22
[25...a5± 0.43/20]

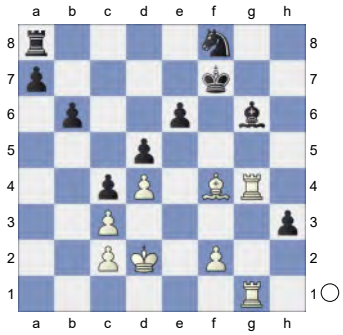


26.Rb1 0.44/21
[26.g4!± 1.02/22]
26...b6 27.g4 White now steadily converts the win. **27...Ba4** 1.02/21
[Black should try 27...hxg4 0.71/22 28.Bf4 Ba4]
28.Rc1± Be8 29.gxh5 gxh5 30.Rg1+ Kh7

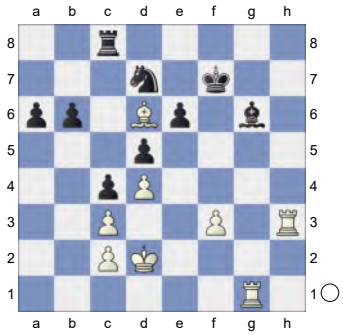
(Diagram)



31.Rh2 Bg6 1.66/23
[31...a5± 0.98/23]
32.Rhg2+- Threatens to win with Bc1.
32...Kg7 2.01/23
[32...Re8± 1.46/21 might work better.]
33.Bf4 Hoping for Bd6. **33...h4** 2.04/25
[33...Rd8± 1.42/23 was called for. 34.f3 h4]
34.Kd2 Strongly threatening Bd6.
[Don't do 34.Bd6?! Kf7±]
34...Kf7 35.Rg4 h3

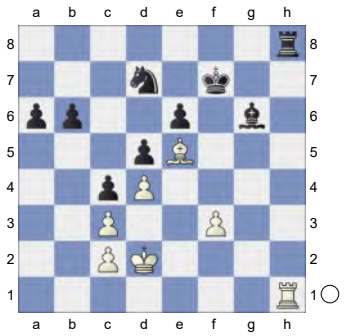


36.Rh4 Nd7 37.Rxh3 Rg8 38.Bc7 a6 39.Bd6 Ra8 40.f3 Rc8

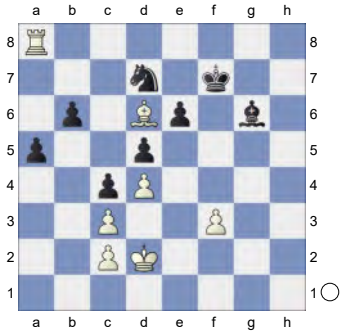


41.Rh6 Rg8 42.Rh4 Ra8 2.45/26
[⌓42...a5 1.91/24 43.Rhg4 Rg7]

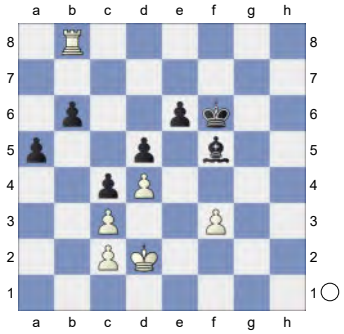
43.Rgh1 And now Rh7+! would win.
43...Kg7 Against Rh7+ **44.Be5+ Kf7 45.Rh8 Rxh8**



46.Rxh8 Endgame KRB-KBN
[Weaker is 46.Bxh8 Ke7±]
46...Ke7 47.Bc7 Bf5 48.Rg8 a5 49.Ra8 Kf7 50.Bd6 Bg6

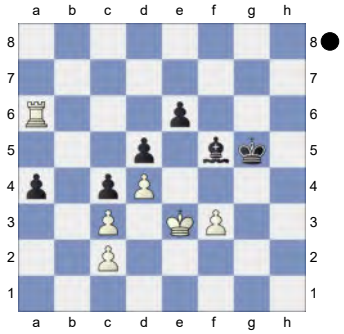


51.Rd8 Nf6 52.Rf8+ Kg7 53.Rb8 Bf5 54.Be5 Kg6 55.Bxf6
[Don't take 55.Rxb6 Nd7]
55...Kxf6



56.Rxb6 White is clearly winning.
56...Kg5 57.Ke3 a4 58.Ra6

(Diagram)



[Event "CiF-11er/0055"].
Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.22 (precise)
1-0

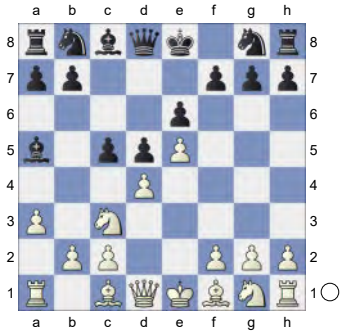
279 **C18**
□ **Warakomski,Tomasz** **2468**
■ **Berczes,David** **2520**
Schachbundesliga 2010-11 (4) 14.11.10
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)*

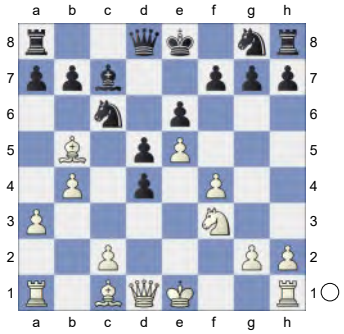
10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.f4 Bd7 9.Nf3 Bxb5 10.Bxb5+ Nc6

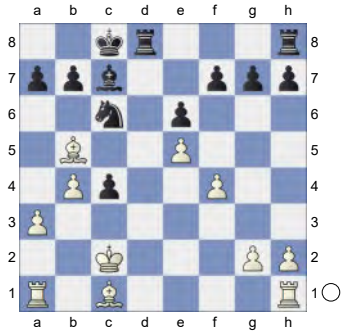


11.Nxd4 Nge7 The position is equal. **12.c4** -0.60/19

[12.Qh5= 0.04/18]

12...dxc4∓ 13.Nxc6! Qxd1+ 14.Kxd1 Nxc6 15.Kc2 0-0-0

(Diagram)



16.Bxc4 g5 17.fxg5 b5 18.Bd3

[Wrong is 18.Bxb5? Nd4+ 19.Kb2 Nxb5-+]

18...Nd4+! 19.Kc3 -0.65/20

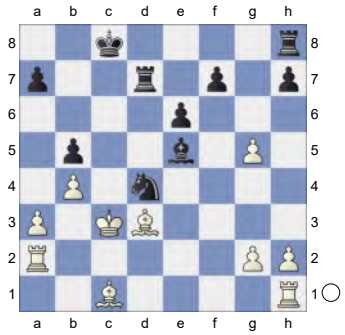
[White should play 19.Kb1= -0.01/20]

19...Bxe5 &Nero is more active. **20.Ra2** -1.06/20

[20.Rb1∓ -0.57/21]

20...Rd7 -0.45/19

[20...Kb8∓ -1.06/20 21.Kd2 h6 22.gxh6 Rxh6]

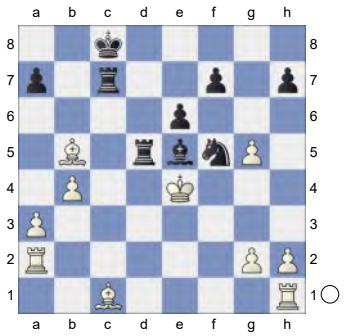


21.Kd2 Against Ne2 **21...Rc7 22.Ke3** Inhibits Bf4+. **22...Rd8**

[Don't take 22...Rc3 23.Ke4 Nf5 24.Rd2± *(24.Bxb5 Bc7=)*]

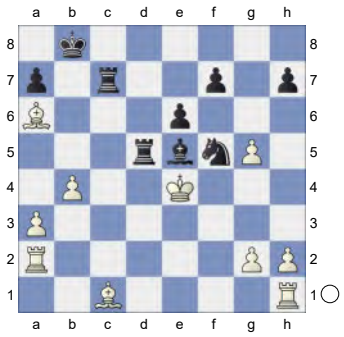
23.Ke4 Nf5 0.40/23 **24.Bxb5 Rd5⇄**

(Diagram)



(-> ...Rc3). Black puts up resistance. The board is on fire. **25.Ba6+** A strong pair of Bishops. **25...Kb8** 0.43/21

[25...Kd7= 0.00/20 was preferrable. 26.g4 Nd6+ 27.Kf3 Rc3+ 28.Kg2 Rd4]

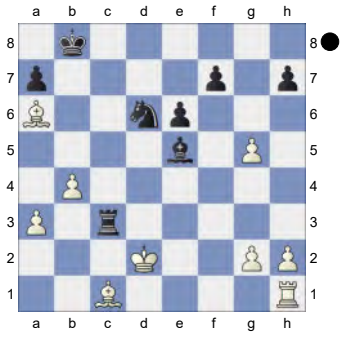


26.Rd2± **Nd6+** **27.Ke3** Threatening Rxd5. **27...Rc3+** **28.Ke2** Threatens to win with Rxd5.

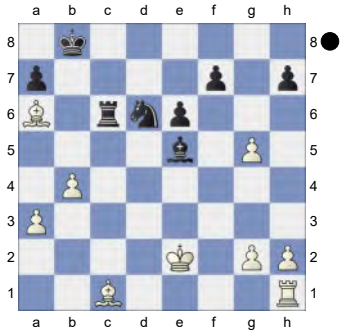
[28.Rd3!?]

28...Rxd2+ **29.Kxd2??** -3.02/22

[29.Bxd2= -0.01/24 and White is okay. Rxa3 30.Bd3]



29...Rc6-+ **30.Ke2**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/ Black=0.14 (very precise)

0-1

280 **C18**

□ **Petrov,Alexey** **2467**

■ **Goloshchapov,Alexander** **2536**

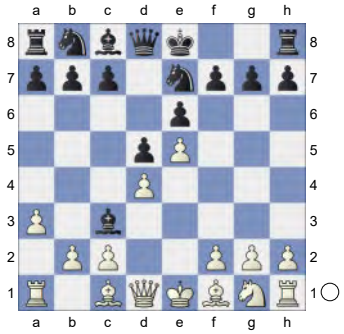
Stuttgart-ch op-A 01.06.2014

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

Kitty Kat: 'C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5

Moskalenko,V: 'Inf 64/(279)'' **1.e4** **e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** **Bb4** **4.e5** **Ne7** **5.a3** **Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 **c5N**

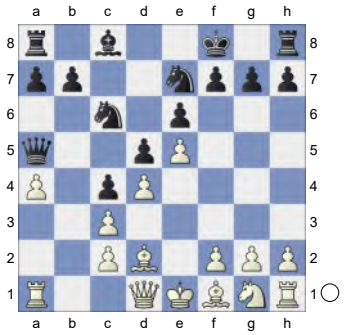
[6...b6

A) 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Ne2 *(10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.Nf3 Nc6 13.Ng5*

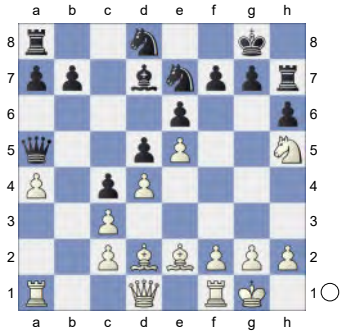
Qd7 14.Rh3 Nge7 15.Rf3 Nf5 16.Rf4 Na5 17.f3 0-0-0 18.a4 Kb7 19.Qb5 c6 20.Qe2 Rde8 21.g4 f6 22.gxf5 fxg5 23.fxe6 Qxe6 24.hxg5 Nc4 Xiong,J (2659)-Kuzubov,Y (2605) Chess.com INT 2024 Mega2024 Update 16 [Kitty Kat] 0-1 (41)*)* 10...Qd7 *(10...Qc8 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bd3 c5 14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.0-0 Bc4 16.a4 Nd7 17.a5 b5 18.Bc1 Kg8 19.Ba3 Qc6 20.Be7 Bxd3 21.cxd3 Rh6 22.d4 a6 23.Bg5 Rh8 24.f4 Nf8 25.f5* Keres,P-Matulovic,M Zürich 1961 French Nc3 [Myers] 1-0 (45) *)* 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 g6 13.Bd3 Qc6 14.Kd2 Kd7 15.Bg5 Kc8 16.Qf4 Qd7 17.Rh3 Kb7 18.Rf3 Rh7 19.Qe3 Nc6 20.Qe2 Bxd3 21.cxd3 Rhh8 Firouzja,A (2760)-Kuzubov,Y (2606) Chess.com INT 2024 Mega2024 Update 27 [Kitty Kat] 0-1 (58);

B) 7.Nh3 Ng6 8.Nf4 Nxf4 9.Bxf4 Ba6 10.Qg4 Rg8 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Bg5 Qd7 13.0-0 f5 14.Qh5+ g6 15.Qh3 Rg7 16.g4 fxg4 17.Qxg4 Qc6 18.Rad1 Kd7 19.Rd3 Re8 20.Rf3 Kc8 21.Rf6 Gligoric,S-Matulovic,M Zürich 1961 French Nc3 [Myers] 0-1 (37)]

7.Qg4 Kf8 8.a4 Qa5 9.Bd2 c4 10.Qd1 Nbc6



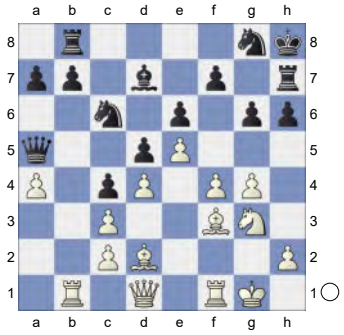
White is slightly better. **11.Ne2 Bd7 12.Ng3 h6 13.Be2 Nd8 14.Nh5 Kg8 15.0-0 Rh7**



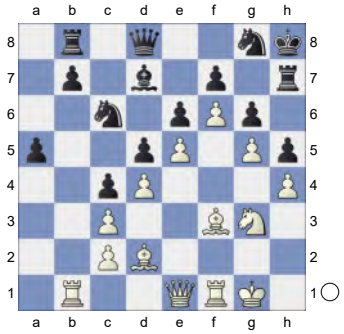
16.f4 Kh8 17.g4 Ndc6 18.Bf3 Ng8 19.Rb1 g6 20.Ng3

[Wrong is 20.Rxb7? Bc8 21.Rb2 *(21.Rb5? Qxa4 22.Rb1 gxh5-+)* 21...gxh5-+]

20...Rb8



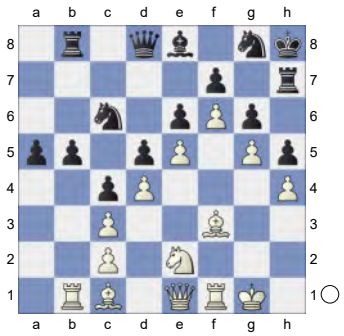
21.f5 Qxa4 22.f6 Qa5 23.Qe1 White has strong compensation. **23...Qd8 24.h4 a5 25.g5 h5**



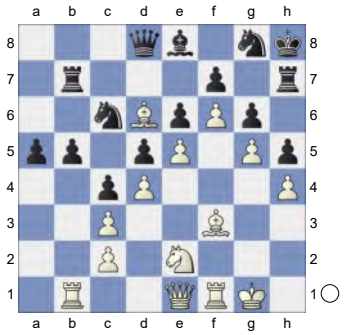
26.Ne2 Be8 27.Bc1 b5 1.19/20

[⚟27...Na7 0.85/18]

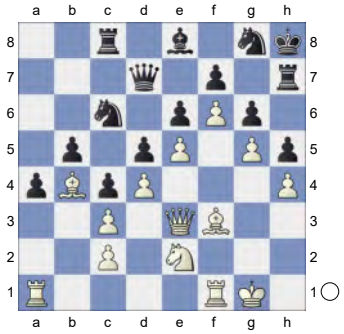
(Diagram)



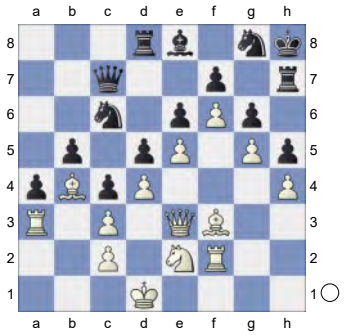
28.Ba3!± Rb7 29.Bf8 Bd7 30.Bd6 Be8



31.Nf4 a4 32.Bb4 Rb8 33.Qe3 Ra8 34.Ne2 Qd7 35.Ra1 Rc8



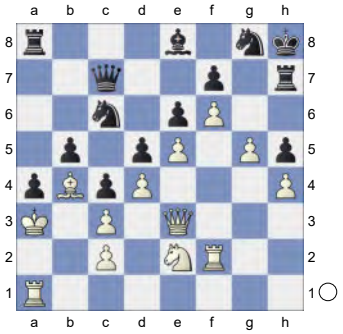
36.Ra3 Ra8 37.Rf2 Qa7 38.Kf1 Rb8 39.Ke1 Rd8 40.Kd1 Qc7



41.Kc1 Ra8 42.Kb2 Rd8 43.Ra1 Rc8

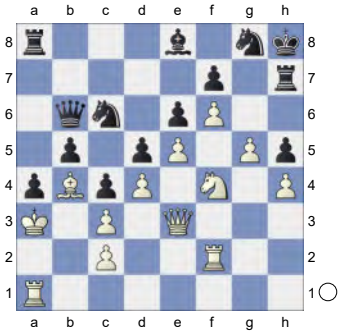
44.Ka3 Ra8 45.Bxh5 -0.01/19 **gxh5** 0.71/20

[45...Rxh5= -0.01/19 46.Rh2 Nxb4 47.cxb4 Rh7]



46.Nf4 Qb6? 1.78/20

[46...Nxb4= -0.22/18 47.cxb4 Qd7]



47.Rg2? -0.01/18

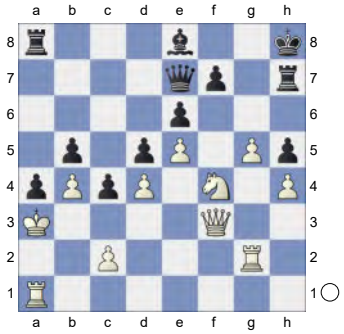
[47.Rg1!+- 1.78/20 And now g6 would win. Qa7 48.Bc5]

47...Nge7? 4.48/22 **48.fxe7+-** aiming for g6. Active counter play! **48...Nxb4** 6.24/20

[⌓48...Qb7 3.95/21 49.Qf3 Nxe7 50.Nxh5 Nf5]

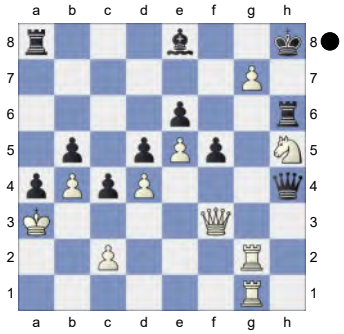
49.cxb4 g6 is the strong threat. White is clearly winning. **49...Qc7** **50.Qf3** Hoping for g6. **50...Qxe7**

(Diagram)



51.Nxh5 f5 52.g6 Rh6 53.Rag1 Qxh4 54.g7+

[Weaker is 54.Nf6 Kg7±]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.36

1-0

281 **C18**

□ **Aguilar,Sebastian** **2447**

■ **Malevinsky,Alexander A** **2468**

EU-chT (Men) 16th (2) 23.05.2023

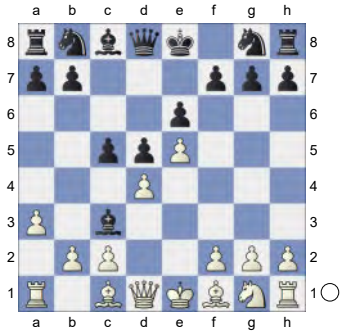
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

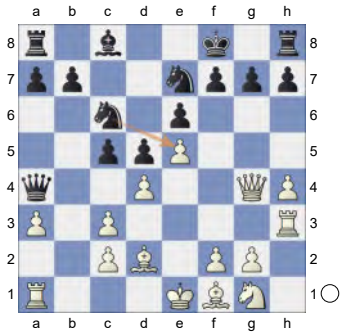
Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'Fritz 8 (10s): 'C18: Défense française (variante Winawer avec 5...Fxc3)

'" 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.h4 Ne7 9.Qg4 Kf8 10.Rh3 Nbc6



11.h5

[11.Rg3 Nf5 12.dxc5 Qxg4 13.Rxg4 Nxe5∓]

11...h6 12.Qf4

[12.Rg3 Nf5 13.dxc5 Qxg4 14.Rxg4 Nxe5=]

12...Bd7 0.57/18

[12...Qxc2= 0.26/19 deserves consideration. 13.Bd3 Qb2]

[12...b6 13.Rf3 Nd8 14.dxc5 Qxf4 15.Rxf4 bxc5 16.Rh4 Ndc6 17.f4 Rb8 18.Nf3 Ke8 19.Rh3 Kd7 20.Bd3 c4 21.Be2 Ba6 22.g4 Rb7 23.Kd1 Rhb8 24.Rg3 Bb5 25.Rb1 Ba6 26.Rxb7+ Rxb7 27.Kc1 Pedro,F (2030)-Forsberg,J (2106) corr ICCF 2023 17 c5, Nf6 and g6: model [John Watson] 1-0 (41)]

13.Rf3

[13.dxc5 Qxf4 14.Bxf4 Rc8 15.Rb1 Na5 16.Be3 Bc6 17.f4 Nc4 18.Bc1 f6 19.Nf3 Kf7 20.exf6 gxf6 21.Nd4 Rc7 22.Nxc6 Nxc6 23.g4 N6a5

24.g5 Rxc5 25.g6+ Kg7 26.f5 Re8 27.fxe6 Rxe6+ Macieja,B (2613)-Socko,B (2583) Poznan 2005 CBM 107 [Psakhis,Lev] 0-1 (60)]

13...Be8 14.dxc5N

[14.Rb1 Qxa3 *(14...b6 15.g4 Qxc2 16.Bd3 Qa4 17.g5 c4 18.Be2 Qc2 19.Rc1 hxg5 20.Qxg5 Qh7 21.Rh3 Ng8 22.Nf3 f6 23.exf6 gxf6 24.Qf4 Ke7 25.Qc7+ Kf8 26.Qf4 Ke7 27.Nh4 Kd7 28.Bg4 Nge7 29.Qxf6* Hodge,J (2629)-Krasilnikov,V (2438) Ubeda 1999 CBM 89 ext [Santos/Pereira] 0-1 (38) *)* 15.dxc5 Qa2∓]

[14.Ra2 seems wilder. Kg8 15.Rg3 Nf5 16.Rh3]

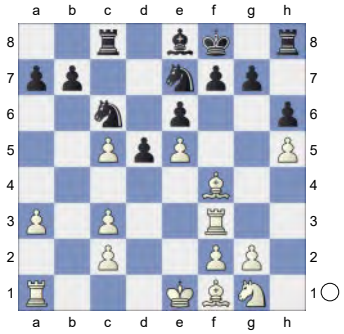
[14.g4 cxd4 15.Bd3 b5 16.cxd4 Nxd4 17.Rg3 Rc8 18.Rc1 Ndc6 19.Qxa4 bxa4 20.f4 Voekler,B (2370)-Tabatadze,T (2370) Brno III 54/(274) 1991]

14...Qxf4

[14...Qe4+ 15.Qxe4 dxe4 16.Re3 Nxe5 17.Rxe4 Nd7 18.Bf4 Nxc5 19.Rc4 b6 20.Bd6 Rc8]

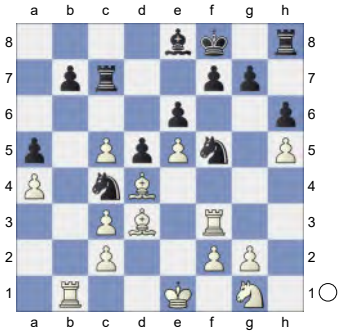
15.Bxf4 Rc8 1.07/21

[15...g5± 0.53/20 16.hxg6 Nxg6]



16.Rb1± Na5 17.Be3! Nf5 18.Bd4 Rc7 19.Bd3 Nc4 20.a4 a5

(Diagram)



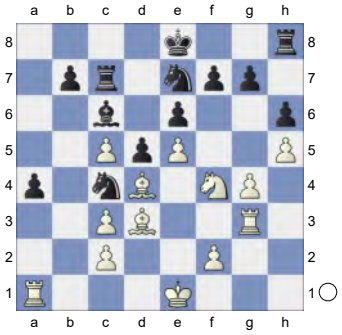
21.Ne2! Bxa4 22.Ra1 0.94/23

[⌓22.Nf4! 1.41/21]

22...Bc6 23.g4

[Much weaker is 23.Bxf5 exf5 24.Ng3 g6∓]

23...Ne7 24.Nf4 Strongly threatening Nxe6+. **24...Ke8 25.Rg3 a4**

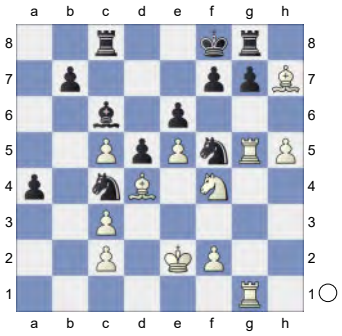


26.g5 -0.01/23

[White should try 26.Ng2± 0.57/19]

26...hxg5= 27.Rxg5 Kf8 28.Ke2 Rc8 29.Rag1! Rg8 30.Bh7 Nf5? 6.51/20

[30...Rh8= 0.15/20 31.Rxg7 a3]

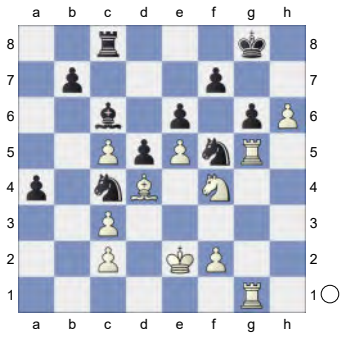


31.Bxg8 2.72/21

[⌓31.Bxf5 6.51/20 exf5 32.h6]

31...Kxg8+- 32.h6 g6 4.66/23

[32...Nxh6 2.05/24 was worth a try. 33.Rxg7+ Kh8]

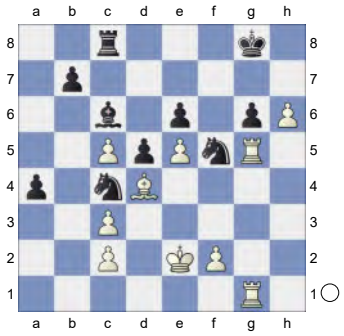


33.Nxg6 2.57/22

[⌓33.Rxf5! 4.66/23 exf5 34.e6 fxe6 35.h7+ *(35.Rxg6+ Kh7=)* 35...Kxh7 36.Rh1+ Kg8 37.Rh8+ Kf7 38.Rxc8]

33...fxg6? 4.25/22

[33...Nxd4+ 2.57/22 is a better defense. 34.cxd4 fxg6]



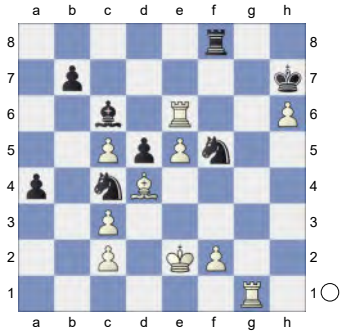
34.Rxg6+? 1.24/23

[34.Rxf5!+- 4.25/22 Kh8 *(34...exf5 35.h7+)* 35.Rf6]

34...Kh7± **35.Rxe6** Black must now prevent Rf6. **35...Rf8** 1.06/24

[⌓35...Rg8 0.74/22 36.Rxg8 Kxg8]

(Diagram)



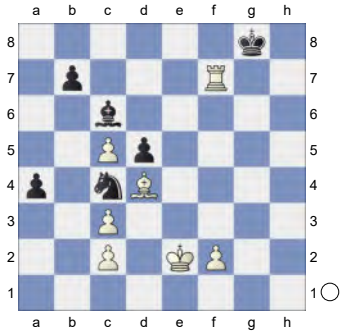
36.Rf6! **Rxf6** **37.exf6** White wants to mate with f7. **37...Nxh6** 5.20/26

[37...Be8± 0.87/23 is more resistant.]

38.Rg7+

[Less strong is 38.f7 Nxf7 39.Rg7+ Kh6+-]

38...Kh8 **39.f7** **Nxf7** **40.Rxf7++-** Endgame KRB-KBN **40...Kg8**



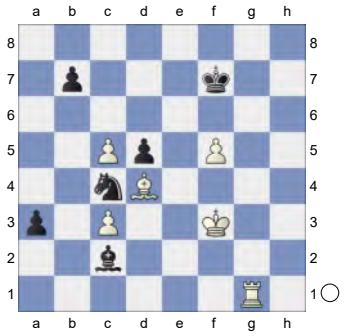
41.Rg7+ **Kf8** **42.Rg1** 2.47/22

[⌓42.f4 4.24/25]

42...Kf7? 4.25/23

[42...a3 2.47/22 43.Be3 Be8]

43.f4 **a3** **44.Kf3** **Ba4** **45.f5** **Bxc2**

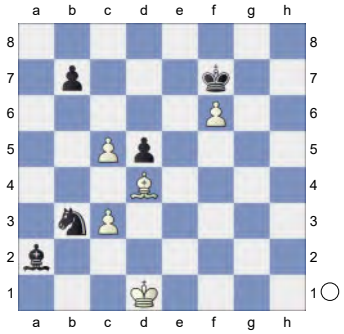


46.f6? -0.01/24

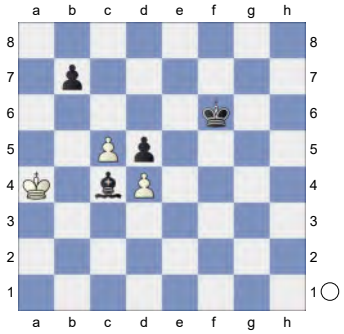
[46.Rg7++- 5.17/23 Ke8 47.f6]

46...a2? 5.58/24

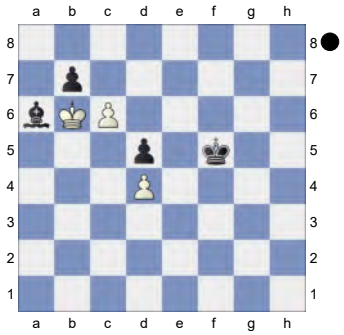
[46...Bg6!= -0.01/24]
47.Ra1? -1.59/29
[47.Rg7++- 5.58/24 Ke8 48.Rg8+ Kf7 49.Ra8]
47...Bb1∓ 48.Ke2 Na5 Hoping for ... Nb3. **49.Kd1?** -5.58/28
[49.Ke3∓ -1.55/26 is tougher.]
49...Nb3-+ 50.Rxa2 Bxa2



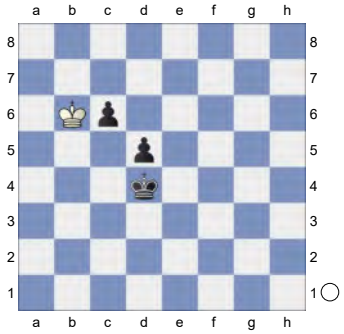
51.Kc2 Na5 -5.70/32
[⯃51...Nxd4+ -16.62/32 52.cxd4 Kxf6]
52.Kb2 Bc4 53.Ka3 Nc6 54.Ka4 Nxd4 55.cxd4 Kxf6



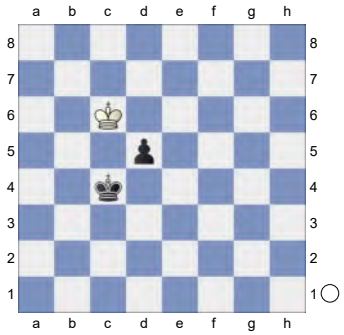
KB-KPP. Black mates. **56.Ka5 Kf5 57.Kb6 Ba6 58.c6**



bxc6! 59.Kxa6
[59.Kxc6 Ke4]
59...Ke4 60.Kb6 Kxd4



61.Kxc6 Kc4

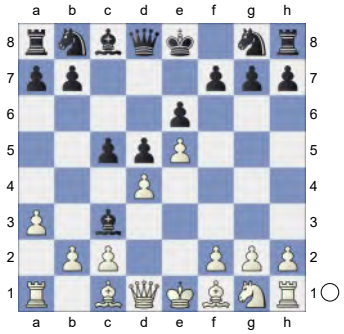


Black used his chance.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.89/ Black=0.82
0-1

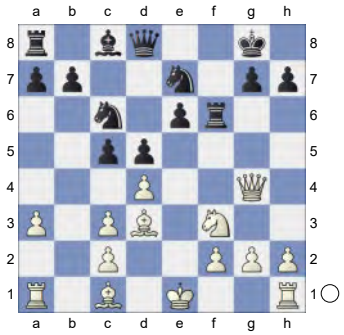
282 **C18**
□ **Leisebein,Peter** **2447**
■ **Zielinski,Sergej** **2430**
corr RSS7E pro-196 11.02.2016
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Nf3 Nbc6 9.Bd3 f5 10.exf6 Rxf6



11.Qh5

[11.dxc5? e5 12.Qh4 e4-+]

[11.Bxh7+? Kxh7 12.Bg5 Rf8 13.Qh5+ *(13.Bxe7? Qxe7 14.Qh5+ Kg8∓)* 13...Kg8 14.Bxe7 Qxe7∓]

11...h6 12.Ne5

[Don't play 12.dxc5 e5 13.Be2 *(13.Nxe5? Nxe5 14.0-0 N7c6-+)* 13...Qa5∓]

[12.0-0 c4 13.Be2 Bd7 14.Re1 Be8 15.Qh3 Bg6 16.Bd1 Nf5 17.g4 Nd6 18.g5 Bf5 19.Qg2 hxg5 20.Bxg5 Ne4 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Re3 Rf8 23.h4 Qh6 24.Ng5 Qxh4 25.Nxe4 Bxe4 26.Bf3 Bf5 Fedoseev,V (2674)-Manukyan,S (2253) Chess.com INT 2023 1-0 (37)]

12...Nxe5

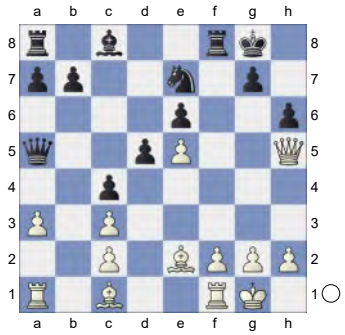
[Resist 12...cxd4 13.cxd4 Nf5 14.0-0±]

13.dxe5 Rf8 The position is equal.

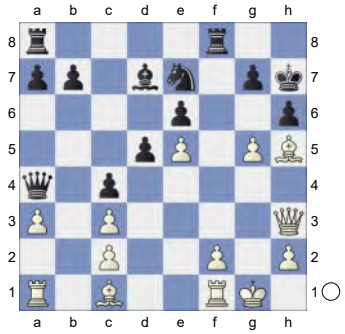
14.0-0N

[14.g4 c4 15.Bg6 Nxg6 16.Qxg6 Qh4 17.Be3 Bd7 18.0-0-0 Qe7 19.Qh5 Be8 20.Qh3 Bg6 21.f3 Qxa3+ 22.Kd2 d4 23.Bxd4 Rad8 24.Rhf1 Qb2 25.Ke3 Bxc2 26.Rde1 Rxd4 27.cxd4 Rd8 28.Kf4 Bd3 Schaposhnikov,Y-Boleslavsky,I USSR-ch Sverdlovsk 1951 French Nc3 [Myers] 0-1 29.Rg1 Qf2 0-1 (29) Schaposhnikov,Y-Boleslavsky,I Sverdlovsk 1951 French Nc3 [Myers]]

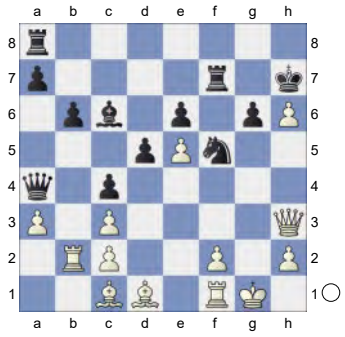
14...c4 15.Be2 Qa5



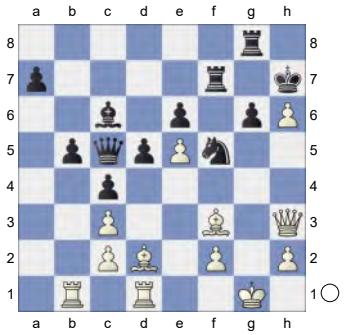
16.Qh3 Qa4! 17.Bg4 Nf5 18.Bh5 Bd7 19.g4 Ne7 20.g5 Kh7



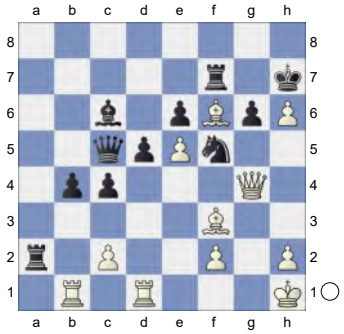
21.Rb1 b6 22.gxh6 g6 23.Bg4 Nf5 Black has compensation. **24.Rb2 Bc6 25.Bd1 Rf7**



26.Rb4 Qa5 27.Bf3 Rg8 28.Rd1 b5 29.Bd2 -0.90/22
[29.Qg4= -0.27/19 keeps the balance.]
29...Qxa3∓ 30.Rbb1 Qc5

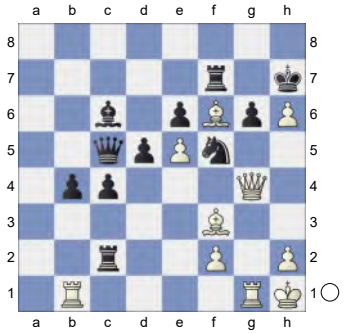


31.Bg5 -1.33/20
[⌓31.Ra1 -0.91/20]
31...a5 32.Bf6 -2.01/21
[32.Qg4∓ -1.34/19]
32...b4-+ 33.cxb4 axb4 34.Qg4 Ra8 35.Kh1 Ra2? -0.01/22
[35...Rfa7-+ -1.89/21 ...Ra2 is the strong threat. 36.Rg1 Rg8]

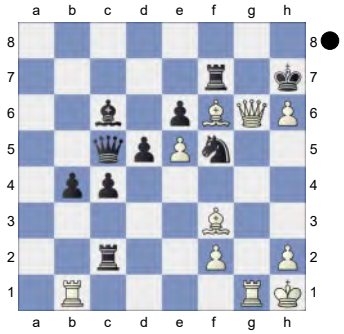


36.Rg1= Rxc2? #1/6
[36...Rxf6± 0.31/22 37.exf6 Be8]

(Diagram)



37.Qxg6#

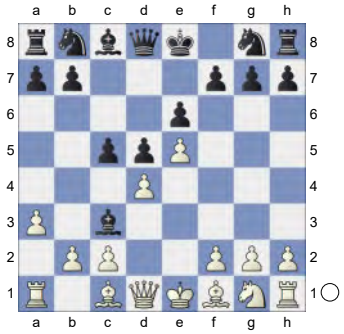


[Event "RSS7E pro-196"].
Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.37
1-0

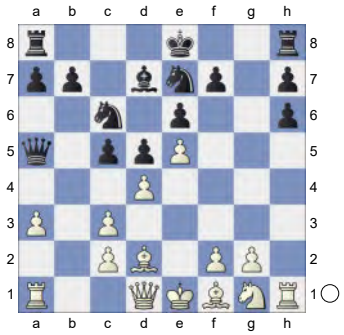
283 **C18**
□ **Vocaturo,Daniele** **2445**
■ **Hillarp Persson,Tiger** **2586**
Open 2009 Reykjavik (3.3) 26.03.2009
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Nbc6 8.h5 Qa5 9.Bd2 Bd7 10.h6 gxh6



11.Rb1 0-0-0 12.Rb5 White is slightly better. **12...Qxa3** 0.77/22

[12...Qa4= 0.28/21]

13.Rxc5± a6 14.Qb1 Strongly threatening Rh3.

[14.Rxh6 b6 15.Rxc6+ *(15.Bc1 Qa1∓)* 15...Nxc6∓]

14...Kc7 1.45/21

[Better is 14...Kb8 0.82/19]

15.c4!

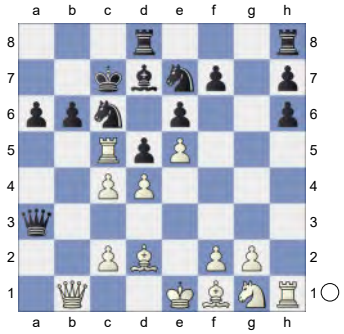
[15.Bxh6 Rdg8 16.Bc1 Qa4∓]

[15.Rxh6 b6 16.Rxc6+ *(16.Bc1 Qa4∓)* 16...Bxc6∓]

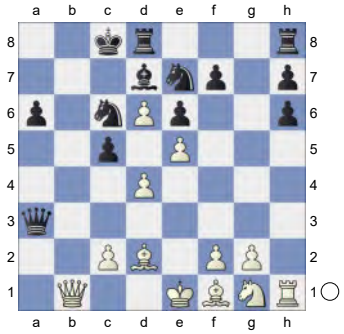
[15.Bc1 Qa4 16.Rxh6 b6 17.Rxc6+ Nxc6∓]

15...b6

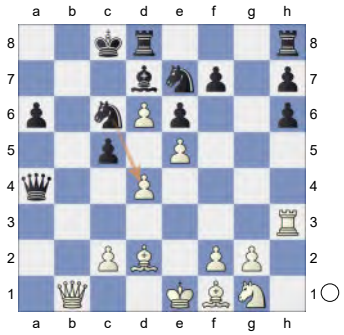
(Diagram)



16.cxd5! Pin **16...bxc5 17.d6+ Kc8**



And now ...Nd5 would win. **18.Rh3! Qa4N**



19.Rb3!→ Hoping for Rb6. White is out for blood. &Bianco is much more active.

[Stronger than 19.dxe7 Nxe7 20.Rc3 Bc6∓]

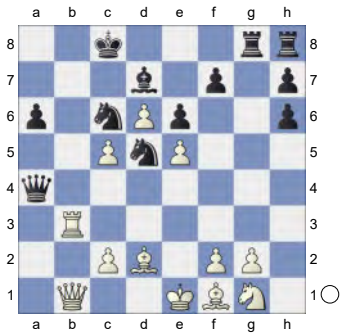
19...Nd5 2.00/22 Inhibits Rb6.

[19...cxd4? 20.Rb6 d3 21.Bxd3+-]

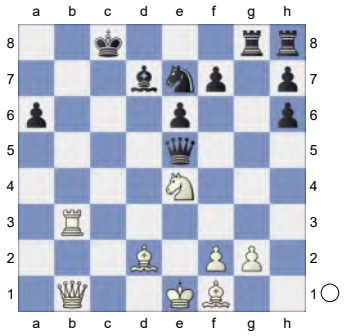
[19...Be8± 0.86/21 keeps fighting.]

20.dxc5+- Rdg8

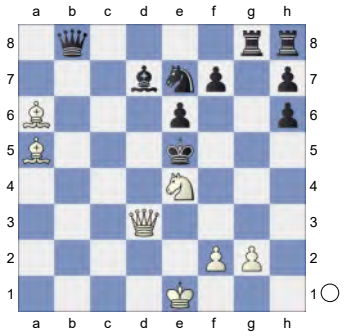
(Diagram)



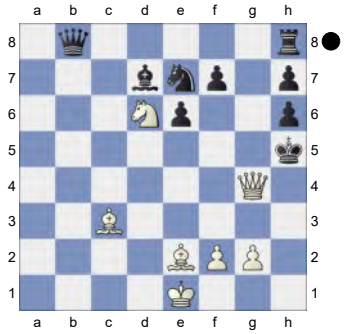
Threatens to win with ...Rg4. **21.c4** Chess con chili. **21...Nde7** 4.80/23
[21...Rg5 2.15/21 might work better.]
22.Ne2
[Not 22.dxe7 Rg4 23.Ne2 Re4+-]
22...Qxc4? 10.96/24
[22...Rg4 2.42/19]
23.Nc3 Qxc5 24.Ne4 Qxe5 25.dxe7 Nxe7



26.Rb8+!! Qxb8 This costs Black the game. **27.Bxa6+ Kc7 28.Ba5+ Kc6 29.Qc2+ Kd5 30.Qd3+** Skewer. White mates. **30...Ke5**



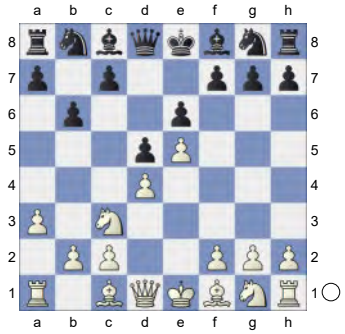
31.Bc3+ Skewer. A strong pair of Bishops. **31...Kf5 32.Nd6+** Discovered Attack (Double Check), Double Attack **32...Kg5 33.Qg3+ Kh5 34.Be2+ Rg4 35.Qxg4#**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.73
1-0

284 **C16**
□ **Gabrielian,Artur** **2442**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2788**
Titled Tuesday intern op 19th Dec Early ..
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8** 1.02/23
[5...Bxc3+± 0.59/25 6.bxc3 Ba6]

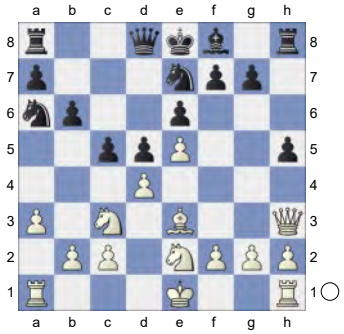


6.Qg4N 0.66/20
[6.Nf3± 1.02/23 Ne7 *(6...Ba6 7.Bxa6 Nxa6 8.Ne2 Qd7 9.0-0 c6 10.Nf4 Be7 11.Qd3 Nc7 12.Bd2 h5 13.Rac1 0-0-0 14.c4 Kb7 15.Rc3 dxc4 16.Rxc4 Nd5 17.Rfc1 Rc8*

18.b4 Nxf4 19.Bxf4 Qd5 20.Nd2 g5 21.Be3 0-1 Logan,T (2739)-8.♕e2 ♗b4 9.0-0-0 (2650) 59/629 Kecskemet 1993 (9.1)) 7.b4 c5 8.Bg5 a6 9.Bd3 Qc7 10.0-0 h6 11.Bd2 Nec6 12.bxc5 bxc5 13.dxc5 Nd7 14.Na4 Nxc5 15.Nxc5 Bxc5 16.Qe2 Bb7 17.Rab1 Ne7 18.Bb4 Bxb4 19.Rxb4 0-0 20.Rfb1 Bc6 21.Nd4 ½-½ Reynolds,D (2427)-Mikhailov,S (2502) Botvinnik 100th Open 2011 (7.3)]

[6.f4 Ne7 7.Be3 h5 8.Bf2 Qd7 9.Nf3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qd3 Nb8 12.0-0-0 Nbc6 13.h3 Ng6 14.Ne2 h4 15.Kb1 0-0-0 16.c4 dxc4 17.Qxc4 Nce7 18.Be3 Nf5 19.Bc1 Nge7 Chapter-Solid Variation B7231) 10...♘bd7]

6...Ba6 7.Bxa6 Nxa6 8.Nge2 White is better. **8...c5 9.Be3 h5 10.Qh3 Ne7**



11.g4 Repels Nf5 **11...Rc8 12.Rg1** 0.17/21

[12.gxh5 Nf5=]

[Better is 12.0-0-0± 0.68/20]

12...Qd7 13.0-0-0 b5 1.10/19

[13...g6± 0.32/23]

14.dxc5± And now b4 would win.

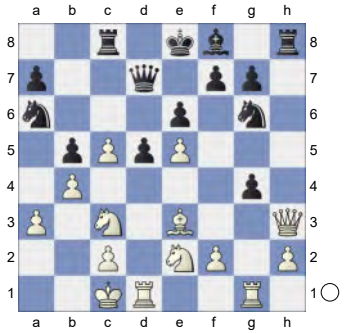
[14.gxh5 b4 15.Nb1 Qa4=]

14...Ng6 2.18/22

[14...b4± 1.15/20]

15.b4 hxg4

(Diagram)



16.Qxg4 Nxe5 17.Qf4 0.04/20

[17.Qg3± 1.28/19 Nc4 18.Rge1]

17...Nc4= 18.Bd4 f6 19.Qg4

[19.Qg3!?]

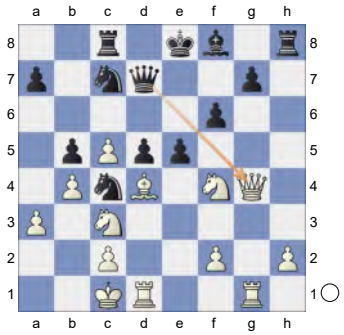
19...Nc7? 1.51/23

[19...e5!= 0.00/22 20.Qg6+ Qf7]

20.Nf4? 0.00/25

[20.c6!± 1.51/23 Qxc6 21.Qg6+ Ke7 22.Bc5+ Kd8 23.Bxf8 Rxf8 24.Qxg7]

20...e5



...Qxg4! would now be deadly. Really sharp! **21.Qxd7+** -0.91/5

[21.Qg6+!= 0.00/23 Qf7 22.Bxe5 *(22.Nfxd5? Qxg6 23.Rxg6 Nxd5-+)* 22...Nxe5 23.Qg2]

21...Kxd7∓ 22.Ng6 -2.69/21

[22.Nfxd5∓ -0.78/20 exd4 *(22...Nxd5 23.Be3=)* 23.Nxc7 Remove Defender Kxc7 *(23...Rxc7 24.Nxb5 Rb7 25.Nxd4=)* 24.Nxb5+ Kb8 25.Rxd4]

22...Rh7 -1.22/20

[22...Rxh2 23.Be3 d4 *(23...Nxa3 24.Nxd5 Nxd5 25.Rxd5+ Kc6 26.Rdd1=)* 24.Ne4∓]

[22...exd4-+ -2.69/21 and Black stays clearly on top. 23.Ne2 Rxh2 24.Nxf8+ Remove Defender Rxf8 25.Rxg7+ Kc8 26.Nxd4 Re8 *(26...Nxa3 27.Re1=* Remove Defender, Decoy; *26...Rxf2 27.Rxc7+* Remove Defender, Decoy *Kxc7 28.Ne6+ Kc6 29.Nxf8∓)*]

23.Be3 Kc6

[23...Nxa3 24.Nxd5 Nxd5 25.Rxd5+ Ke6 26.Nxf8+ Rxf8 27.Rd6+ Kf5 28.Rd7±]

24.Nb1 -2.01/23

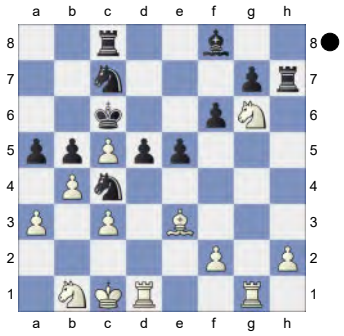
[24.h4∓ -1.37/23]

24...a5 -1.08/23

[24...Rxh2 25.Nd2∓]

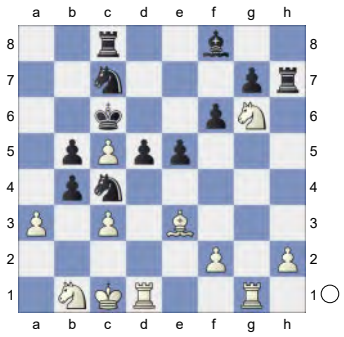
[24...d4-+ -2.01/23 25.Bd2 Rxh2]

25.c3



axb4 -0.34/19

[25...Ne6!∓ -1.27/21 26.h4 Ra8]

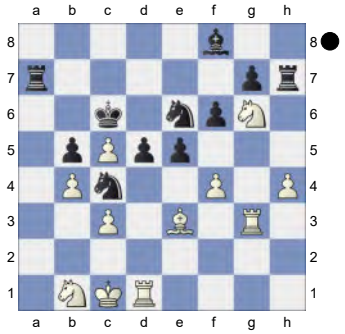


26.axb4∓ Ra8 27.h4 Ne6 28.Rg3 -1.10/23

[28.Nd2!= 0.25/22]

28...Ra7 29.f4 -1.95/23

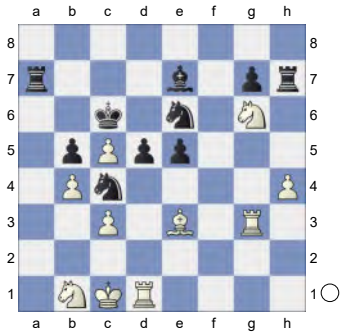
[29.Rgg1∓ -0.89/20]



29...Be7? -0.22/20

[Black should play 29...exf4!-+ -1.95/23 30.Bxf4 Nxf4 31.Nxf4 Rxh4 32.Nxd5 *(32.Ng6? Rh2-+)* 32...g6 33.Rxg6 *(33.Nxf6 Bh6+ 34.Nd2 Bxd2+ 35.Kb1 Rh2-+)* 33...Bh6+ 34.Rxh6 Rxh6]

30.fxe5= fxe5



31.Bg5 -5.07/22

[31.Nxe7+∓ -0.37/21 Rxe7 32.Nd2]

31...Bxg5+-+ 32.hxg5 Rh2 33.Rgd3 -7.12/24

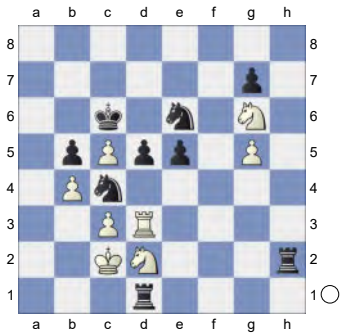
[⌓33.Rd2 -4.48/17 Nxd2 34.Nxe5+ Kc7 35.Nxd2]

33...Raa2 34.Nd2 -8.13/24

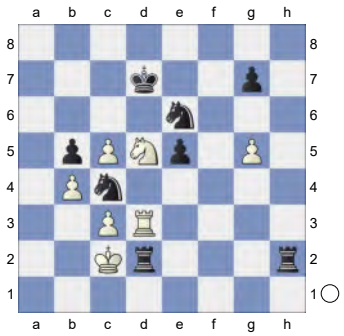
[⌓34.R3d2 -4.26/23 Nxd2 *(34...Nxg5 35.Ne7+ Kb7 36.Rxa2=)* 35.Nxe5+ Kb7 36.Rxd2]

34...Ra1+ 35.Kc2 Rxd1

(Diagram)



36.Ne7+ Kd7 37.Nxd5 Rdxd2+

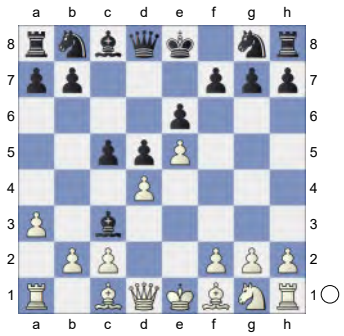


What a fight! Weighted Error Value: White=1.09/Black=0.74
0-1

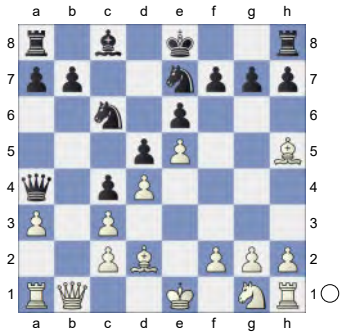
285 **C18**
□ **Leisebein,Peter** **2436**
■ **Schatz,Hans Dieter** **2329**
corr RSS7E pro-246 06.03.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

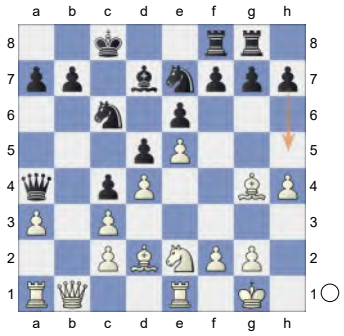
(Diagram)



6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qb1 c4 9.Be2 Nc6 10.Bh5 Nge7



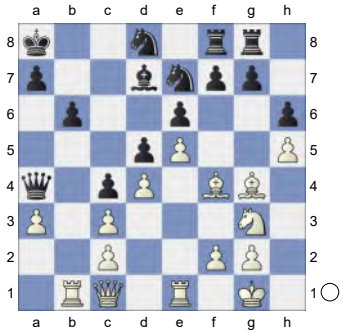
11.h4 White is slightly better. **11...Bd7 12.Ne2**
[12.Qxb7? Rb8 13.Qc7 Qxc2-+]
12...Rf8 13.Bg4
[13.Qxb7 Rb8 14.Qc7 Qa6-+]
13...0-0-0 14.0-0 Rg8N
[14...Kb8 15.h5 h6 16.f3 Ka8 17.Be1 Rde8 18.Qb2 b6 19.Qc1 24. French Defense (1...e6) W-3...Bb4 (6...Qa5 11)]
15.Re1 Rdf8



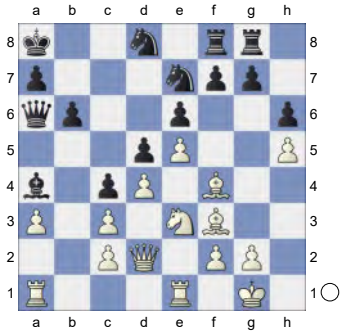
16.Qc1 b6 17.Rb1 0.22/20
[17.Nf4± 0.79/19]
17...h6 0.77/18

[17...f6!= 0.22/20]

18.h5 Kb7 19.Bf4 Ka8 20.Ng3 Nd8

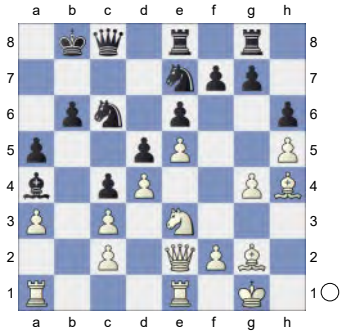


21.Bf3 Qa5 22.Qd2 Nc8 23.Ra1! Ba4 24.Nf1 Ne7 25.Ne3 Strongly threatening Nxc4. **25...Qa6**



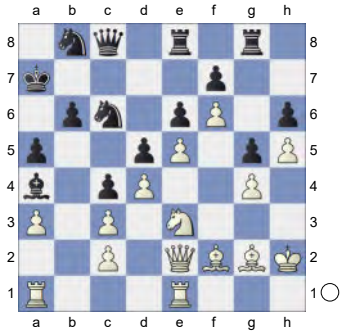
26.Bg3 Ndc6 27.Bh4 Re8 28.g4 Qc8 29.Qe2 Kb8 30.Bg2 a5 1.30/19

[Black should play 30...Ref8 0.80/16]

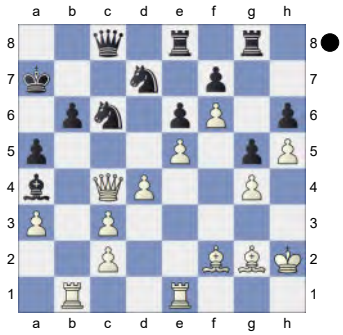


31.f4 g6 32.Kh2 Ka7 33.f5 And now f6 would win. **33...g5 34.Bf2 Nb8 35.f6 Nec6**

(Diagram)



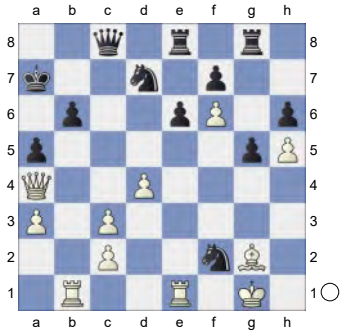
36.Rab1 Nd7 37.Nxc4 0.01/19 **dxc4= 38.Qxc4**



Ncxe5! 39.Qxa4 Nxg4+ 40.Kg1 Bg3 is the strong threat. **40...Nxf2**

[40...Ngxf6 41.c4 Ng4 42.c5 Nxf2 43.Rxb6! Nh3+ 44.Kh2 Qc7+ 45.Re5! Nxb6 46.cxb6+ Qxb6 47.Rxa5+ Kb8 48.Rb5]

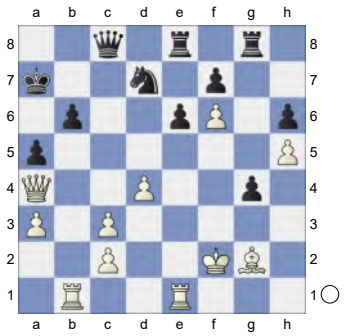
[40...Qc7? 41.Bg3! e5 42.Rb4+-]



41.Kxf2 Black must now prevent Rb5. **41...g4** 1.29/23

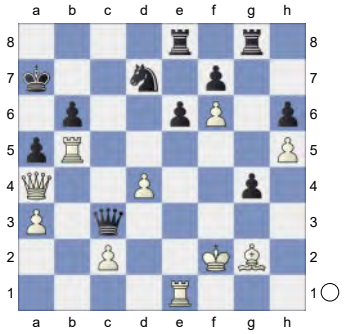
[41...Qc7= 0.01/22 remains equal.]

(Diagram)



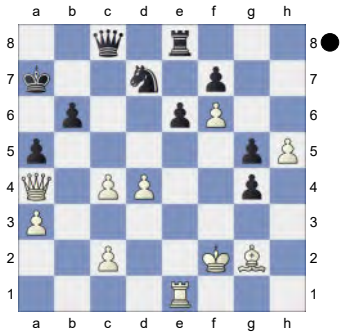
42.Rb5!± Intending Rxa5+! and mate. 0x0.001fbb6f3187dp-1022s more active pieces. **42...Rg5**

[42...Qxc3



is a self mate. 43.Rxa5+!! Kb8 44.Ra8+ Kc7 45.Ra7+ Kc8 46.Qxd7+ Kb8 47.Qb7#]

43.Rxg5 hxg5 44.c4



Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.19 (very precise)

1-0

286 **C18**

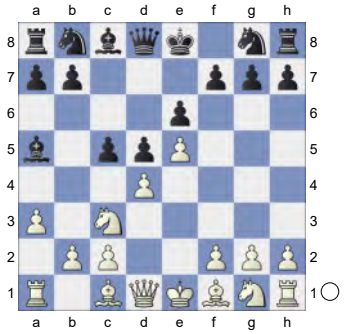
□ **Wenzel,Stefan** **2436**

■ **Loeschnauer,Ruediger** **2480**

corr Danube/5 15.04.2016

[GM Ostriker,Jon(Übersetzt Bellmann)]

1.e4 GM Ostriker,Jon **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Ba5**



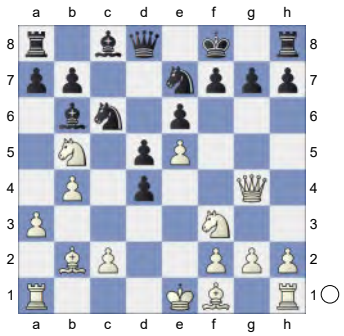
6.b4 cxd4 7.Qg4 Kf8!? Diese Linie kam vor einigen Jahren in Mode, als Schwarz verstand, dass 7...- ♘e7 besser ist für Weiß. **8.Nb5 Bb6 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Bb2** Der kritischste Zug!

[10.Qf4 a6 11.Nbxd4 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 Qc7 13.Bb2 f6 *(13...Ne7!?)* 14.exf6 gxf6 15.Qd2 e5 16.Ne2 Ne7!?N *(16...Be6 17.f4* war Riskant für Schwarz in 0-1 (56) Dourerassou,J (2505)-Bauer,C (2630) Nice 2014*)* 17.f4 Nf5 18.fxe5 Ne3 19.exf6 Nxc2+ 20.Kd1 Ne3+ 21.Ke1=]

[10.Bf4 Nge7 11.Bd3 Ng6 12.h4 a6 13.Nd6 h5 14.Qg3 Nxf4 15.Qxf4 f6∓ 0-1 (32) Svetushkin,D (2588)-Edouard, R (2659) Haguenau 2013]

10...Nge7

(Diagram)



11.Nbxd4

[11.Bd3!? war der letzte Trend, scheint aber zu einem erzwungenen Remis zu führen: Ng6 12.Qg3 f6 13.Bxg6 hxg6 14.Nbxd4 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 fxe5

A) 16.Nf3 e4 17.Ne5 Kg8 18.Qxg6 Qe7! 19.Ng4 Bd7 *(19...e5!?)* 20.Nf6+ Kf8 ½-½ (24) Grischuk,A (2766)-Mamedyarov,S (2801) Saint Louis 2018 21.Nh7+ Kg8 22.Nf6+ Kf8 23.Nh7+ Kg8 24.Nf6+ Kf8 ½-½ (24) Grischuk,A (2766)-Mamedyarov,S (2801) Saint Louis 2018;

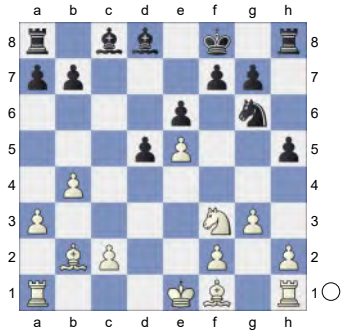
B) 16.Qxe5!? Rh5! 17.Nxe6+ *(17.Qg3 Qc7 18.0-0-0 e5 19.Qf3+ Qf7 20.Qxf7+ Kxf7 21.Nf3 e4 22.Ne5+ Kg8! 23.Rxd5 Be6=)* 17...Bxe6 18.Qxe6 Qe8 19.Qxe8+ Rxe8+ 20.Kd1 *(20.Kd2 Bxf2 21.Rad1 Rf5 22.g4 Rf4 23.h3 d4 24.Kc1 Re2 25.Rd3 Be3+ 26.Kb1 Rff2 27.Bxd4 Bxd4 28.Rxd4 Rxc2 29.Rf4+ Rxf4 30.Kxc2* ½-½ (30) Haugen,A (2433)-Chipkin,L (2123) ICCF 2017*)* 20...Rg5 21.g3 Bxf2 22.Bc1 *(22.Kd2!? Rf5 23.Rad1 Re4=* ½-½ (32) Sevian,S (2591)-Chandra, A (2490) Atlantic City 2016*)* 22...Rf5 23.Rb1 Re4 24.Rb3 Kf7 25.Bf4 Ke6 26.h4 Bd4 27.Re1 Be5= 1-0 (59) Shankland,S (2679)-Ashwin,J (2468) Atlantic City 2016]

11...h5 12.Qf4 Ng6 13.Nxc6 Nxf4

Führt zu einem Endspiel was für Schwarz lästig ist.

[13...bxc6 14.Qg3! *(14.Qd2 Nh4* ist mehr solide angelegt*)* 14...h4 15.Qg4± ist für Schwarz nur ärgerlich]

14.Nxd8 Bxd8 15.g3 Ng6



16.Bd3! Ein sehr lästiger Zug für Schwarz: Weiß muss nicht verhindern, dass ...-h4 dadurch verhindert wird, dass er es selbst spielt. Nicht nur, dass er ein Tempo gewinnt, sondern er behält auch die Option h3 und folgendem g4.

[16.h4 ist nicht bedrohlich: Bd7 17.a4 *(17.Bd3 Ne7 18.Ke2 g6 19.a4 Kg7 20.Nd4 a6 21.Nb3 Bb6 22.Nc5* ½-½ (22) Podgursky,A (2265)-Carbonell Bofill,C (2276) Lechenicher SchachServer 2010*)* 17...Ne7 18.b5 *(18.Bd3 Nc6 19.b5 Na5 20.Ke2 Rc8 21.Nd2 b6 22.f4 Be7=)* 18...Ba5+ 19.Kd1 Bb6!?N *(19...Rc8 20.Bd3 Nf5* brachte für Weiß nicht viel in ½-½ (45) Feller,S (2602)-Edouard,R (2647) Agen 2016*)* 20.Bd4 *(20.Nd4 a6 21.bxa6 bxa6 22.Bd3 f6=)* 20...Nf5 21.Bxb6 axb6 22.Bd3 Ke7=]

16...a6

[16...h4 macht das Gegenspiel von Schwarz nur noch langsamer: 17.0-0 hxg3 18.hxg3 Ne7 19.b5±]

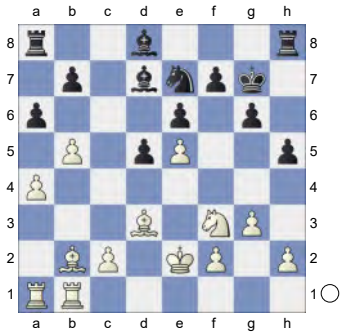
[16...Bd7 17.a4! Rc8 18.b5±]

17.a4 Ne7 18.b5 g6!?

[18...Ba5+ hilft Weiß einfach: 19.Ke2 g6 20.Bc1±]

[18...axb5 19.axb5 Rxa1+ 20.Bxa1± hilft auch nicht: Weiß spielt ♔e2 und öffnet irgendwann die Position mit c4.]

19.Ke2 Definitiv logisch - es besteht keine Notwendigkeit für Weiß die Rochade zu spielen. **19...Kg7 20.Rhb1 Bd7**

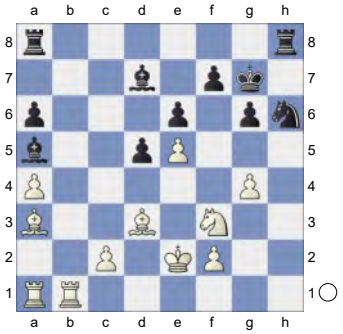


21.h3

[21.Bc1 Nf5! Ein wichtiger Zug. Schwarz will es mit b5 aufnehmen und ..-♗b6 spielen, und im Falle von ♗g5 ..-♖fc8 spielen zu können. 22.h4?! Ein wirklich zweifelhafter Zug: Schwarz hat genug Zeit um das zu tun was nötig ist. *(22.bxa6! bxa6 23.a5 Bc7* ist ein bisschen traurig für Schwarz: aber es ist nicht einfach für Weiß, den Durchbruch zu schaffen! *)* 22...axb5 23.axb5 Bb6 24.Rxa8 Rxa8 25.Bb2 Ra4 26.Bc3 Ra3 27.Bb2 Ra4 28.Bc3 Ra3 29.Bb2 ½-½ (29) Brkic,A (2565)-Edouard,R (2646) Batumi 2018]

21...Ba5 22.Ba3 Nf5 23.g4 hxg4 24.hxg4 Nh6 25.bxa6 bxa6

(Diagram)

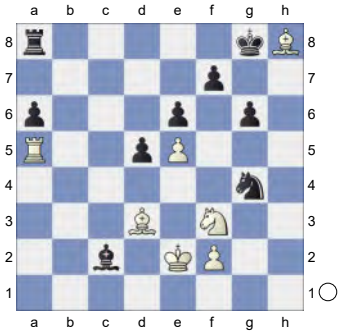


26.Rb3 Bxa4!?

[26...Bd8 27.Bd6 und Weiß steht stark.]

27.Be7 Bxb3 28.Bf6+ Kg8 29.Rxa5 Nxg4 30.Bxh8 Bxc2!?

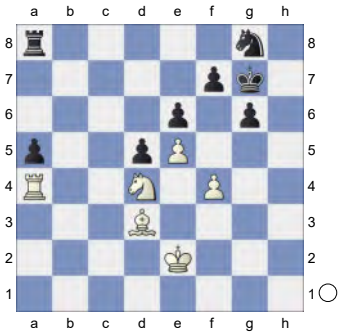
[30...Bc4? 31.Bf6 Bxd3+ 32.cxd3+- mit Gewinnstellung!]



31.Bxc2 Kxh8 Für die Figur hart Schwarz drei Bauern. **32.Ra4 Nh6!** Schwarz verteidigt sich zäh.

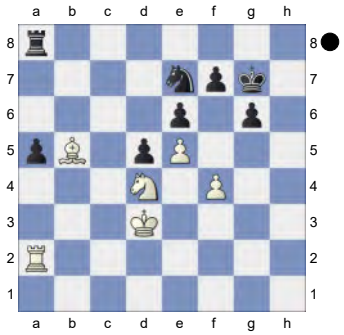
[Nicht 32...f5? 33.exf6 Nxf6 34.Bxg6+-]

33.Nd4 a5 34.f4 Kg7 35.Bd3 Ng8



36.Ke3 Ne7 37.Bb5 Ra7 38.Kd3 Ra8 39.Ra2

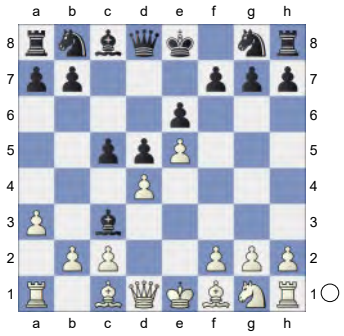
[Es könnte wie folgt weiter gehen 39.Ra2 Rh8 40.Rxa5 Rh3+ 41.Ke2 Rh4 42.Ra7 *(42.Ke3 g5! 43.fxg5 Re4+ 44.Kd3 Ng6=)* 42...Kf8 43.Ra8+ Kg7 44.Re8 Ng8! 45.Ke3 g5 46.fxg5 Re4+ 47.Kd3 Rxe5=]



½-½

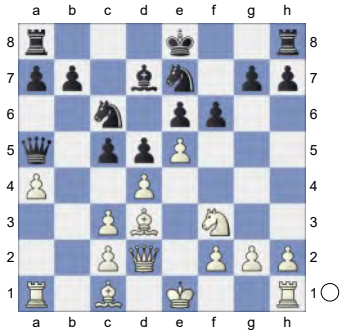
287 **C19**
□ **Grund,Holger** **2426**
■ **Greet,Andrew** **2426**
4NCL 2013-14 (5.143) 15.02.2014
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
Riazantsev,Alexander: 'Riazantsev,A: 'Inf 86/(306)" RK: '1990/91 ' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

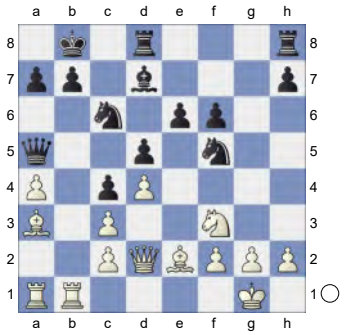


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.a4N
[7.Qg4
A) 7...Qc7
A1) 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 Bd7 13.Qxc3 Nf5 14.Rb1 d4 15.Qd3 0-0-0 16.Rg1 Nce7 *(16...Na5 17.Rb4 Bc6 18.Ng3 Nxg3 19.hxg3 Rg6 20.Be2 Bd5 21.Rxd4 Nc6 22.Ra4 Bxg2 23.Qc3 Bd5 24.Be3 b6 25.Qb2 Ne7 26.Bf2 Rh8 27.Rd4 Nc6 28.Rd2 Na5 29.Rd3 Kb8 30.Rc3 Qe7 31.Bc5* Antoszkiewicz,G (2180)-Eisenacher,H Germany_103446 1991 UltraCorr3a [RK] 1-0 (33)*)* 17.Rb4 Nd5 18.Rc4 Bc6 19.Nxd4 Nb6 20.Rxc6 bxc6 21.Qa6+ Kb8 22.Nxf5 exf5 Renet,O (2480)-Huebner,R (2600) Cologne 1989 CBM 016 [Knaak,Rainer] 0-1 (31);
A2) 8.Bd3 cxd4 9.Ne2 dxc3 10.Qxg7 Rg8 11.Qh6 Nbc6 12.Bf4 Bd7 13.0-0 Ng6 14.Bg3 Ncxe5 15.Rab1 f5 16.Rb3 Qd6 17.Rxb7 Qf8 18.Qe3 Nxd3 19.cxd3 Lupi,F-12) Black Plays 8...b6 with 1 Bucharest 2014 200 Traps In The Opening [Sh Riga 11/1977];
B) 7...0-0 8.Bd3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Nbc6 10.Nf3 f5 11.exf6 Rxf6 12.Qh5 Nf5 13.c4 Qa4 14.cxd5 Ncxd4 15.Ng5 h6 16.Ne4 Rf8 17.0-0 b6 18.Ng3 Ba6 19.Nxf5 exf5 20.Bxa6 Qxa6 21.Rae1 Qb7 Nijboer,F (2556)-Riazantsev,A (2543) Hoogeveen 2002 CI1-130 [Riazantsev,Alexander] ½-½]
7...Nbc6 8.Nf3 Qa5 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.Bd3 f6

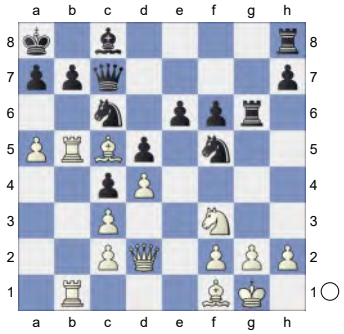
(Diagram)



11.exf6 gxf6 12.0-0 c4 13.Be2 Nf5 14.Ba3 0-0-0 15.Rfb1 Kb8



The position is equal. **16.Bc5 Bc8 17.Bf1 Rdg8 18.Rb5 Qc7 19.a5 Rg6 20.Rab1 Ka8!**



Active counter play! **21.Bb6 Qg7 22.Kh1** -1.31/21 **Rg8 23.Ne1 Nd6**

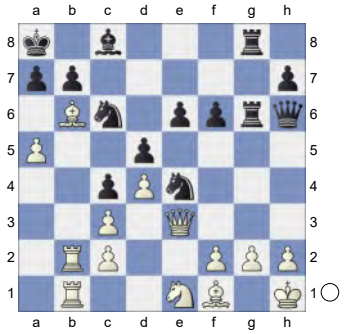
[23...axb6? 24.axb6 Kb8 25.Ra1]

24.R5b2 -2.29/20

[24.Bc5∓ -1.53/22 Nxb5 25.Rxb5]

24...Ne4 25.Qe3 Qh6

(Diagram)



26.Qxh6 Rxh6

[26...Nxf2+ 27.Kg1 Rxh6 28.Kxf2±]

27.f3 -2.74/22

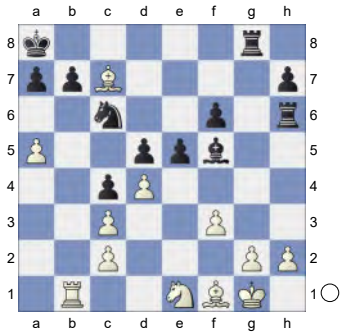
[⌓27.Ra1 -1.85/21]

27...Nd2-+ Pair of Knights!

[27...axb6 28.fxe4 bxa5 29.exd5 exd5 30.Rb5=]

[27...Ng3+? 28.Kg1 Nxf1 29.Bc7-+]

28.Bc7 e5 Prevents Bf4. **29.Kg1 Nxb1 30.Rxb1 Bf5**



31.Rb5 -2.18/22

[⌓31.g4 -1.71/18]

31...Rc8

[31...exd4 32.Bf4 Rh4 33.Bg3∓]

32.Bd6 Rd8

[32...exd4 33.Bf4 a6 34.Rc5∓]

33.Bc5 -2.15/20

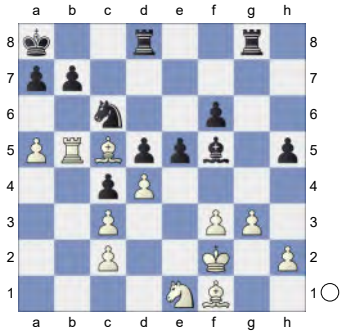
[⌓33.dxe5 -1.72/21 fxe5 34.Bc5]

33...Rg6 34.Kf2 Rgg8 -1.20/18

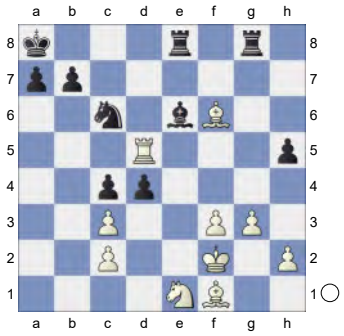
[34...exd4-+ -1.95/21 35.Bxd4 Nxd4 36.cxd4 Rd6 37.Bxc4 dxc4 38.Rxf5 Rxd4]

35.g3 h5

(Diagram)

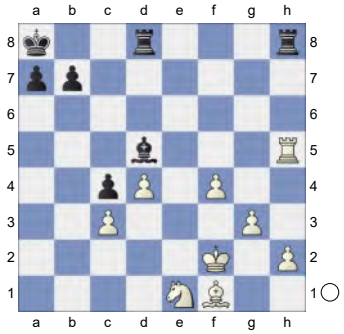


36.Rb2 -1.62/19
[36.Be2∓ -1.30/18]
36...Nxa5 37.Be7 Rde8 -1.25/21
[37...Nc6-+ -1.63/20 38.Bxd8 Rxd8 39.dxe5 fxe5]
38.Bxf6∓ Nc6 39.Rb5 exd4 -0.42/21
[39...Rgf8!∓ -1.20/21 40.Bg7 Rf7 41.Bxe5 Nxe5 42.dxe5 Rxe5]
40.Rxd5∓ Be6

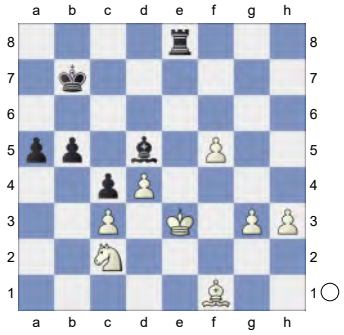


41.Rxh5 Rgf8⇄ Black is not keeping still **42.Bxd4**
[42.Bg7!?]
42...Nxd4 43.cxd4 Rd8 0.42/22
[43...Rh8∓ -0.34/20 44.Re5 Rxh2+ 45.Bg2 Bd7]
44.c3 Bd5 0.77/19
[44...Rh8± 0.43/20 was preferrable. 45.Re5 Rxh2+ 46.Bg2 Bd7]
45.f4 0.02/19
[Better is 45.h4!± 0.77/19]
45...Rh8!=

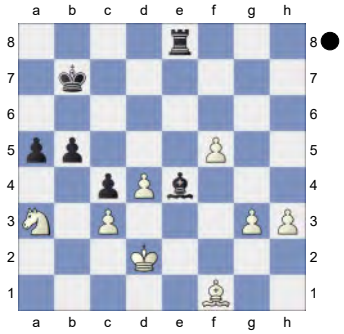
(Diagram)



46.Rxh8 Rxh8 Endgame KRB-KBN
47.h3 b5 And now ...a5 would win.
48.Ke3 -1.08/22
[48.Nc2= -0.08/22 keeps the balance.]
48...a5 Black has strong compensation.
49.Nc2 Against b4 **49...Kb7 50.f5 Re8+**



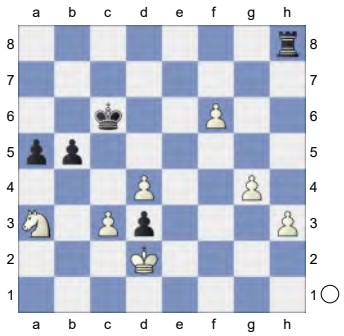
51.Kd2 -1.37/25
[⌓51.Kf2 -1.01/21]
51...Be4∓ ...Kb6 is the strong threat.
52.Na3



Kc6 -0.57/21
[52...Bxf5 53.Nxb5 Kc6 54.Na3=]
[Black should try 52...Kb6!∓ -1.44/22 53.g4 Rg8]
53.g4∓ Rh8 54.f6 Bd3? 2.40/20

[54...Bd5∓ -0.48/22 stays ahead. 55.Nc2 Kd6]

55.Bxd3+- cxd3

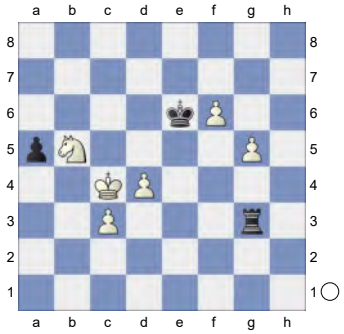


KR-KN **56.g5** **Kd5** **57.Nxb5** Threatens to win with c4+! **57...Ke6** 2.17/21

[57...Rxh3± 0.71/21 might work better. 58.f7 Rh8]

58.Kxd3 **Rxh3+** **59.Kc4** Black must now prevent d5+. **59...Rg3?** 9.82/27 Diagram

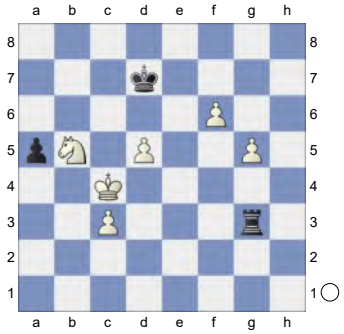
[59...Rh8± 1.53/21 60.d5+ Kf5]



White should be winning and it's hard to imagine that he could lose this endgame... However, stranger things happen in chess! **60.Nc7+?** 0.01/26

[Passed pawns must go forward, so White should have played 60.d5+! Kd7

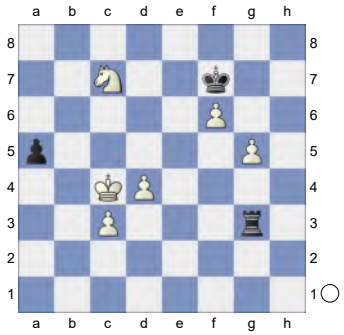
(Diagram)



61.Nd4!+-]

[60.d5++- 9.82/27 Kd7 61.Nd4]

60...Kf7=



61.d5 **Rxg5** **62.Kb5** **Kxf6** **63.c4**

[63.Kxa5 Ke5 64.c4 is a draw, though White might have some practical chances.]

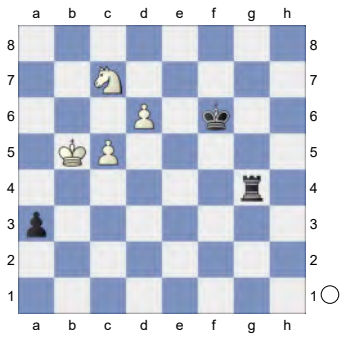
63...Rg4 **64.d6**

[Avoid the trap 64.c5? a4 65.d6 a3 66.Nd5+ *(66.c6? a2-+)* 66...Ke6-+]

64...a4 Hoping for ...a3. **65.c5??** -5.77/26 Maybe White thought that he was winning, but in fact the opposite is true!

[65.Nd5+= 0.00/22 Ke6 66.d7]

65...a3-+ Diagram



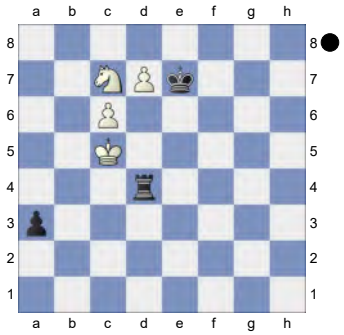
. Black is clearly winning. **66.d7 Ke7** -5.17/18

[⌓66...Rd4 -15.72/23 (-> ...Ke7) 67.Ne8+ Ke6 68.Nd6 Rxd6 69.cxd6 Kxd7 70.Kc5 a2 71.Kd5 a1Q 72.Ke4 Qe1+ 73.Kd3 Kxd6 74.Kc2 Qe2+ 75.Kb3 Qd2 76.Ka3 Kc6 77.Kb3 Kc5 78.Ka3 Kc4 79.Ka4 Qb4#]

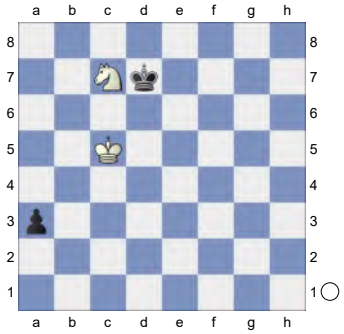
67.c6 -15.48/20

[⌓67.Nd5+ -5.17/18 Kd8 68.Nc3]

67...Rd4 68.Kc5



Rxd7! 69.cxd7 Kxd7



What a fight!

Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.32

0-1

288 **C18**

□ **Lemmers,Oscar** **2425**

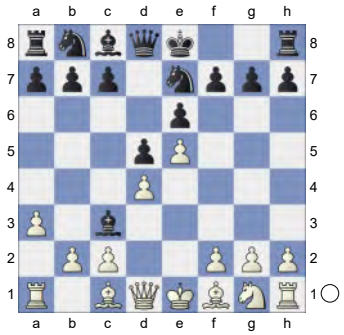
■ **Fuchs,Patrick** **2430**

ROM-chT Romania (12.3) 01.04.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**



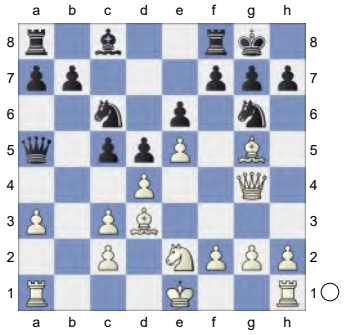
6.bxc3 c5N

[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5*

Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Bg5 Qa5 10.Ne2 Ng6 0.11/19

[⌓10...cxd4 -0.26/20 11.Bxe7 Nxe7]



11.0-0= Bd7 0.62/22

[11...Qa4= 0.11/22]

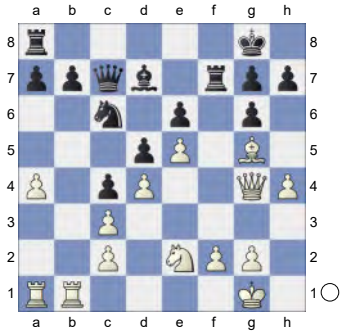
12.a4⩲ c4 White is slightly better.

13.Bxg6 fxg6 14.Rfb1 Qc7

[14...b6 15.Rb5 Qa6 1.56/22 *(15...Nxe5!⩲ 0.34/23 16.dxe5 Bxb5 17.Qxe6+ Kh8)* 16.Rxd5± exd5 17.Qxd7 Qc8 18.Qxd5+ Kh8 19.Qxc4 Qg4 2.32/22 *(⌓19...Qf5* 1.73/21 *)* 20.f4+- h6]

15.h4 Rf7

(Diagram)



16.Bc1 Ne7 17.a5 Nf5 18.Qh3 Qd8 1.16/21

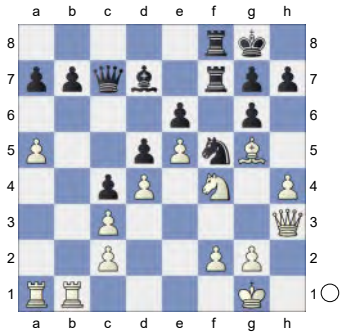
[18...Bc6⩲ 0.49/21]

19.Bg5 0.47/21

[19.Rxb7± 1.16/21 Qxh4 20.Qxh4 Nxh4 21.f3]

19...Qc7 20.Nf4 Raf8 0.70/21

[⌓20...h6! 0.38/21]



21.f3 Ne7 22.Qg4 &Bianco is more active.

[22.Nxe6? Qc6 23.Qg3 *(23.Bxe7? Rxe7 24.Rb2 Rxe6-+)* 23...Bxe6-+]

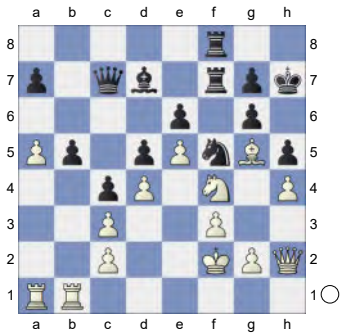
22...Nf5 23.Kf2 h5 24.Qh3 Kh7 1.16/21

[24...Nxd4!⩲ 0.70/24 25.cxd4 Rxf4]

25.Qh2!± b5 1.39/21

[⌓25...Nh6 1.01/23]

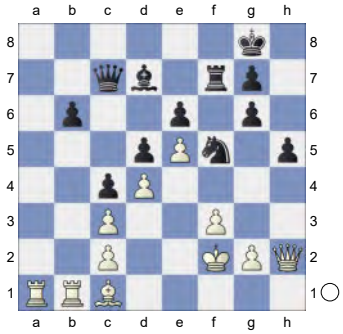
(Diagram)



26.axb6 axb6 27.Nh3 Kg8 28.Bc1 Nxh4 3.02/24

[28...Rb8 1.75/20 is a better defense. 29.Ba3 Ba4]

29.Ng5+- Nf5 30.Nxf7 Rxf7



31.Ba3? 0.59/24

[31.Ra8++- 2.28/23 Bc8 32.Rba1]

31...Ba4± 32.Ra2

[Don't do 32.Bd6?! Qc6 33.Ra2 b5±]

32...b5 33.Qf4 -0.01/25

[33.Bc1± 0.50/22]

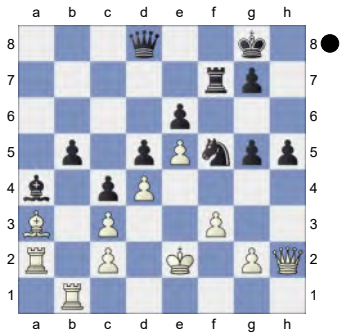
33...Qd8 34.Ke2 -1.14/24

[34.Kg1= 0.01/24 keeps the balance.]

34...g5∓ Black has strong compensation.

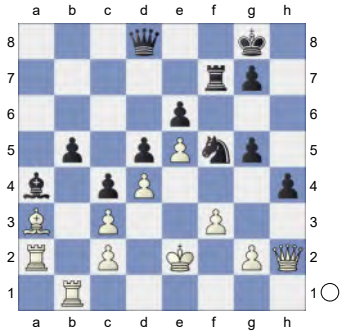
35.Qh2

(Diagram)



h4 -0.01/25

[Better is 35...g4!∓ -0.86/25 36.fxg4 Qg5 37.gxf5 Qxf5]

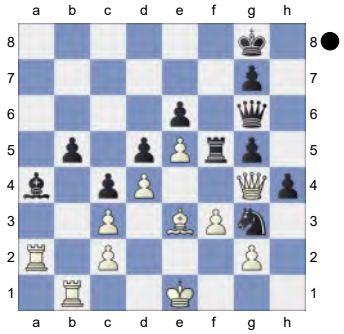


36.Qh3⇄ White is fighting back

36...Ng3+ 37.Ke1! Rf5 38.Bc1! Qe8 39.Be3 Qg6 Strongly threatening ...g4!

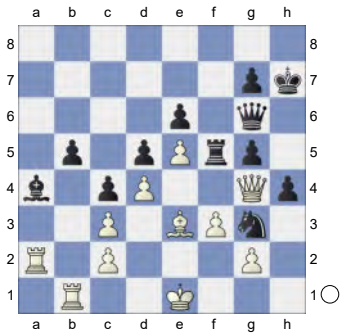
40.Qg4 -0.51/25

[40.Bf2= 0.01/26]

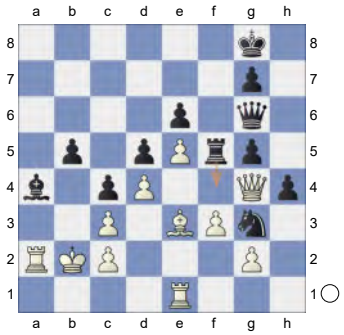


40...Kh7 0.01/24

[Black should try 40...Bxc2!∓ -0.51/25 41.Rc1 *(41.Rxc2? Rxe5 42.Rcb2 Rxe3+ 43.Kf2 Rxc3-+; 41.Rxb5? Rf8-+)* 41...Ba4]



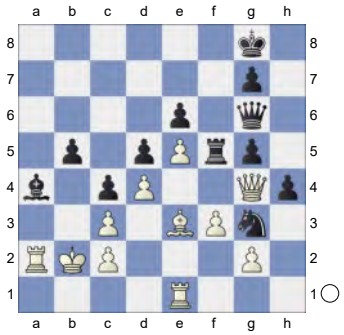
41.Kd2 Qh6 42.Re1 Kg8 43.Kc1 Kf7 44.Kb1 Kg8 45.Kb2 Qg6



...Rf4! is the strong threat. **46.Kb1** 0.01/25

[White should play 46.Ka3± 0.57/22]

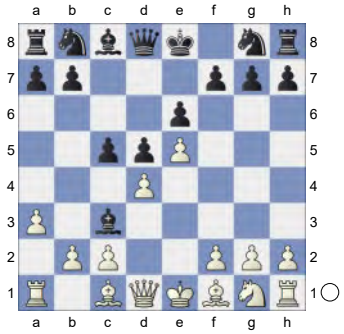
46...Qh6 47.Kb2 Qg6



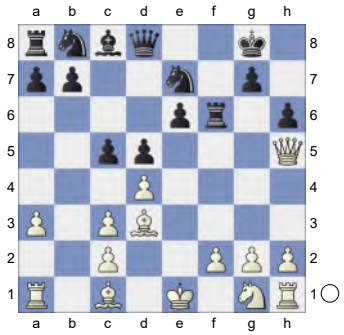
Black defended with fortune.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.19 (very precise)
½-½

289 **C18**
□ **Leisebein,Peter** **2425**
■ **Schulz,Rene** **2422**
corr CiF-25.Superturnier 27.02.2016
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Psakhis: 'Psakhis,L: 'Inf 78/(315)''Inf 78/(315) Psakhis,Lev: 'Psakhis,L: 'Inf 78/(315)''' ' **1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Qh5 h6!



11.Nf3 -0.01/21

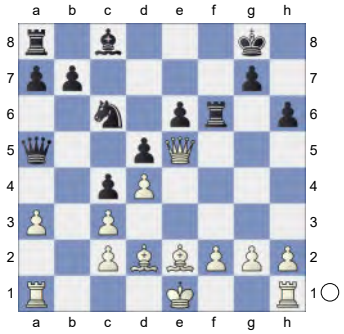
[11.g4!± 0.34/21 is more appropriate.]

11...c4= 12.Be2 Nbc6 13.Ne5
The position is equal. **13...Nxe5**

[13...Rf5 is more complex. 14.Qg4 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Rxe5 16.Bxh6 Qf8]

14.Qxe5 Qa5 15.Bd2 Nc6

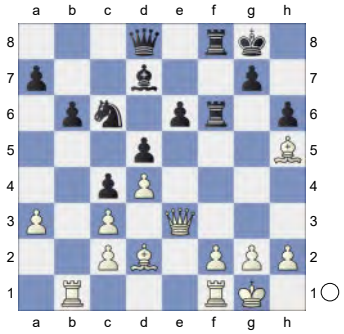
(Diagram)



16.Qe3 Bd7N

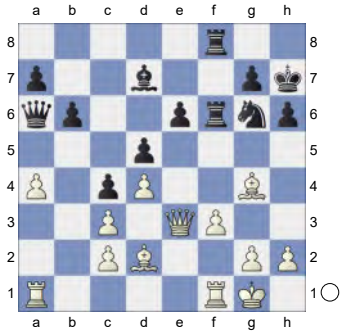
[16...Qa4 17.Ra2 Bd7 18.0-0 Raf8 19.g3 Be8 20.Bg4 Nd8 21.Qe2 Bg6 22.Bf4 Rxf4 23.gxf4 Rxf4 24.Bxe6+ Nxe6 25.Qxe6+ Kh7 26.f3 Bxc2 27.Rb2 Rf6 28.Qxd5 Bd3 29.Re1 Qxa3 30.Rxb7 Rg6+ 31.Kh1 Pedzich,D (2436)-Rustemov,A (2539) Swidnica 1999 French Nc3 [Psakhis] 0-1 (39) Qxc3 32.Qe5 Qd2 33.Rg1 Rxg1+ 34.Kxg1 Qd1+ 35.Kf2 Qf1+ 36.Ke3 Qg1+ 37.Kf4 Qxh2+ 38.Ke3 Qg1+ 39.Kf4 c3 0-1 (39) 12.Bg2 (2436)-14.Bc4 Rc4 15.g4 (2539) Moldova (tt) 1999 Inf 46 [Santos/Pereira]]

17.Bg4 Re8 18.0-0 Qd8 19.Bh5 Ref8 20.Rab1 b6



21.Rbe1 Ne7 22.Bg4 Qc8 23.f3 Qa6 24.Ra1 Ng6 25.a4 Kh7

(Diagram)



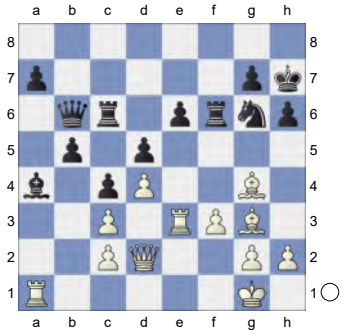
26.Be1 Bxa4 27.Bg3

[27.Bxe6? Re8 28.Bg8+ Rxg8-+]

27...b5 28.Rfe1 White has compensation. **28...Rc8 29.Qd2**

[29.Bxe6? Re8 30.Bg8+ Rxg8-+]

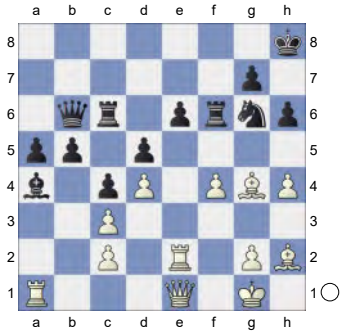
29...Rc6 30.Re3 Qb6



31.Re2 a5 32.Qe1 Kg8 33.h4 -0.60/20

[33.Ra2= 0.18/21]

33...Ne7!∓ 34.Bh2 Ng6 35.f4 Kh8



36.h5! Ne7

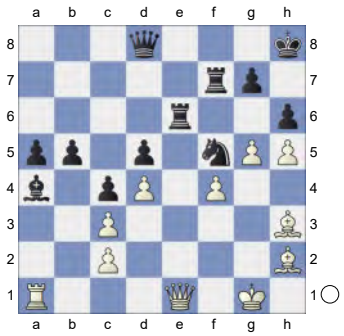
[36...Nxf4? 37.Rf2+-]

37.Bh3! Qd8 38.g4 Rf7 Against f5 **39.g5** 0.01/21

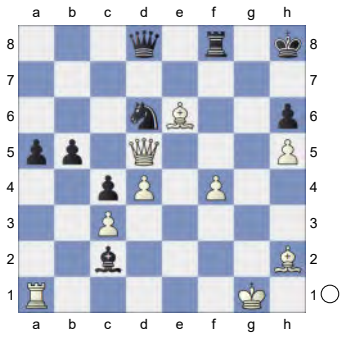
[39.Qh4!± 0.46/18 feels stronger.]

39...Nf5!= 40.Rxe6 Rxe6

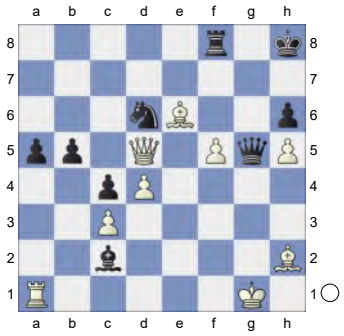
(Diagram)



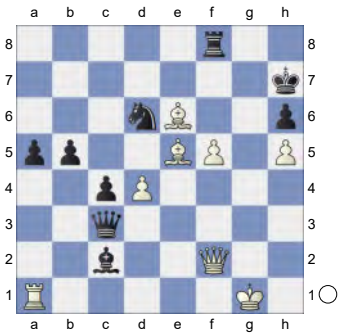
41.Qxe6 Nd6 42.Qxd5 -0.01/20
[But not 42.gxh6 Bxc2 43.Bg3 *(43.Qxd5 gxh6 44.Bg2 Bf5=)* 43...Be4=]
[42.Qg6± 0.56/21 Qe7 43.Kh1]
42...Bxc2 43.Be6 Rf8 0.44/19
[43...Rb7= -0.01/22 is superior.]
44.gxh6!± gxh6



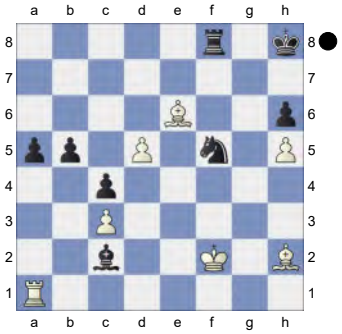
45.f5 0.36/22
[45.Rxa5!± 0.96/24 Threatens to win with Qe5+. Qxa5 46.Qxd6 *(46.Qe5+ Kh7=)*]
45...Qg5+



46.Qg2 Qe3+ 47.Qf2! Really sharp!
47...Qxf2+
[47...Qxc3? 48.Be5+ Kh7



49.Qg2! Qe3+ 50.Kh2+-]
48.Kxf2 Nxf5
[48...Ne4+? 49.Ke3 a4 50.d5+-]
49.d5 0.30/24
[49.Be5+± 0.85/24 Kh7 50.Ke1]

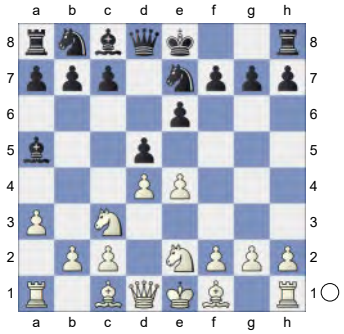


[Event "CiF-25. Superturnier"].
Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

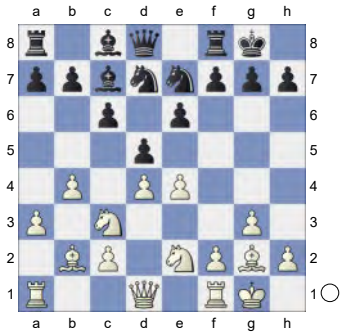
290 **C15**
□ **Fant,Goran** **2420**
■ **Knoller,Luise** **2453**
Sautron op qual 19th (8) 19.08.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Ne7 5.a3 Ba5

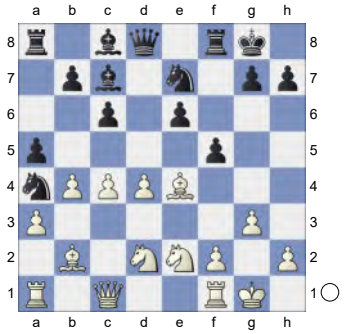
(Diagram)



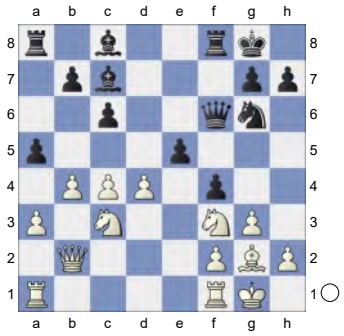
6.b4 Bb6 7.Bb2 c6 8.g3N
[8.Nf4 0-0 9.g3 Nd7 10.e5 Bc7 11.Bd3 Nb6 12.Qh5 Nf5 13.Nce2 Nc4 14.Bc1 g6 15.Qf3 f6 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Qe4 g5 18.Nh5 a5 19.Nxf6+ Rxf6 20.exf6 axb4 21.Bxg5 Qd5 22.f3 Rxa3 Ibarra Jerez,J (2563)-Suarez Gomez,J (2453) Linares 2023 1-0 (33) 23.0-0 e5 24.dxe5 Bxe5 25.Rad1 Qc5+ 26.Kh1 Nd6 27.Qh4 Nf7 28.Bc1 Ra2 29.Qe4 Be6 30.Be3 Qa5 31.Nd4 Bc8 32.Nf5 Bxf6 33.Qe8# 1-0 (33) Horchman,J (2563)-Knoller,L (2453) Sautron 2023 TD 92\01 [John Watson]]
8...0-0 9.Bg2 The position is equal.
9...Nd7 10.0-0 Bc7
[10...Qc7 0.37/18 10...Bc7 0.05 11.Na4 Qd8 12.Qd3 Bc7 13.e5 a5 14.f4 b5 15.Nc5 Nb6 16.g4 Nc4]



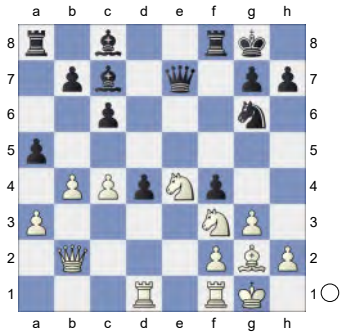
11.Nb1 a5 12.Nd2 Nb6 13.Qc1 dxe4 14.Bxe4 Na4 15.c4 f5
(Diagram)



16.Bg2 f4 17.Nf3
[17.Nxf4 Bxf4 18.gxf4 Ng6∓]
[17.gxf4 Ng6 18.Qc2 Nxb2 19.Qxb2 Nxf4 20.Nxf4 Rxf4∓]
17...Ng6 18.Qc2 -0.50/17
[18.Nc3= 0.13/18 Nxb2 19.Qxb2]
18...Nxb2∓ 19.Qxb2 Qf6 0.25/16
[Better is 19...e5∓ -0.33/19 20.dxe5 *(20.Nxe5? Nxe5 21.Nxf4 Qf6-+)* 20...axb4]
20.Nc3 e5

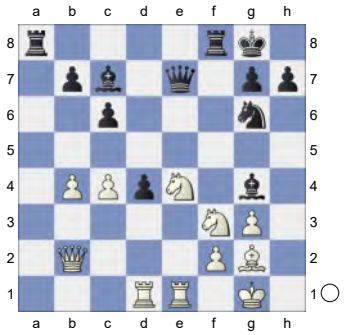


21.Rad1 -0.36/16
[21.Ne4= 0.15/18 Qf5 22.Qe2]
21...exd4 22.Ne4 Qe7

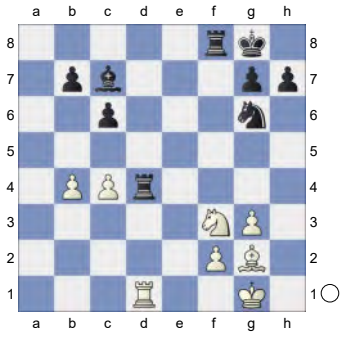


Strongly threatening ...axb4. **23.Rfe1** -0.65/20

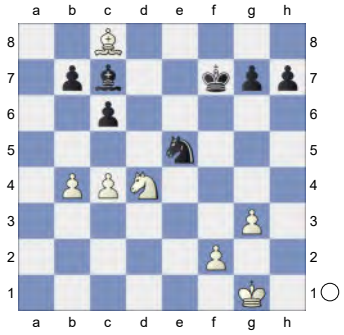
[23.Rxd4= -0.27/19 Ne5 24.Qb3]
23...fxg3 -0.09/19
[23...axb4∓ -0.65/20 24.Ned2 Qf7 25.axb4 Bg4 26.Qxd4 Rad8]
24.hxg3= axb4 25.axb4 Bg4



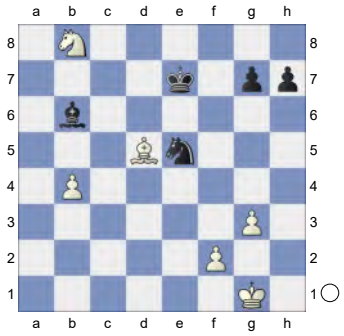
26.Neg5 Pair of Knights! **26...Qf6**
[Don't play 26...Ne5 27.Nxe5 Bxe5 28.f4 Bxd1 29.Qb1∓]
[26...Be5 seems wilder. 27.c5 Rf5 28.Nxe5 Nxe5 29.Rxd4 Qxg5 30.f4 Qg6]
27.Qxd4 Qxd4 28.Rxd4 Bxf3 0.88/23
[28...Bc8± 0.54/21 is superior.]
29.Nxf3± Rad8 Against Rd7 **30.Red1** 0.46/22
[30.Rde4± 0.98/21]
30...Rxd4±



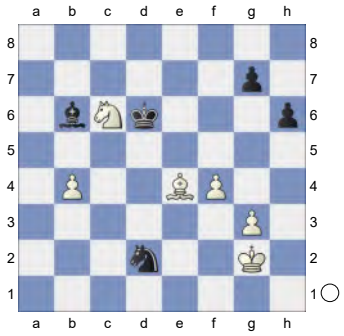
31.Rxd4 Rd8 Inhibits Rd7. **32.Bh3 Rxd4 33.Nxd4** Endgame KBN-KBN
33...Ne5 0.76/20
[33...Be5± 0.36/19 might be stronger. 34.Be6+ Kf8]
34.Be6+ 0.45/22
[34.Bc8± 0.76/20]
34...Kf8 0.80/24
[34...Nf7± 0.45/22 deserves consideration.]
35.Bc8± Kf7



36.Bxb7 Nxc4 37.Bxc6 And now Bd5+ would win. **37...Bb6 38.Bd5+ Kf6 39.Nc6 Ne5 40.Nb8** 0.47/21
[40.Nxe5± 0.83/23 Nd7+ is the strong threat. Kxe5 41.Bc6]
40...Ke7

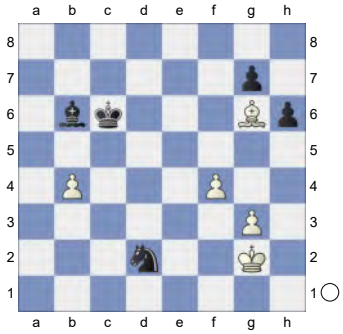


41.Be4 Inhibits Nd3. **41...h6 42.Kg2 Kd6 43.f4 Nc4 44.Nc6?** -3.50/21
[44.Bg6± 0.87/20]
44...Nd2-+

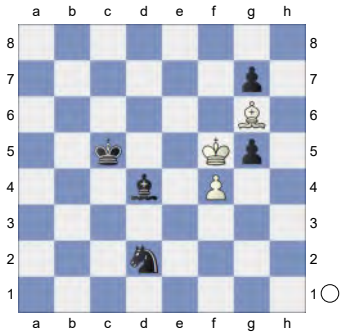


Deflection **45.Bg6 Kxc6**

(Diagram)

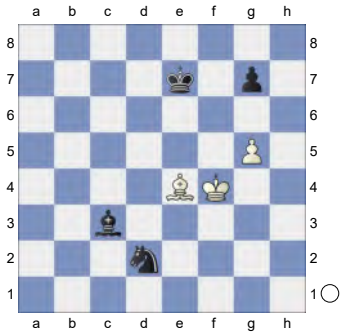


46.Kh3 Kb5 47.Kg4 Kxb4 48.Kf5 Bd4 49.g4 Kc5 50.g5 hxg5



51.fxg5 Kd6 52.Bf7 Ke7 53.Bd5 Bc3 54.Kf4 Nb1 55.Be4 Nd2 0.01/27

[55...Bd2+-+ -4.90/32 56.Kf5 Nc3]

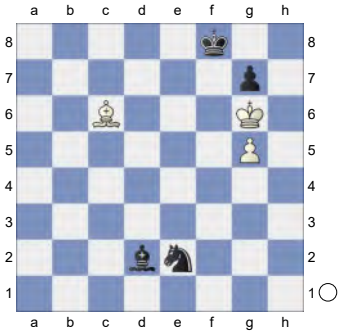


56.Bd5!= Nb1? 0.01/30

[Black should try 56...Nf1-+ -5.42/29 57.Bc4 Nd2]

57.Be4! Bd2+ 58.Kf5 Nc3 59.Bc6 Ne2 60.Kg6 Kf8

(Diagram)



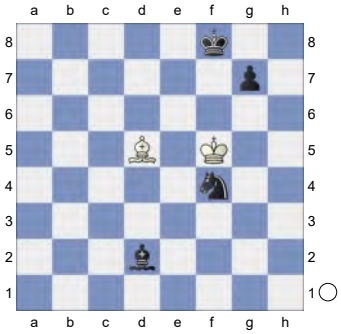
61.Bb5 -6.07/31

[⌓61.Bb7 -4.27/31]

61...Nd4 62.Bd3? -6.63/34

[62.Bc4 -3.92/28]

62...Ne6-+ 63.Bc4 Nxg5 64.Bd5 Nh3 aiming for ...Nf4+. **65.Kf5 Nf4**



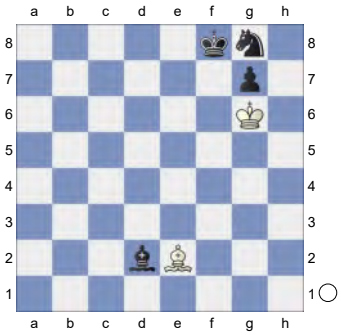
66.Bc4 Nh3? 0.01/26

[Black should play 66...Ke7-+ -6.07/31 67.Ba2 Kd6]

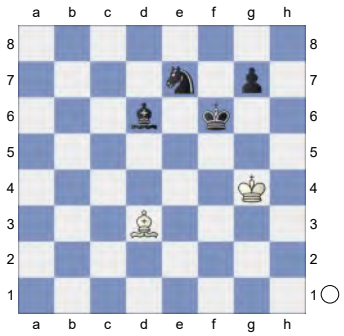
67.Kg4? -5.25/33

[67.Bd5!= 0.01/26 and White stays safe. Ke7 68.Ke5]

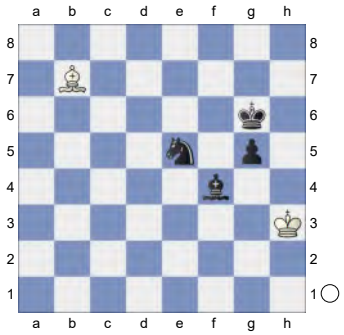
67...Ng5 68.Kf5 Nh7 69.Kg6 Nf6 70.Be2 Ng8



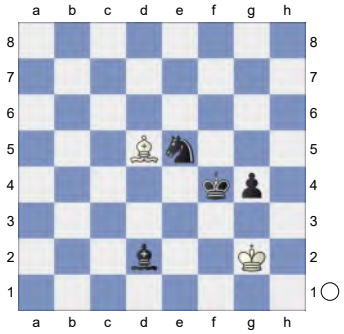
71.Bd3 Ne7+ 72.Kh5 Kf7 73.Kg4 Kf6 74.Be4 Bb4 75.Bd3 Bd6



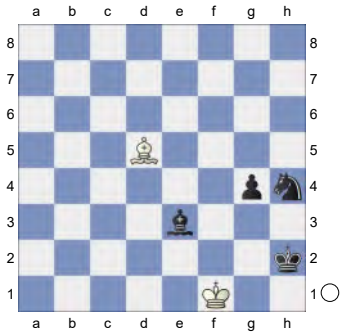
76.Be4 g5 77.Bc2 Bf4 78.Be4 Ng6 79.Bb7 Ne5+ 80.Kh3 Kg6



81.Bc8 Kh5 82.Bb7 g4+ 83.Kg2 Kg5 84.Be4 Bd2 85.Bd5 Kf4

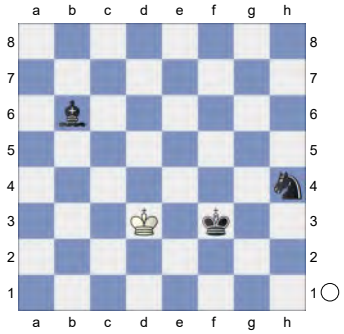


86.Kf2 Be3+ 87.Kg2 Nf3 88.Bc4 Nh4+ 89.Kf1 Kg3 90.Bd5 Kh2

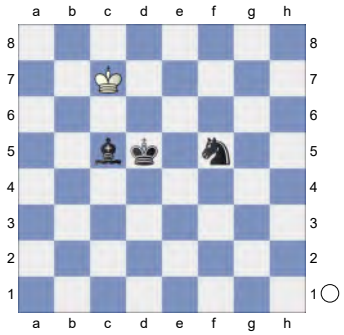


91.Ke2 Bb6 92.Be6 g3 93.Bd5 g2

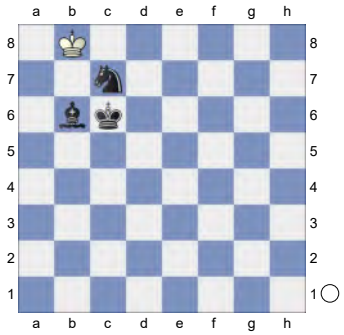
94.Bxg2 Kxg2 95.Kd3 Kf3



96.Kc4 Ke4 97.Kb5 Bd4 98.Ka6 Kd5 99.Kb7 Nf5 100.Kc7 Bc5

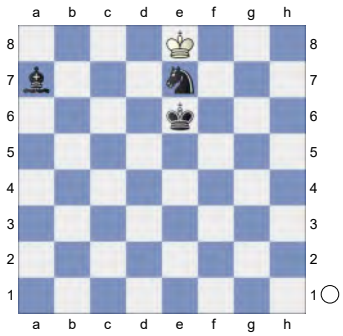


Hoping for ...Bg1. **101.Kd7 Nd4 102.Kc8 Kc6 103.Kb8** Against Ba7+ **103...Bb6 104.Ka8 Nb5 105.Kb8 Nc7**

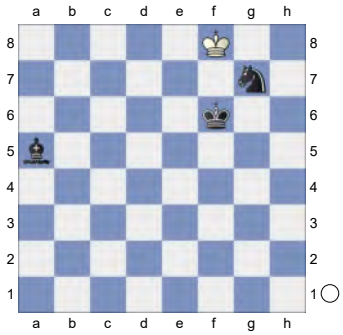


106.Kc8 Ba7 107.Kd8 Nd5 108.Ke8 Kd6 109.Kd8 Ne7 110.Ke8 Ke6

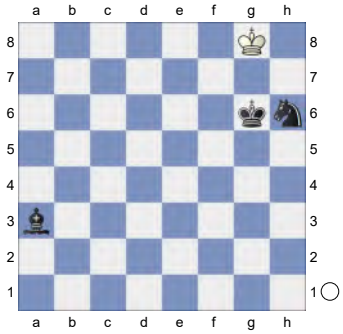
(Diagram)



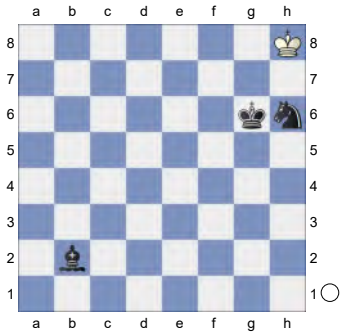
111.Kd8 Bb6+ 112.Ke8 Nf5 113.Kf8 Ba5 114.Ke8 Ng7+ 115.Kf8 Kf6



(-> ...Bb4+) **116.Kg8 Kg6 117.Kf8 Bb4+ 118.Kg8 Nf5** Black mates. **119.Kh8 Ba3 120.Kg8 Nh6+**



121.Kh8 Bb2#



Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.31

0-1

291 **C01**

☐ **Mackintosh,Iain** **2416**

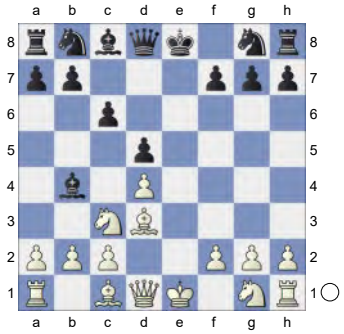
■ **Crook,Geoff** **2136**

corr GB/TC2015/6 (ENG) 01.12.2015

[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 c6



6.a3

[6.Nge2 Ne7 7.Ng3 0-0 8.0-0 Ng6 9.Nce2 Bd6 10.Nf5 Bxf5 11.Bxf5 Nd7 12.g3 Re8 13.Nc3 Ngf8 14.f4 Nf6 15.Qd3 Qb6 16.Bh3 Ne6 17.Ne2 c5 18.c3 cxd4 19.cxd4 Rac8 20.b3 Qc6 Nestorovic,N (2434)-Ganguly,S (2623) Cappelle la Grande FRA 2014 [John Watson] 0-1 (63)]

6...Bd6 7.Qf3N

[7.Nge2 Ne7 8.Ng3 0-0 9.Qh5 f5 10.Nce2 Nd7 11.Bf4 Nf6 12.Qf3 Ng6 13.Bg5 Qa5+ 14.c3 Ne4 15.h4 Bd7 16.Bc1 Rae8 17.h5 Nh8 18.0-0 Qd8 19.Bf4 Ng5 20.Bxg5 Qxg5 21.Bc2 f4 Beliavsky,A-Epishin,V Reggio Emilia 1991 The Budapest Gambit [Timothy Taylor] 0-1]

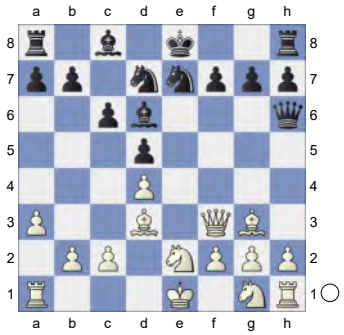
7...Qf6

[7...Nf6 keeps more tension. 8.h3 0-0

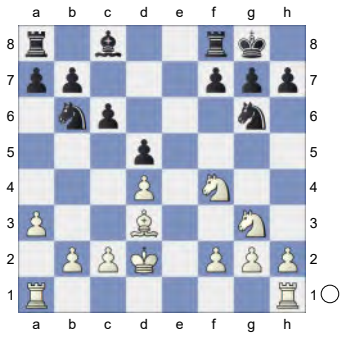
9.g4 Qb6]

8.Nce2 The position is equal. **8...Nd7 9.Bf4 Ne7 10.Bg3 Qh6**

[10...Bb8 looks sharper. 11.0-0-0 0-0 12.h4 Bxg3 13.Qxg3 Re8]



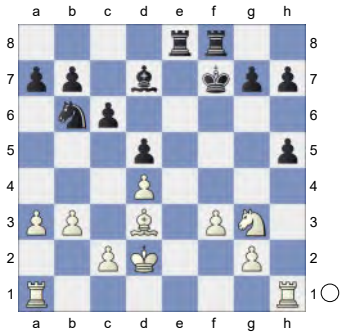
11.Nh3 Bxg3 12.Nxg3 Nb6 13.Qf4 Qxf4 14.Nxf4 0-0 15.Kd2 Ng6



16.Nxg6 fxg6 17.f3 Bd7 18.b3 Kf7 19.h4

[19.a4 seems wilder. Rae8 20.h4 Kf6 21.c4]

19...Rae8 20.h5 gxh5

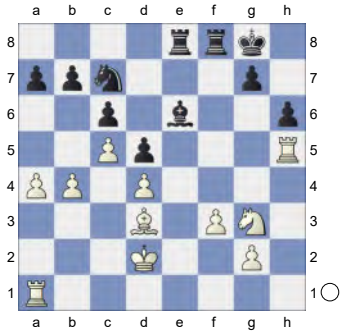


21.Rxh5

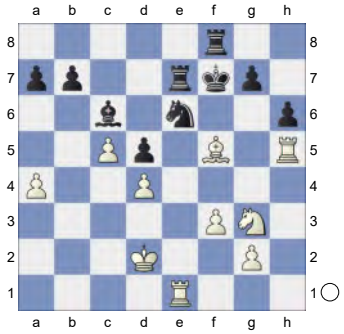
[21.Nxh5!? g6 22.Ng3=]

21...h6 22.a4 Kg8 23.c4 Be6 24.c5 Na8 25.b4 &Bianco is more active.

25...Nc7



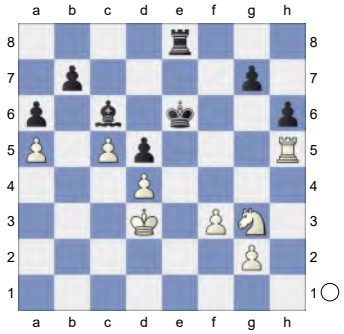
26.b5 Hoping for b6. **26...Bd7 27.Rb1 Ne6 28.Bf5 Re7** And now ...Nf4 would win. **29.bxc6 Bxc6 30.Re1 Kf7**



31.Bxe6+ Rxe6 32.Rxe6

[32.Rf5+ Rf6±]

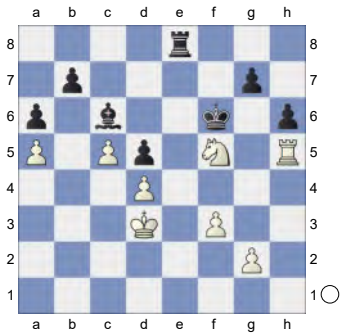
32...Kxe6± Endgame KRB-KRN **33.a5 a6 34.Kd3 Re8**



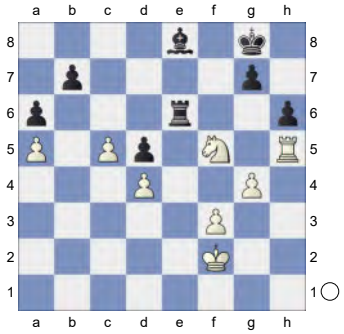
35.Nf5! Kf6 1.64/22

[35...g6± 1.30/23 36.Ng7+ Kf7 37.Nxe8 gxh5 38.Nd6+ Kf6]

(Diagram)

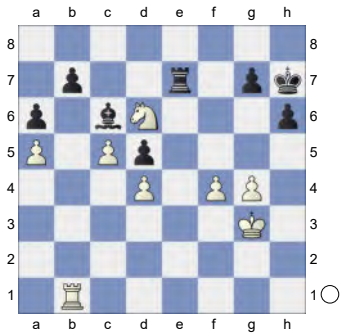


36.Ne3!+-
[Much less strong is 36.Nd6?! Re1±]
36...Kf7 1.74/23
[36...Kg6± 1.27/23 37.g4 Rf8]
37.g4
[But not 37.Nxd5? g6 38.Rxh6 Bxd5-+]
37...Re6 38.Ke2
[Avoid the trap 38.Nxd5? g6 39.Rxh6 Bxd5 40.Rh7+ Kg8-+]
38...Kf8 39.Kf2 Kg8 40.Nf5 Be8 2.24/24
[40...Bb5± 1.17/22]

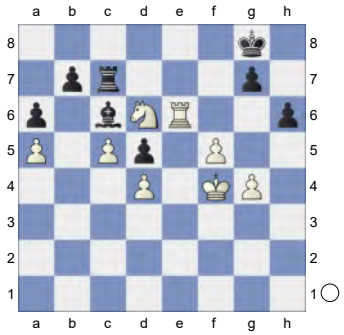


41.Rh1 Bb5 2.67/26
[41...Bc6± 1.60/22 42.Nd6 Re7]
42.Nd6 Re2+ 43.Kg3 Bc6 44.Rb1 Re7 45.f4 Kh7

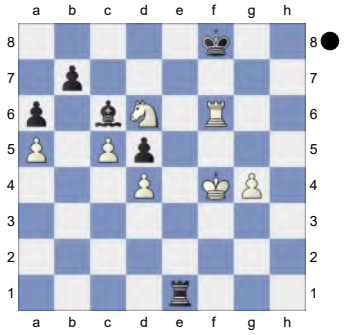
(Diagram)



46.f5 Kg8 47.Kf4 Kf8 48.Rb3 1.41/22
[48.g5+- 2.40/25]
48...Kg8? 3.45/26 This move loses the game for Black.
[48...Re1± 1.41/22 49.Nxb7 Re4+ 50.Kg3 Bxb7]
49.Re3 Rd7 4.78/25
[49...Rxe3 2.45/25 50.Kxe3 Kh8]
50.Re6 White is clearly winning.
50...Rc7



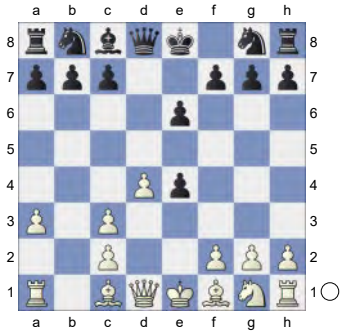
51.f6 gxf6 52.Rxf6 Re7 53.Rxh6 Re1 54.Rg6+ Kf8 55.Rf6+



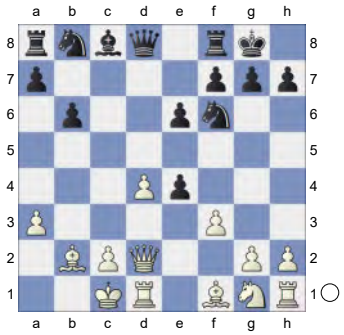
Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.25 (precise)
1-0

292 **C15**
□ **Elbilia Jacques** **2394**
■ **Hecht,H J** **2338**
(Game 53) Las Vegas 1999
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 dxe4**

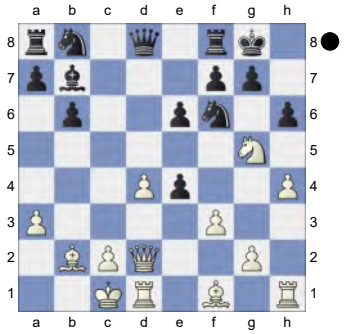


6.f3 c5 7.Qd2 Nf6 8.Bb2 0-0 9.0-0-0 cxd4 Black is better. **10.cxd4 b6**

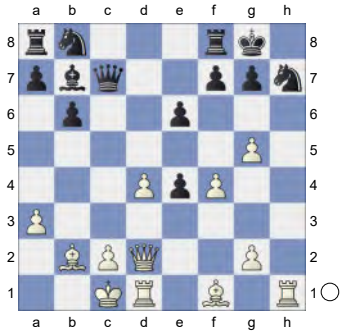


11.Nh3 Bb7 12.Ng5 -1.32/21
[⊿12.Re1 -0.72/18]
12...h6∓ 13.h4N -1.79/20
[13.Nxe4∓ -1.20/21 Nxe4 14.fxe4 Bxe4 15.Bd3 Bxd3 ½-½ Henmann (2407)-Alekseenko,K (2452) 51/240 Linares 1991]

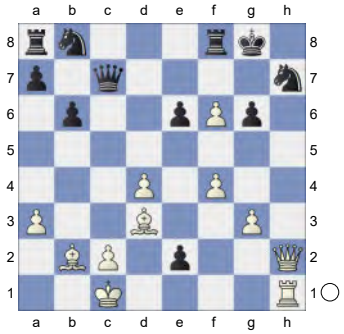
(Diagram)



13...hxg5? 0.01/20
[13...Nbd7!-+ -1.79/20 And now ... Ra8-c8 would win. 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.fxe4 Bxe4]
14.hxg5= Nh7 15.f4 Qc7 1.42/22
[15...Qd5!= 0.01/20 remains equal. 16.Qc3 Nxg5]



16.g3!± Qd2-h2 is the strong threat.
16...e3 2.69/20
[16...Rc8± 1.41/20 17.Qh2 Qxc2+ *(17...Kf8? 18.c4+-)* 18.Qxc2 Rxc2+ 19.Kxc2 Bd5]
17.Qh2+- Bxh1 18.Bd3!→ White attacks with force. **18...g6?** 4.50/22
[18...Nxg5 19.Rxh1 f5 20.d5+- *(20.fxg5 Kf7+-)*]
[18...Rd8 2.47/20]
19.Rxh1 f5 20.gxf6 e2 5.36/23
[20...Nxf6? 21.Qh8+ *(21.Bxg6 Qg7∓)* 21...Kf7 22.Rh7+ Nxh7 23.Qxh7+ Ke8 24.Qxc7+-]
[⊿20...Rxf6 3.35/21 21.Be4 a5 *(21...Nc6? 22.Bxc6 Rc8 23.d5+-)*]



21.d5

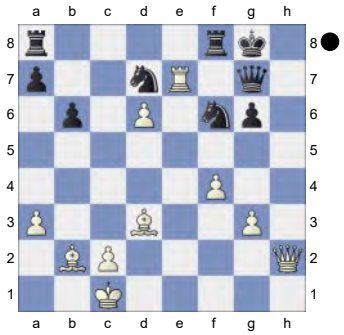
[21.Bxe2 Rxf6 22.Bf3 Nc6 23.Bxc6 Rc8+-]

21...e1Q+ 22.Rxe1 Nxf6 23.Rxe6 Qg7 6.12/24

[23...Nbd7 3.79/25 24.Bxg6 Qc5]

24.d6 Nbd7 25.Re7

[25.Qh1 Qh7 *(25...Rae8? 26.Bc4+-)* 26.Qf3 Qh5± *(26...Rae8 27.Bc4±)*]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.74

1-0

293 **C16**

□ **Nogler,Schimun** **2393**

■ **Cavalcanti,Antonio** **2112**

corr CiF-4er/0283 13.12.2016

[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5

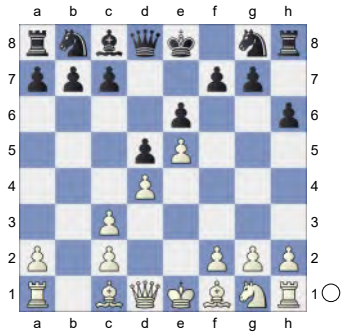
1.Nc3 d5 2.e4 e6 3.d4 Bb4 4.e5 Bxc3+

[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]

[4...b6 5.Qg4 Bf8 6.Nf3 Qd7 7.Be3 Ne7 8.Qh5 Ng6 9.0-0-0 Ba6 10.Kb1 Bxf1 11.Rhxf1 Nc6 12.Nd2 Bb4 13.Ne2 Bxd2 14.Bxd2 0-0-0 15.f4 Nge7 16.Qxf7 h5 17.f5 Nxf5 18.Qxd7+ Kxd7 19.c3 Stukopin,A (2564)-Ruiz Castillo,J (2503) Dulles 2021 CBM 208 Extra [Stukopin, Andrey] ½-½ (35)]

5.bxc3 h6N

[5...Ne7 6.Qg4 0-0 7.Bg5 Qd7 8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.h4 Nf5 10.Bf6 Nce7 11.h5 Kh8 12.Qxg7+ Nxg7 13.h6 Ng6 14.hxg7+ Kg8 15.Rxh7 Kxh7 16.gxf8Q 1-0 (16) Fischer,R-Gutierrez Caspe,J Belgian Interclubs 2002 1990 Lexikon04 [Dragan Solak]]

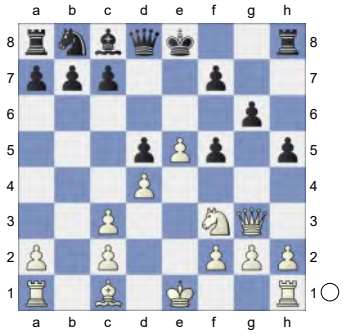


6.Qg4 g6 7.Nf3 Ne7 8.Bd3

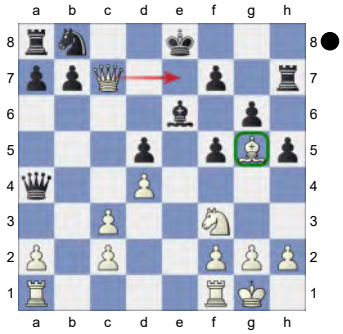
White is better. **8...h5** 1.13/19

[Black should play 8...c5 0.80/17]

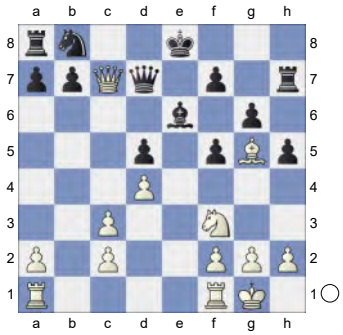
9.Qg3 &Bianco is much more active.
9...Nf5 10.Bxf5 exf5



11.Bg5 Prevents h4. **11...Qd7 12.0-0 Qa4** 1.71/20
[12...Qc6± 1.23/19 13.Rab1 a5]
13.e6 Bxe6 14.Qe5 Rh7 15.Qxc7

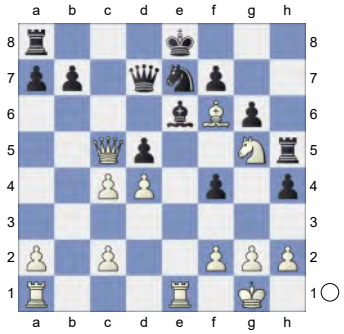


Qd7

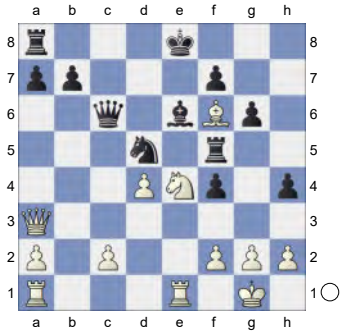


Inhibits Qe7+. **16.Qc5→** And now Ne5 would win. White goes for the king.
16...Nc6 17.Bf6 h4 18.Rfe1 Threatens to win with c4. **18...f4 19.c4 Rh5 20.Ng5** aiming for cxd5.
[Don't do 20.Bxh4?! dxc4 21.Bg5 b6±]
20...Ne7

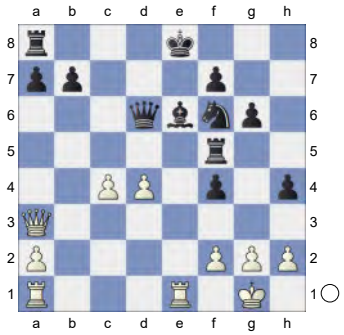
(Diagram)



21.cxd5 Nxd5 22.Ne4 Qc6 2.41/21
[⌓22...Qc7 1.93/20]
23.Qa3+- Rf5? 4.99/20
[23...b5 2.66/19 24.Rab1 Rf5 25.Bxh4 Kd7]

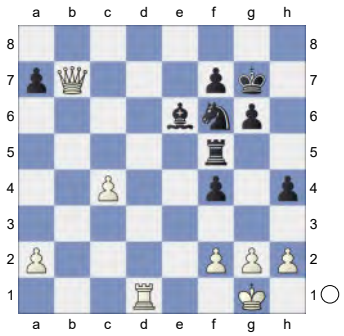


24.c4! White is clearly winning. **24...Nxf6 25.Nd6+ Qxd6**

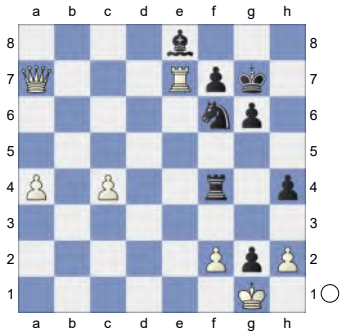


26.Qxd6 Rd8 27.Qc7 Rxd4 28.Rad1 Rxd1 29.Rxd1 Kf8 30.Qxb7 Kg7

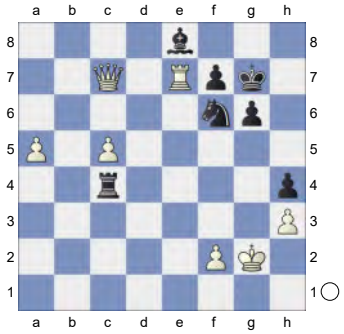
(Diagram)



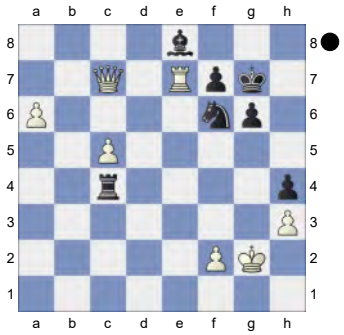
31.Qc7 f3 32.Re1 Bd7 33.Re7 Be8 34.Qxa7 fxg2 35.a4 Rf4



36.Qc7 Rd4 37.Kxg2 Rd3 38.a5 Ra3 39.h3 Ra4 40.c5 Rc4



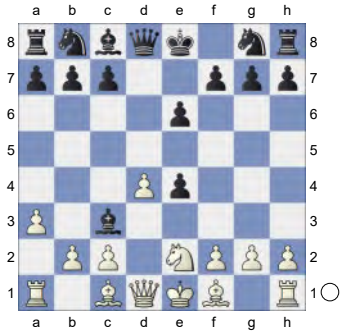
41.a6



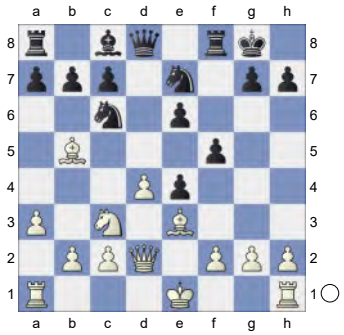
[Event "RSS7E easy-229"].
Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.36
1-0

294 **C15**
□ **Corzo,Amaury** **2371**
■ **5.Qd2 Nbd7 6.f3 b5 7.g4** **2417**
129/(46) Wijk aan Zee (9) 12.03.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 dxe4 5.a3 Bxc3+

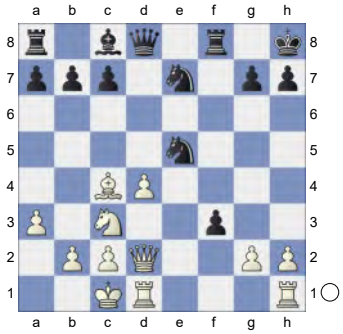


6.Nxc3 Nc6 7.Bb5 Nge7 8.Bg5 f6 9.Be3 0-0 10.Qd2 f5



11.f3 f4 12.Bxf4 exf3 13.0-0-0 White is slightly better. **13...e5 14.Bc4+ Kh8 15.Bxe5** Strongly threatening Rhf1. **15...Nxe5**

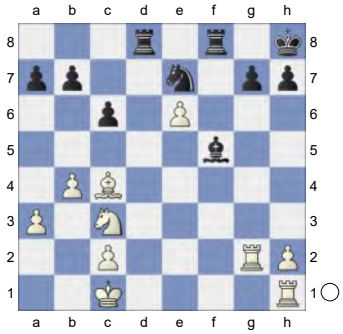
(Diagram)



16.dxe5 Qxd2+ 17.Rxd2 fxg2 18.Rxg2 Bf5N

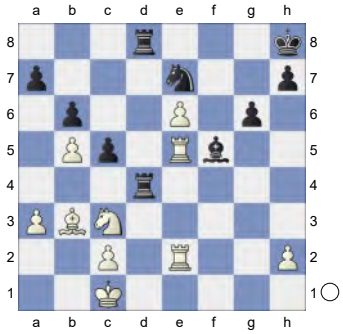
[18...b5 19.Bd5 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 Rf7 3.Nc3 Bb4: Sidelines on Move -4. Nge2 with 7.Bb5 #3]

19.e6 Rad8 20.b4 c6



21.Re1 Rd4 22.Bb3 Rfd8 23.Re5 b6 24.Rge2 g6 25.b5 And now bxc6 would win. **25...c5** 0.57/25

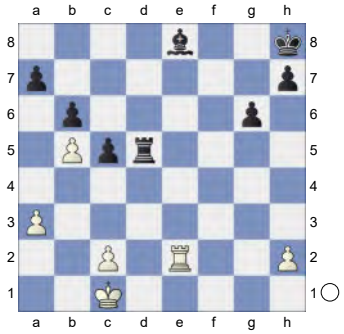
[25...Kg7= 0.01/23]



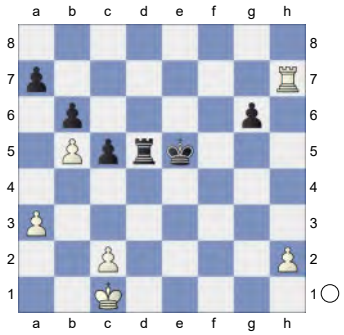
26.Nd5± Nxd5 1.17/27

[⌓26...Re8 0.76/25]

27.Bxd5± R4xd5 28.Rxd5 Rxd5 Endgame KRB-KR **29.e7** Against Rd8 **29...Bd7 30.e8Q+ Bxe8**



31.Rxe8+ KR-KR **31...Kg7 32.Re7+ Kf6 33.Rxh7 Ke5**

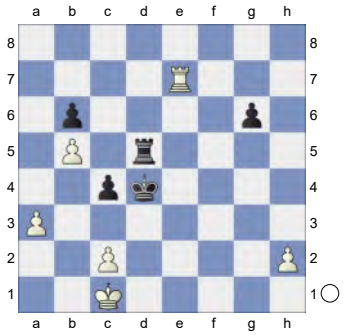


34.Rxa7 0.01/25 &Bianco is more active.

[34.Kb2!± 1.33/24]

34...Kd4= 35.Re7 c4 0.61/27

[35...Rd6= 0.01/22]

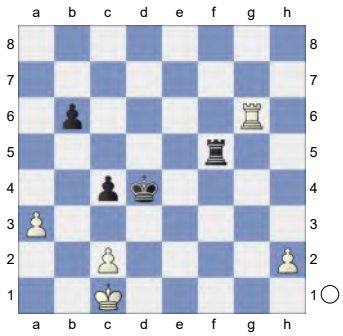


36.Re6± Rxb5 1.05/27

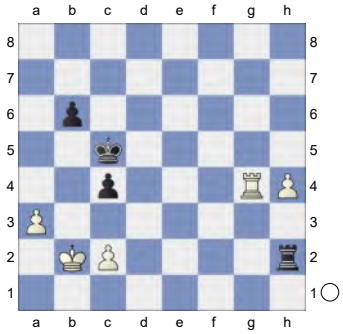
[36...Kc5± 0.47/27]

37.Rxg6 Rf5

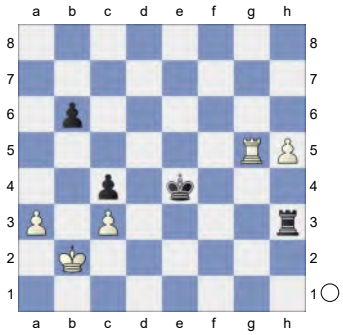
(Diagram)



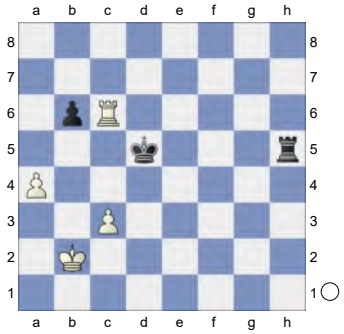
38.Rg4+!
[But not 38.Rxb6?! Kc3 39.Kb1 Rf1+ 40.Ka2 Rf2=]
38...Kc5 39.Kb2 Rf2 40.h4 Rh2



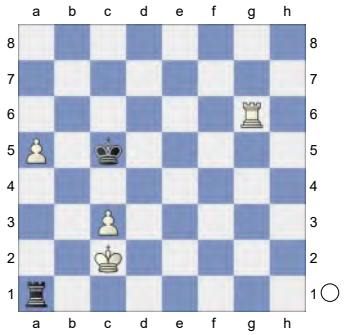
41.Rg5+ Kd4 42.Rg4+ -0.01/24
[42.h5± 1.57/27]
42...Kc5!= 43.Rg5+ -0.01/26
[43.Re4± 0.37/26]
43...Kd4 44.h5 1.42/30
[⌓44.Rb5 0.74/28]
44...Rh3 45.c3+ 0.34/30
[Better is 45.Rb5± 1.42/27]
45...Ke4 1.27/29
[45...Ke3± 0.34/30]



46.a4± Kd3 47.Rd5+ Ke4 48.Rd4+ Ke5 1.70/25
[48...Ke3± 1.33/27 49.h6 *(49.Rxc4 Rxh5 50.Rb4 Rh2+ 51.Kb3 Rh1±)* 49...Rxh6]
49.Rxc4+- Rxh5 50.Rc6 Kd5 3.06/29
[50...Rh2+ 1.65/27 keeps fighting. 51.Ka3 *(51.Kb3 Rh1±)* 51...Kd5 52.Rxb6 Kc5]

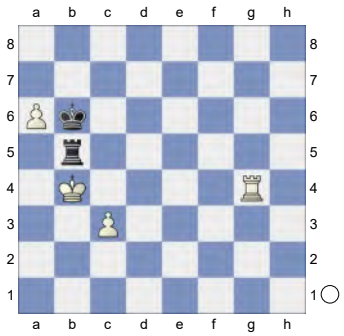


51.Rxb6 Rh2+ 52.Kb3 Kc5 53.a5 Rh1 54.Rg6 aiming for a6. **54...Rb1+ 55.Kc2 Ra1**

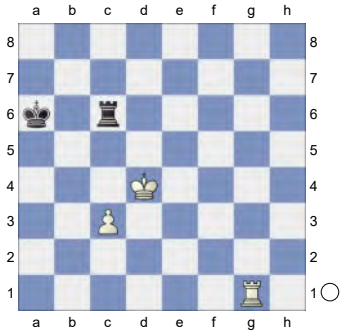


56.a6 Black must now prevent Kb2.
56...Kc4 57.Kb2 Ra5 58.Rg4+ Kb5 59.Kb3 Rg5+ would kill now. **59...Kb6 60.Kb4** 0.01/30
[60.Rg6+± 1.57/27 Ka7 61.Kb4]
60...Rb5+=

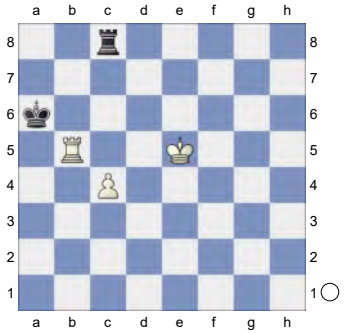
(Diagram)



61.Ka4 Ra5+! 62.Kb4 White wants to mate with Rg6+. **62...Rb5+ 63.Kc4** White threatens Rg6+ and mate. **63...Rc5+ 64.Kd4 Rc6!** Against Rg6 **65.Rg1** Ra1 is the strong threat. **65...Kxa6**

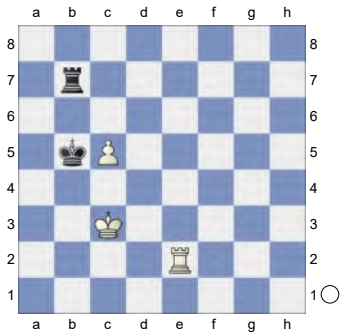


66.Rb1 Rc8 67.c4 0.01/32
[67.Rh1± 0.48/26 was preferrable.]
67...Rd8+ 68.Ke5 Rc8 69.Rb4 Ka5 70.Rb5+ Ka6

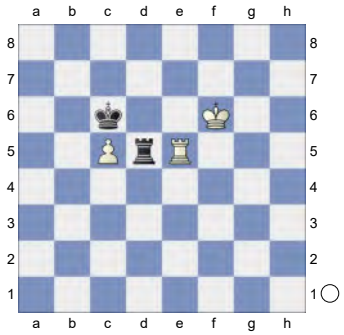


71.Kd4 Rd8+ 72.Kc3 Rd1 73.Rb2 Rd7 74.c5 0.00/31
[74.Rh2± 0.39/26]
74...Rb7 The position is equal. **75.Re2 Kb5**

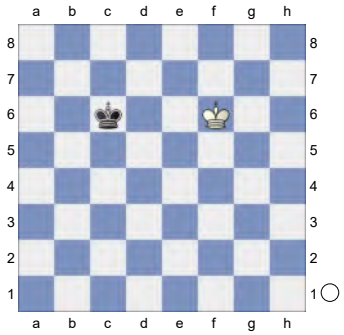
(Diagram)



76.Re5 Rh7 77.Kd4 Rh1 78.Kd5 Rd1+ 79.Ke6 Kc6 80.Kf6 Rd5



81.Rxd5 Kxd5 82.c6 Kxc6

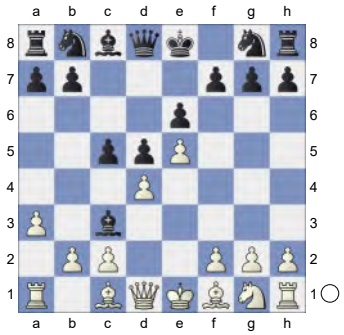


Black defended with fortune.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
½-½

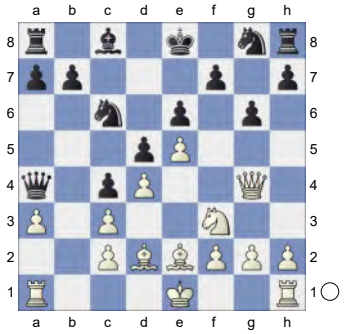
295 **C18**
□ **Leupold,Volker** **2364**
■ **Legemaat,Gert** **2353**
corr GER-BNL 2024 21.03.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Qg4 g6 8.Nf3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Qa4 10.Be2 c4



11.0-0

[11.Ra2 Bd7 12.Qh4 h6 13.0-0 Nce7 14.Bg5 Bc6 15.g4 Qa5 16.Rb1 Nc8 17.a4 Nb6 18.Rb4 Nxa4 19.Bf6 Nxf6 20.exf6 b5 21.Qg3 Qd8 22.Ne5 Qd6 23.f4 Nb6 24.f5 g5 25.Rb1 Bd7 Chaper-5...Bc3 6.bc Nc6 [GM Ruslan Ponomariov] (57)]

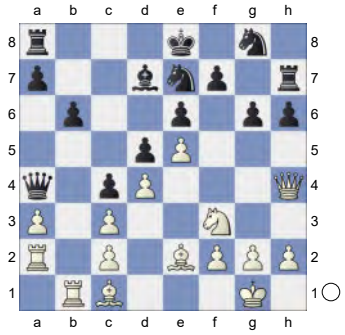
11...Bd7 White is better. **12.Qh4**

[12.Ra2 0-0-0 13.Bg5 Rf8 14.Qh4 h6 15.Rb1 b6 16.h3 Kb7 17.Bf1 Ka8 18.Re1 Qa5 19.a4 Rh7 20.Ra3 Re8 21.Bf6 Nxf6 22.exf6 Rhh8 23.Qf4 Rb8 24.Rb1 Rb7 25.Rb5 Qa6 26.Qd6 Rc8 Wing Gambit (2637)-Kalashikov 5.Nb3 - 6.Bg5 #1 (2491) corr ICCF 2015 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] 1-0 (51)]

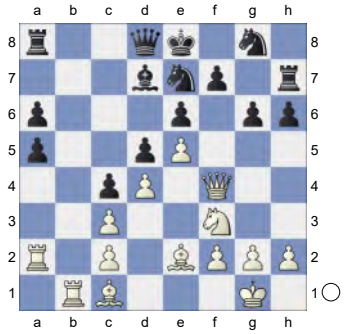
12...h6N

[12...Qxc2 13.Bd1 Qb2 14.Ba4 Qb6 15.Rfb1 Qc7 16.Bc2 Nce7 17.a4 0-0-0 18.a5 Nf5 19.Bxf5 gxf5 20.Bc1 Bc6 21.Ba3 Qd7 22.Bc5 Kb8 23.a6 b6 24.Bxb6 axb6 25.Rxb6+ Kc7 26.Rab1 Chapter-N, N]

13.Rfb1 b6 14.Ra2 Rh7 15.Bc1 Nce7

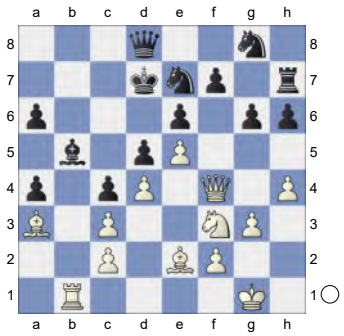


16.Rb4 Qc6 17.a4 Qc8 18.Rb1 Qd8 19.a5 bxa5 20.Qf4 a6

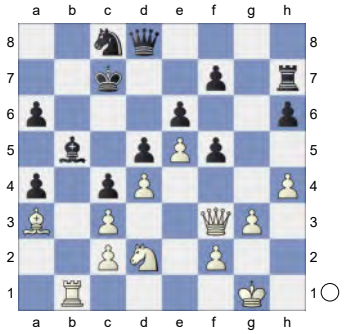


21.h4 a4 22.Ba3 Rb8 23.Raa1 Rxb1+ 24.Rxb1 Bb5 25.g3 White has compensation. **25...Kd7**

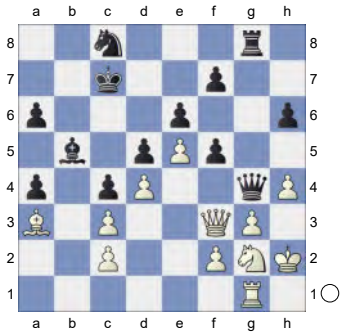
(Diagram)



26.Bf1 Kc7 27.Nd2 Nf5 28.Qf3 Nge7 29.Bh3 Nc8 30.Bxf5 0.01/22
[30.Nf1± 0.44/18]
30...gxf5=

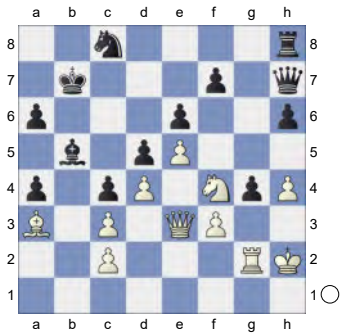


31.Nf1 Rh8 32.Ne3 Qg8 33.Kh2 -0.01/18
[33.Kf1± 0.32/21]
33...Qg6 34.Rg1 Rg8 35.Ng2 Qg4

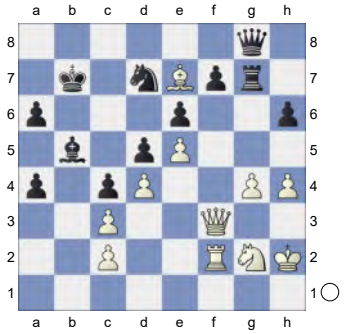


36.Qe3 Rh8 37.Nf4 Kb7 38.f3 Qg8 39.g4 Qh7 40.Rg2 fxg4

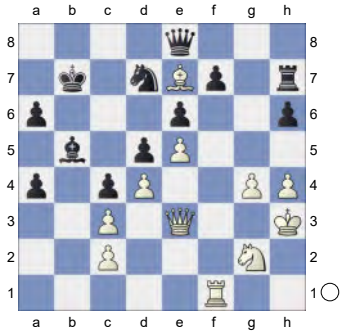
(Diagram)



41.fxg4 Nb6 42.Qf3 Rg8 0.41/23
[42...Qe4= -0.01/18 was preferrable. 43.Qf2 Nd7]
43.Rf2 aiming for Nh5.
[43.Nh5!? Qg6 44.Nf6=]
43...Nd7 44.Ng2 Rg7 45.Be7 Qg8

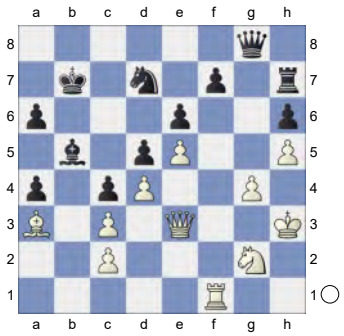


46.Kh3 Rh7 47.Qe3 0.01/18
[47.h5± 0.36/23]
47...Qe8 48.Bd6 Qd8 49.Rf1 Qg8 50.Be7 Qe8

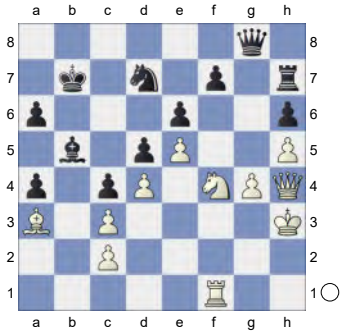


51.Ba3 Qg8 52.h5 Qd8 53.Qf2 Qg5 54.Qf4 Black must now prevent Qxg5.
54...Qd8 55.Qe3 Qg8

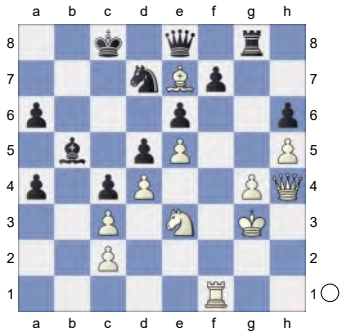
(Diagram)



56.Qe1 Qg5 57.Qe3 0.01/27
[57.Qf2± 0.46/22]
57...Qg8 58.Qg3 Qg5 59.Nf4 Qd8 60.Qh4 Qg8

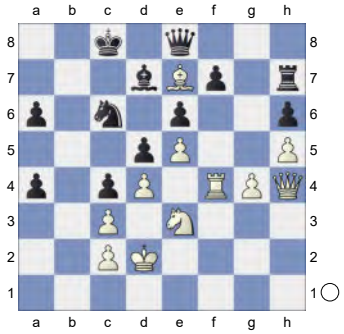


61.Ng2 Rg7 62.Kg3 Qb8 0.62/20
[62...Qh7= 0.20/23]
63.Bd6±
[63.Qe7 Qg8 64.Qh4 Qh8=]
63...Qe8 64.Ne3 Kc8 65.Be7 Rg8 0.99/21
[65...Rh7± 0.60/21 is more appropriate.]

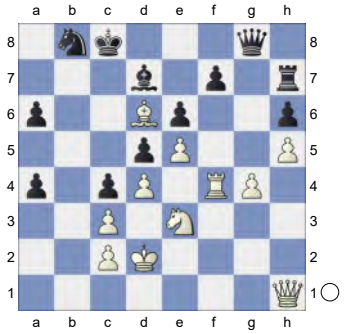


66.Rf3± Rh8 67.Rf4 0.62/21
[67.Kf2± 0.93/22]
67...Rh7 68.Kf2 Nb8 69.Ke2! Bd7

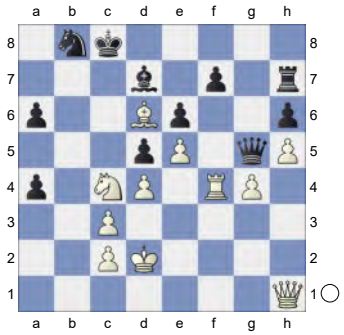
70.Kd2 Nc6



71.Bc5 Qh8 72.Qh1 Nb8 73.Bd6 Qg8 1.73/21
[73...Bc6± 0.92/21]

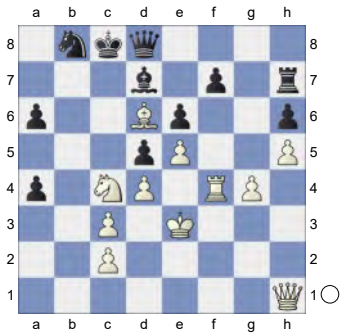


74.Nxc4! 1.32/21 **Qg5**
[74...Qd8 75.Ne3]

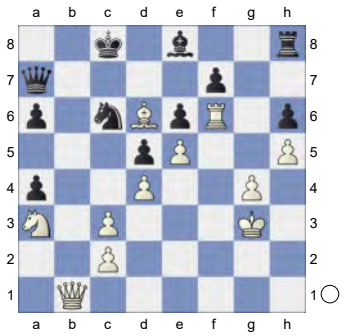


75.Ke3! Hoping for Qb1! Chess con chili.
75...Qd8
[75...dxc4 76.Qa8 Kd8 77.Qxb8+ Bc8 78.Bc7+ Kd7 79.Bb6 f5 80.Qc7+ Ke8 81.Qxc8+]

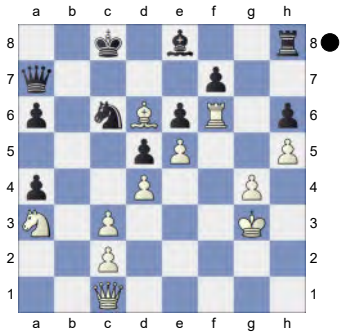
(Diagram)



76.Na3 &Bianco is much more active. The black rooks are badly placed. **76...Be8 77.Qb1 Nc6 78.Rf6 Qd7 79.Kf3 Rh8 80.Kg3 Qa7** 2.07/22
[⌓80...Qd8 1.66/20 81.Qb2 Qa5]



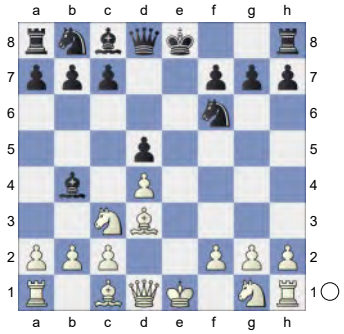
81.Qc1



Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
1-0

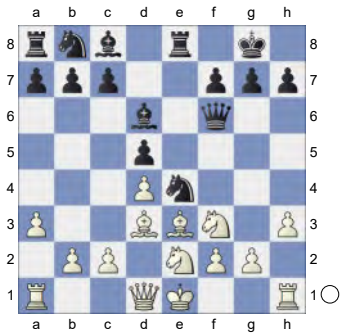
296 **C01**
☐ **Osterberg,D V** **2357**
■ **Getz,Alec S** **2327**
Yerevan 33/(371) (2) 26.04.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nf6



6.a3 Bd6 7.h3N
[7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 c6 9.Ne5 Re8 10.Bf4 Qc7 11.Bg3 Nbd7 12.f4 a6 13.Qf3 c5 14.Rae1 Nb6 15.Bh4 c4 16.Bxf6 cxd3 17.Qg3 Bf8 18.cxd3 Bf5 19.Qg5 Bg6 20.Nxg6 hxg6 21.Be5 Qd7 Theis,B (2620)-Buese,R (2729) Groningen 2023 17 c5, Nf6 and g6: model [John Watson] 1-0]
7...0-0 8.Nf3 Re8+ The position is equal. **9.Ne2 Ne4 10.Be3**
[10.0-0 Qf6 11.Nc3 Nxc3 12.bxc3 Bf5 0.43/23 *(12...h6= 0.00/21)* 13.Bg5± Qg6 14.Nh4 Qxg5 15.Nxf5 Bf8 0.69/20 *(15...Nd7= 0.29/20)* 16.Qf3]
[10.0-0 looks sharper. Bf5 11.c4 dxc4 12.Bxc4 Nd7 13.Nf4]
10...Qf6

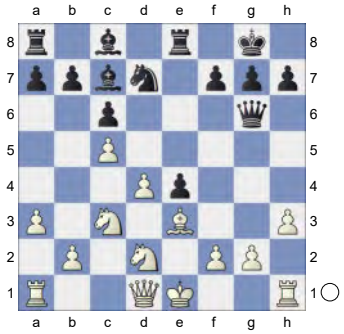
(Diagram)



11.Bxe4 dxe4 12.Nd2 c6 13.c4 Nd7 14.c5 Bc7 15.Nc3 -0.97/20 White is on the road to losing.

[15.0-0!∓ -0.53/19]

15...Qg6∓

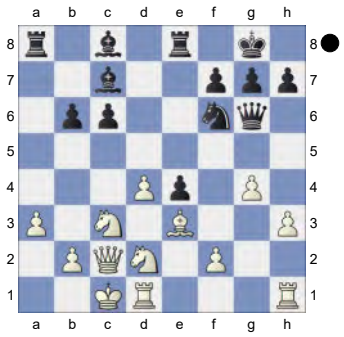


16.g4 b6 -1.31/21

[⌓16...b5 -0.93/21]

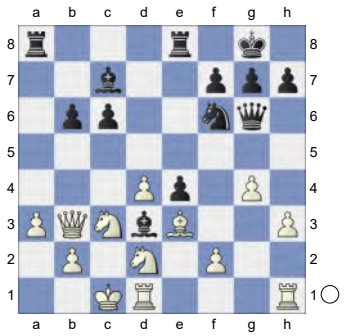
17.cxb6 axb6 18.Qc2 Nf6 19.0-0-0 -1.78/22

[19.g5∓ -1.12/21 is a better defense. Nh5 20.0-0-0]



19...Ba6!-+ 20.Qb3 Bd3

(Diagram)



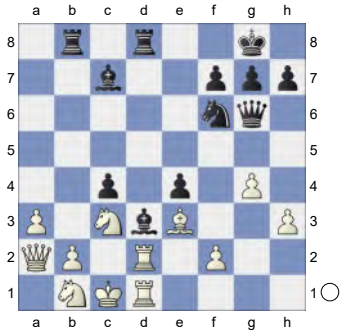
21.Ndb1 -2.55/20

[21.Nc4 -1.99/19 was called for.]

21...Red8 22.Rd2 -2.38/20

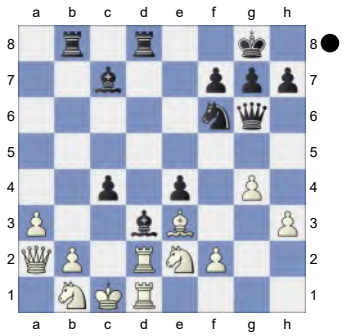
[⌓22.Nd2 -1.95/19]

22...Rab8 23.Rhd1 c5 24.dxc5 bxc5 25.Qa2 c4



26.Ne2? -5.92/20

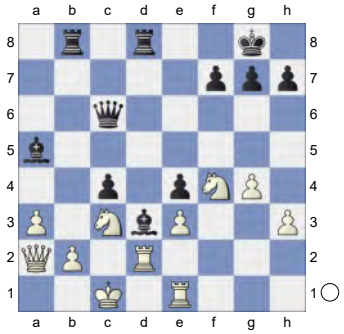
[26.g5 -3.26/18 keeps fighting. Nd5 27.Nxd5 Rxd5 28.Rxd3 exd3 29.Qxc4]



26...Nd5 Black is clearly winning.

27.Nbc3 Nxe3 28.fxe3 Bb6 A strong pair of Bishops. **29.Nf4 Qc6 30.Re1 Ba5**

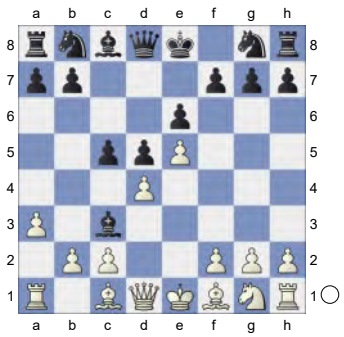
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/ Black=0.05 (flawless)
0-1

297 **C18**
□ **Bellmann,Herbert** **2350**
■ **Probstfeld,Bernd** **2180**
corr L14K2-R freechess 01.02.2016
[Bellmann,Herbert]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+
[5...Ba5 6.b4 cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.f4 Bd7 9.Nxc7+ Qxc7 10.Nf3 Ba4 11.Bd3 Qc3+ 12.Bd2 Qxd3 13.cxd3 Bxd1 14.Kxd1 Ne7 15.Nxd4 *(15.Ke2 h5 16.b5 Nf5 17.Rhc1 Kd7 18.h3 h4 19.Be1 Rc8 20.Rxc8 Kxc8 21.Bxh4 Nxh4 22.Nxh4 a6 23.b6 Nc6 24.Nf3 Kd7 25.h4 Rh8 26.g4 Ke7 27.h5 Rh6 28.Kf2 g6 29.Rh1 Kf8 30.Kg3)*]



6.bxc3 Ne7 Dies ist die solide Hauptvariante. **7.Qg4**
[7.Nf3 b6 8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.Bd3 Ba4 10.h4 h6 11.h5 c4 12.Be2 Kd7 13.Bf4 Qg8 14.Nd2 Qh7 15.Ra2 Na6]
[7.a4 Qa5 8.Bd2 Nbc6 9.Nf3 Bd7 10.Bb5 Qc7 11.0-0 0-0]
7...Qc7
[7...0-0 8.Bd3 Nbc6 *(8...f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7 11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Nbc6 13.Nf3 c4 14.Be2)* 9.Bg5 *(9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7 11.Be3 c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Qf7 14.Ng5 Qe8 15.h4)* 9...Qa5 10.Ne2 Ng6 11.0-0 Qa4 12.f4 c4 13.Bxg6 fxg6 14.f5 Rxf5 15.Rxf5 exf5 16.Qg3 Bd7 17.Nf4 Nd8 18.Bxd8 Rxd8 19.Nxd5 Qb5 20.Nf4 Qb2 21.Rd1 Qxc2 22.Re1 Qb3 23.d5 Qxa3 24.h4 Bc8 25.Qe3 b5 26.d6 b4 27.Qc5 Qxc3 28.Re3 Qd2 29.Qxc4+ Kh8 30.Re2 Qd1+ 31.Kh2 b3 32.Qc7 Rg8 33.Qxa7 h6 34.Nxg6+ Kh7 35.Nf4 Be6 36.Qf2 Bd7 37.e6 b2 38.Rxb2 Bxe6 39.Nxe6 Qxd6+ 40.Nf4 Ra8 41.h5 Ra4 42.g3 Ra8 43.Rb7]
8.Qxg7
[8.Bd3 cxd4 *(8...c4 9.Be2 0-0 10.f4 Nbc6 11.Nf3 b5 12.0-0 a5 13.Qh3 f5 14.Kh1 Bd7 15.Bd2 Qd8 16.Rg1 Qe8 17.g4 Ra7 18.Nh4 Rb7 19.Qg3 Bc8 20.Rg2 b4 21.axb4 axb4 22.Rag1 bxc3 23.Qxc3 Ng6 24.Nxg6 Qxg6 25.Bf3 Qe8 26.gxf5 Rxf5 27.Bg4 Rf8 28.f5 exf5 29.Bf3 Qe6 30.Bg5 Ne7 31.Qa5 Kh8 32.Bxe7 Rxe7 33.Bxd5 Qd7 34.Qc5 Bb7 35.Bxb7 Qxb7 36.d5 Rd8 37.d6 Ree8 38.Re1 f4 39.h3 Qf7 40.Qd4 Qe6 41.Kh2 Rf8 42.Rf2 g5 43.Re4 Rfe8 44.Rf1 Kg8 45.Rfe1*

Rd7 46.Qg1 f3 47.Qg4) 9.Ne2 dxc3 10.Qxg7 Rg8 11.Qxh7 Qxe5 12.h4 Nd7 13.Bf4 Qf6 14.Bg5 Qh8 15.Qxh8 Rxh8 16.Nxc3 a6 17.0-0-0 b5 18.Rde1 Bb7 19.Bf4 Rc8 20.Kb2 d4 21.Ne4 Bxe4 22.Rxe4 Nc5 23.Rxd4 Nc6 24.Rd6 Ke7 25.Rd1 f6 26.Bg3 e5 27.Bf5 Na5 28.R6d5 Nc4+ 29.Ka2 Rc6 30.Rxc5 Rxc5 31.Rd7+ Kf8 32.Bg6 Rc6 33.h5 Nb6 34.Rf7+ Kg8 35.Bh4 Nd5 36.Ra7 Nf4 37.Ra8+ Kg7 38.Ra7+ Kg8 39.Ra8+ Kg7 40.Ra7+ Kg8 41.Ra8+ Kg7 42.Ra7+]

8...Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2

[10.cxd4 Qc3+]

[10.Qd3 Qxe5+]

10...Nbc6

[10...dxc3 11.f4 White does not get sufficient compensation for the queen after Nbc6

A) 12.Qd3

A1) 12...Bd7

A1a) 13.Qxc3 0-0-0 14.Rb1 Nf5 15.h3 d4 16.Qc4 f6 17.g4 Nh4 18.exf6 Rgf8 19.Ng3 *(19.Rg1 Rxf6 20.Rg3 e5 21.f5 Be6 22.fxe6 Rdf8 23.Nf4 exf4 24.Rgb3 Qe5+ 25.Kd1 Rxe6 26.Bd2 Rf7 27.Kc1 Qd6 28.Kb2 Ng6 29.Rb5 Kb8 30.Qb3 Nge5 31.Ka2 b6 32.Re1 Ree7 33.Re4 d3 34.Rd5 Qc7 35.Bxd3 Nxd3 36.Rxe7 Rxe7 37.Qxd3 Ne5 38.Bxf4 Nxd3 39.Bxc7+ Kxc7 40.Rxd3 Re2 41.Kb3 Rg2 42.c3)* 19...Rxf6 20.Nh5 Rh6 21.Kd1 Be8 22.f5 Rxh5 23.gxh5 Bxh5+ 24.Be2 Bxe2+ 25.Kxe2 d3+ 26.Kf2 d2 27.Bb2 Qa5 28.Qxe6+ Kc7 29.Rhf1 Rd5 30.f6 Qc5+ 31.Kg3 Nf5+ 32.Rxf5 Rxf5;

A1b) 13.Rb1 0-0-0 14.Rg1 d4 15.g4;

A2) 12...d4+- Weiß hat jetzt deutlichen Materialvorteil und droht 38.♗xd4+.

A2a) 13.Ng3 Bd7 14.Be2 *(14.Rb1 0-0-0 15.Be2 Na5 16.Qxd4 Bb5 17.Qf2 Bxe2 18.Qxe2 Nc4 19.Ne4 Qc6 20.0-0 Nf5 21.Rf2 Nd4 22.Qe1 Kb8 23.Ng5 Qc5 24.Be3 Nxa3 25.Rb3 Naxc2 26.Qxc3 Qd5 27.Rb1 Nxe3 28.Qxe3 Nf5 29.Qe2 Rgf8 30.g4 Nh4 31.Qe3 Qd3 32.Qxd3 Rxd3 33.h3 b6 34.Kh2 Rc8 35.Rbb2 Re3 36.Rbe2 Rb3 37.f5 Rg8 38.fxe6 fxe6 39.Nxe6 Nf3+ 40.Kh1 Rh8 41.Nf4 Ng5 42.Nh5 Rxh3+ 43.Kg2 Rh4 44.Kg3 Rh3+ 45.Kf4 Ne6+ 46.Kf5 Nd4+ 47.Kg6 Rg8+ 48.Ng7 Ne6 49.Kf7)* 14...0-0-0 15.0-0 Qb6 16.Ne4 Nd5 17.Nd6+ Kb8 18.Nxf7;

A2b) 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Bd7 Weiß verfügt über drei Leichtfiguren gegen die Dame und gewinnt auch den d4-Bauern. Die schwarze Stellung ist bereits hoffnungslos. 15.Rg1 Nf5 *(15...0-0-0 16.Qxa7)* 16.Qf2

A2b1) 16...Bc6 17.g4 *(17.Bd3 Rd8 18.g4 Ne7 19.Be3 b6 20.h4 Ng6 21.h5 Nf8 22.a4 Qb7 23.Bb5 a6 24.Bxc6+ Qxc6 25.Qe2 a5 26.Kf2 Nd7 27.Rgd1 Nc5 28.Rxd8+*

Kxd8 29.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 30.Kg3 Kc7 31.Rd1 f6 32.exf6 Qxh5 33.Qxe6);

A2b2) 16...Qc6 17.Bd3 *(17.g4 Qe4+ 18.Be2 Nd4)* 17...Qd5 18.Rb1 Bc6 19.Rb3 0-0-0 20.Rxc3 Kb8

A2b21) 21.Rc5 Qa2 22.Rxc6 bxc6 23.Qc5 ½-½ Hickl,J-Chuchelov,V/St Ingbert GER 2004 Rxd3 *(23...Qd5 24.Qxd5 cxd5 25.Kf2)* 24.cxd3= Rxg2 25.Rxg2 Qxg2;

A2b22) 21.Qc5± Rxg2 22.Qxd5 Rxg1+ 23.Kf2 Rdg8 24.Qd8+ Rxd8 25.Kxg1± Rg8+ 26.Kf1± Nh4 27.Be2± Rg2;

A2b23) 21.Rc4 b6 22.g4 Bb5 23.Rc3 Nd4 24.Bxb5 Qxb5;

A2b24) 21.g4 Nd4 22.Rg3 Qh1+ *(22...Qa2 23.Be3 Qa1+ 24.Kd2 Nxc2* 1-0 Bistric,F-Potocnik,P/Pula CRO 2000 (26) *25.Bxa7+ Ka8 26.Rxc2 Ba4 27.Bc5 Bxc2 28.Kxc2 Rc8 29.Kb3 Qd1+ 30.Kb2 Rgd8 31.Bd6)*

A2b241) 23.Qf1 Nf3+ 24.Kf2 Qxh2+ 25.Qg2 Qxg2+ 26.Rxg2 Ne1 27.Rg3 Nxd3+ 28.Rcxd3 *(28.cxd3! Rh8)* 28...Be4?! 29.Rxd8+ Rxd8;

A2b242) 23.Bf1

A2b2421) 23...Rxg4 24.Rxg4 Nf3+ 25.Rxf3 Bxf3 26.Qg1!= Rd1+ 27.Kf2! Rxc1 *(27...Qxg1+ 28.Rxg1∓ Rxc1 29.Kxf3↑)* 28.Qxh1 ½-½ Espig,L-Bischoff,K/Hoeckendorf 2004 Bxh1 29.Bd3;

A2b2422) 23...Qe4+!? 24.Be3 Nb5 25.Rd3;

A2b2423) 23...b6 24.Bb2 *(24.a4 Qe4+ 25.Rge3∞* ½-½ Schmidt,P-Vandrey,W/Germany 1991/TD (39) *Qd5 26.Red3 Qa5 27.Ba3 Nb5 28.Qd2 Rxd3 29.Rxd3 Nxa3 30.Rxa3 Qxd2+* ½-½ Claesen,P-Chuchelov,V/Belgium BEL 2005/(43) *31.Kxd2 Rxg4)* 24...Be4 *(24...Rh8 25.h3 Be4 26.a4)* 25.a4 Rd5 26.Ba3 *(26.a5 Nxc2+ 27.Rxc2 Bxc2 28.Qxc2 Rgd8)* 26...Rc8 1-0 (51) Macieja,B (2618)-Vescovi,G (2645) Bermuda 2005 27.Bd6+ Kb7 28.Rxc8 Nf3+ *(28...Kxc8 29.c4 Nc2+ 30.Ke2 Rd4)* 29.Ke2+- Rd2+ *(29...Kxc8!?*

30.Rxf3 Bxf3+ 31.Qxf3 Rd2+ 32.Ke3 Qxf3+ 33.Kxf3 Rxh2 34.Bd3) 30.Ke3 Kxc8

A2b24231) 31.Ba6+ Kd8 32.Qf1 Qxh2 *(32...Qxf1 33.Bxf1⩲)* 33.Rh3;

A2b24232) 31.Rg1 Nxg1+-

A2b242321) 32.Ba6+ Bb7⩲ 33.Bxb7+? Kxb7 34.Kxd2 Nf3+± *(34...Nh3 35.Qg3⩲ Qf1⩲ 36.Qe3 Nxf4 37.Qe4+?! Ka6± 38.h4)* 35.Kd3 Qd1+ 36.Ke3 Nd4⩲;

A2b242322) 32.Kxd2 Nf3++- 33.Kc3 Nxh2 34.Be2 *(34.Ba6++- Bb7⩲ 35.Bxb7+ Kxb7⩲)* 34...Qa1+ 35.Kd2 Qh1 36.Qg3+- *(36.a5+- Kb7± 37.axb6 axb6 38.Be7 Nf3+ 39.Ke3± Nh2)* 36...Nf1+ 37.Bxf1 Qxf1 38.Qe3 Qg2++- 39.Qe2 Qxe2++- 40.Kxe2 Bxc2 41.a5 bxa5 42.Kd2 Bg6;

B) 12.h4 Bd7 13.h5 *(13.Rh3 0-0-0* Es droht 35.b8♕ ♖xb8 36. ♖xb8 ♕xb8 37. ♕xf5. *14.Rxc3 Nf5!?* Ein schönes Damenopfer; die prosaische Fortsetzung 35.b8 ♕ wäre jedoch ebenso erfolgreich. *15.Qh5 d4)* 13...0-0-0 14.Qd3

B1) 14...d4 15.h6 *(15.Rb1 Kb8 16.a4* Dieser Lauferzug erscheint natürlich, aber er bietet Weiß eine chancenreiche Kombination. *a5!?* In ähnlicher Weise opferte Weiß in der Partie Mestel,J - Flear,G Großbritannien (ch) 1990. Nach den Zügen 14.a3 (statt 14. ♘h4) a5 15. ♖b1 ♗e6 16. ♘fxd4!? ♘xd4 17. ♗xd4 exd4 18. ♖xe6 ♘xe6 19. ♗d5 *17.Ba3 Nf5 18.h6 Nb4⩲* Weiß hat nur einen Mehrbauern für den Turm, gewinnt jedoch auch den e6-Springer. *19.Bxb4 axb4* Weiß besitzt zwar nur einen Bauern für die Qualität jedoch auf den weißen Feldern positionellen Druck. *20.h7 Rh8 21.g4 Bxa4 22.Rxb4 Bc6!* Weiß bereitet b3-b4 vor. *23.Rh2 Qa5 24.Rb1 Qa2 25.Rc1 Ne3 26.Nxd4 Qb2 27.Qxe3 Rxd4 28.Qxd4?! Qxc1+ 29.Kf2 Rxh7 30.Qd8+?* Schwarz verjagt den weißen Läufer, aber schwächt gleichzeitig die Diagonale a1-h8. *Ka7!±* Mit diesem Zug gewinnt Weiß einen Schlüsselbuern. *31.Qa5+ Kb8 32.Qd8+ Ka7 33.Qa5+ Kb8)* 15...Be8 16.h7 Rh8

B1a) 17.Rh3 ½-½ (21) Ludgate,A (2442)-Bleker,F (2382) FICGS 2015 f6 18.exf6 Bg6 *(18...Nd5 19.Nxd4 Nxd4 20.Qxd4* Mit diesem Zug bereitet Weiß 15.f4 vor, so

dass der folgende Textzug von Schwarz erzwungen ist.) 19.fxe7 Bxd3 20.exd8Q+ Diese Stellung erinnert an die Benoni-Verteidigung. Qxd8 Mit dem Textzug verhindert Weiß 10...e5. 21.Rxd3 Qh4+ 22.g3 Stattdessen kommt 11... f6 nebst 12...e5 in Betracht. Qh2;

B1b) 17.g4 f6 18.exf6 Bg6 19.f5 Nxf5 20.gxf5 Bxf5 21.Bf4 Qb6 *(21...Bxd3 22.Bxc7 Kxc7 23.cxd3)* 22.Qc4 Qb2 23.Bg2 Qxa1+ 24.Kf2 Qb2 25.Bxc6;

B2) 14...Nf5

B2a) 15.Qxc3 d4 16.Qd3 Nce7 17.h6 Ba4 18.h7 Rh8;

B2b) 15.Rb1 d4 *(15...Na5* 1-0 (73) Wlodarczyk,R (2261)-Baldyga,J (2261) ICCF 2014 Natürlich kann Weiß auch *16.Rg1 Nc4 17.g4* Aber dann gibt es nicht die zusätzliche Option 8.a4 Mit diesem Zug spielt Weiß eine Nebenvariante; die Fortsetzung 6.d4 leitet in die Katalanische Verteidigung über. *Qc5 18.Qxc3 Nh4 19.Rg3)* 16.Rg1 f6 17.g4 fxe5 18.gxf5 exf5 19.Rxg8 Rxg8;

B2c) 15.h6 Rg6 *(15...d4 16.h7 Rh8 17.g4 Nfe7 18.Bg2)* 16.h7∓ and the knight has no good squares to retreat. After Rh8 17.Be3 *(17.Rh3 d4 18.Rb1 Be8 19.Qf3 Qd8 20.g4 Nh4 21.Qh1 Rxg4)*

B2c1) 17...Qa5 18.Bf2 Nh6 19.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 20.Nxc3 Rxh7 21.Bd3;

B2c2) 17...Kb8 18.Bf2 Rg7 19.Rb1 d4 20.g3;

B2c3) 17...Nxe3 18.Qxe3 Rg7 19.0-0-0 *(19.Nxc3 d4 20.Qd3 Qa5)* 19...Rgxh7 20.Rxh7 Rxh7 21.Nxc3 a6 22.Na4 Ne7 23.Bd3 Rh8 24.Nb6+ Kb8;

B2c4) 17...d4 18.Bf2 *(18.Bxd4 Ncxd4 19.Nxd4 Rg3 20.Nf3 Bc6)*

B2c41) 18...Rg7 19.Rh3 a6 *(19...Rgxh7 20.Rxh7 Rxh7 21.g4)* 20.Rb1 Qa5 21.Nxd4 Ncxd4 22.Bxd4 Nxd4 23.Qxd4 Rgxh7 24.Qxc3+ Qxc3+ 25.Rxc3+;

B2c42) 18...Qa5, Black is in time to neutralize White's plan to occupy the c-file with 19.Rh3 f6 *(19...Rg7 20.Nxd4 Ncxd4 21.Bxd4 Nxd4 22.Qxd4 Rgxh7 23.Qxc3+ Qxc3+ 24.Rxc3+)*

B2c421) 20.exf6 e5 *(20...Rxf6 21.Nxd4 e5 22.Nxc6 Bxc6 23.g4 Ne7 24.fxe5 Qxe5+ 25.Qe3)* 21.f7 Rf6 22.g4 Rxf7 *(22...Ne3 23.Bxe3 dxe3 24.g5 Rxf7 25.g6 Rg7 26.Rg3 exf4 27.Nxf4)* 23.gxf5 Bxf5 24.Qc4 Rfxh7 *(24...Bxh3 25.Bxh3+ Kb8 26.Qxf7)* 25.Rxh7 Rxh7 26.fxe5 d3 *(26...Bxc2 27.Bxd4)*

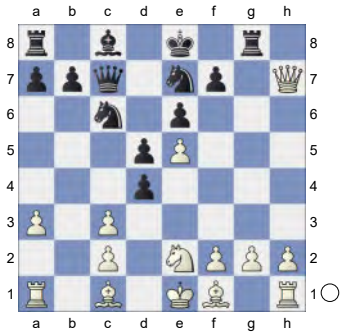
27.cxd3 c2+ 28.Qc3 Qxc3+ 29.Nxc3 Nxe5 30.d4 *(30.Kd2 Rh2)* 30...Nf3+ 31.Ke2 Bg4 32.Ke3 Rh1 ½-½ (32) Loeschnauer,R (2468)-Vayser,V (2571) ICCF 2009 33.Bg3 was played in the recent games Gelfand,B (2733)-Anand,V (2792)/Mexico City 2007/CBM 120/[Marin,M] (½-½, 20) and Georgiev,K (2649)-Onischuk,A (2674)/Kemer 2007/CBM 121/[Marin,M] (1-0, 71);

B2c422) 20.Nxd4= Given the final result and that I have failed to find a significant improvement for White after this move, 20...fxe5 deserves to be investigated. Black would win his pawn back with *(20...Ncxd4 21.Bxd4 Nxd4 22.Qxg6)* 21.Nxf5 , but White would have a relatively wide choice of continuations, aiming to simplify to a (hopefully) minimally better ending. Only further practice (a Kramnik game?!) will shed some light. Here is just an illustrative attempt. exf5 22.Rd1 *(22.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 23.Rxc3 exf4 24.Bxa7 Rxh7)* 22...Rg7 *(22...Be6 23.Qd6 exf4 24.Bd4 Nxd4 25.Qxd4)* 23.Qxc3! Qxc3+ 24.Rxc3= White's advantage is of a purely aesthetic nature. His bishop looks more active than its rival, but there is no clear target available.

B2c4221) 24...Kb8 25.fxe5 Nxe5 *(25...Rgxh7 26.Bg3)* 26.Bd4 Re7 27.Re3 Bauer,C (2571)-Bologan,V (2652)/Belfort 2002/CBM 090 (0-1, 40);

B2c4222) 24...exf4 25.Bxa7 Rhxh7 26.Bc5 Be8 *(26...Rg3 27.Rxg3 fxg3 28.Bd6 Rh4± 29.Bxg3?! Re4+ 30.Kd2 Ra4±* Since White's intention is to capture on f6 at some moment anyway, it does not make too much sense to play *31.Bd6* Hansen,C-Petersen,S/DEN-chT corr 1990/Corr Nr. 1 (1-0, 24) *Rd4+ 32.Kc1)* 27.Bd6!? Rh4 28.Kf2± Rd7? 29.Rdd3 *(29.Be2 Bh5 30.Bxh5 Rxh5*

31.Rcd3 Rh4 32.Kf3) 29...Bh5 *(29...Bf7 30.Be2!=* After *Bh5?! 31.Bxh5! Rxh5 32.Bxf4±* a draw was agreed in ½-½ Hoffmann,M (2440)-Braun,P (2215)/Bad Wiessee 1998/EXT 2001. From White's point of view, this was at least premature. *Rxd3 33.cxd3)* 30.Rc4! Rg4 31.Bxf4 Re7 32.g3+- Rg8 33.Ra4]



11.f4 dxc3

[11...Bd7]

12.Qd3

[12.h4]

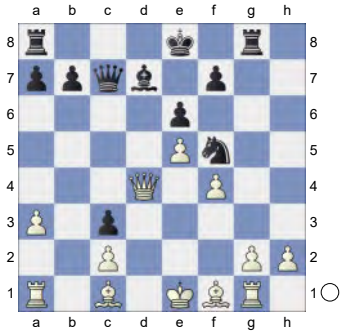
12...d4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Bd7N

[14...Nf5 15.Bb5+ Bd7 16.Qxd7+ Qxd7 17.Bxd7+ Before attacking the knight to h4, White needs to drive the enemy rook away from the fourth rank. Kxd7 18.Kf2 Kc6 *(18...Rg6 19.a4 Rag8 20.g3 Rh8 21.Rb1* ½-½ (40) Kramnik,V (2785)-Carlsen,M (2714) Moscow 2007 The trivial *Kc6* would have been entirely satisfactory as well, for instance *22.Be3 b6 23.a5 Nxe3 24.Kxe3= Rd8 25.axb6 axb6=* would have led to an immediate draw, without further complications. *26.Rb3 b5 27.Rxc3+ Kb6⩲ 28.Rd3? Rxd3+ 29.Kxd3 Rg8 30.Rd1? Kc5! 31.Ke3 b4 32.Rd4 Rh8 33.Rd2 Kc4 34.Re2 Ra8 35.h4 Ra3+ 36.Kf2 Ra2!? 37.h5 Kc3 38.h6 Ra8 39.g4 Ra2=* In the absence of pawns, the position is just equal. *40.h7 Ra8 41.Kg3 b3* leads to a similar position as in the aforementioned Georgiev,K (2649)-Onischuk,A (2674)/Kemer 2007(1-0, 71). White's superior activity offer him chances for an advantage. *42.cxb3?! Kxb3! 43.Rh2* is slightly more natural, but has equal merit. After 27... ♕c8 play would transpose to the game continuation. *Rh8?!* allows White to maintain his minimal material advantage. *44.g5 Kc4 45.f5 Kd5 46.Kf4 Kd4 47.fxe6 fxe6 48.g6±* Jostes,M-Hummeling,H/IECC email 1998/E-Mail 2000 (½-½, 80) *Rf8+* fails to maintain the extra pawn. *49.Kg4 Kxe5 50.Re2+ Kd6 51.Rh2 Rf6 52.Rh6= Ke7 53.h8Q)* 19.a4 Rad8 20.Ra3 Rd5 21.Rxc3+ Rc5 Black's concentration of forces starts looking threatening. An interesting tactical phase starts now. 22.Rxc5+ Kxc5 23.Rd1 Nd4! 24.Be3!? Kramnik plays "to the audience". a5 25.Rxd4! Kc6 26.Rd6+ Kc7 27.Bb6+ Kc8!? Carlsen also loves beauty in chess. 28.h4 Rh8 29.h5]

15.Rg1 Nf5

[15...0-0-0 16.Qxa7]

(Diagram)



16.Qf2 Qc6 17.Bd3

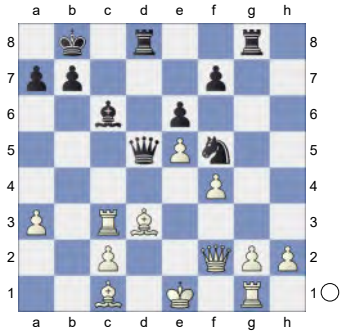
[17.g4 Qe4+ 18.Qe2

A) 18...Qxe2+ 19.Kxe2 Bb5+ 20.Kf2 Bxf1 21.Rxf1 ½-½ (30) Lange,J (1979)-Gronemann,J (1900) BdF-Schachserver 2011 Nd4 The most logical sequence of moves. Both sides keep developing, concentrating their attention on the critical c5-square. 22.h3 Rh8 *(22...Nxc2!* The only favourable way to capture the bishop. *23.Ra2 Nd4 24.Rd1 0-0-0 25.Be3 Nb5!N 26.Rxd8+ Kxd8⩲* Judging from the high speed of his play, Carlsen had analyzed all these moves at home. Untypically for him, Kramnik was taking his time to answer. Black's pressure along the h1-a8 diagonal, combined with the weakness induced by e3 offers him excellent compensation for the pawn. *27.Rc2 Nxa3 28.Rxc3 Nb5 29.Rb3)* 23.Kg3;

B) 18...Qa4 19.Rb1]

17...Qd5 18.Rb1! Stärker als(Nach der Partie Analyse) **18...Bc6 19.Rb3 0-0-0 20.Rxc3 Kb8**

(Diagram)



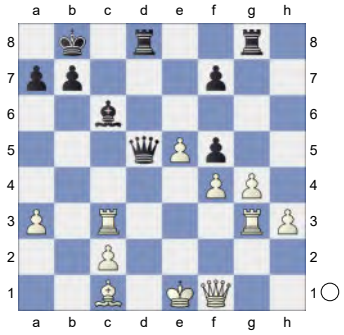
21.g4 Nd4 22.Rg3 Qh1+ 23.Qf1 Qd5

[23...Nf3+ 24.Kf2 Qxh2+ 25.Qg2 *(25.Rg2 Qh4+)* 25...Qxg2+ 26.Rxg2 *(26.Kxg2 Nxe5+)* 26...Ne1 27.Rg3 Nxd3+ 28.cxd3]

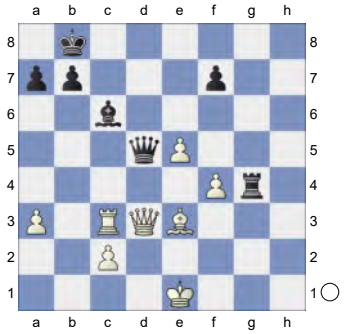
24.h3 Nf5

[24...Qa5 25.Bd2 Qd5 26.Re3]

25.Bxf5 exf5

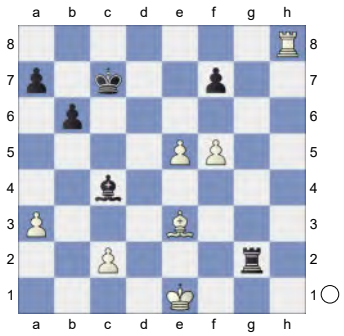


26.Rgd3 Qe4+ 27.Be3 fxg4 28.hxg4 Rd5 29.Rxd5 Qxd5 30.Qd3 Rxg4

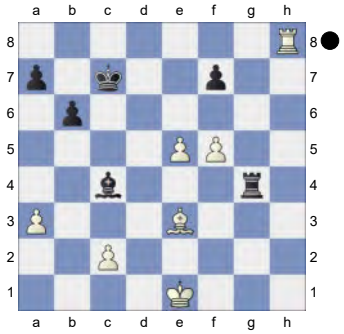


31.Qxd5 Bxd5 32.f5 b6 33.Rd3 Bc4 34.Rd8+ Kc7 35.Rh8 Rg2

(Diagram)



36.Bf2 Rg4 37.Be3



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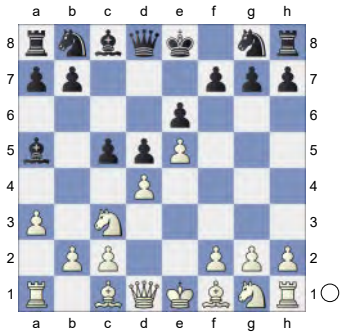
298 **C18**
□ **Contreras,Juan A** **2344**
■ **Sidenko,Anatoly Viktorovich** **2380**
corr 3. LSS WCH F-00002 11.07.2018
[Kharitonov,Alexandr]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxb4 7.Nb5 b3+ 8.c3 Nc6
[8...Bc7 9.Qxb3 *(9.Bd3 Bd7 10.a4 a6 11.Nxc7+ Qxc7 12.Qxb3 Nc6 13.Ba3 Na5 14.Qb4 Kd8 15.Ne2 Nh6 16.0-0 Bc6 17.Rfb1 Nf5 18.Qc5 Ke8 19.Bb4 Nc4 20.Bxc4 dxc4 21.Qxc4 Rc8 22.Qd3 Qd7 23.Ng3 Nxg3 24.Qxg3 Rg8 25.Qh4 h6 26.Rd1 Qd8 27.Qg4 Bd5 28.Rd3 g6 29.Rg3 Kd7 30.Qf4 Qe8 31.Qxh6 Rc4 32.Rh3 Kc8 33.Qf4 Rc7 34.Bd6 Rd7 35.c4 Bc6 36.a5 g5 37.Qc1 f6 38.Rb1 fxe5 39.Bxe5 Qg6 40.Rg3 Qf5 41.Rb6 Kd8 42.Qe1 Rf8 43.d5 exd5 44.Rf3 Qxf3 45.gxf3 dxc4 46.Qc1 Bxf3 47.Qxg5+ Kc8 48.Bd6 Rfd8 49.Qc5+; 9.Qg4 Ne7 10.Qxg7 Rg8 11.Qxh7 Nbc6 12.h4 a6 13.Nxc7+ Qxc7 14.Rh3 Bd7 15.Bg5 Qa5 16.Ne2 0-0-0 17.Qb1 Qb6 18.a4 Rde8 19.Ra3 Na5 20.Nc1 b2 21.Nd3 Nc4 22.Ra2 Nf5 23.Nc5 Nxd4 24.cxd4 Qb4+ 25.Kd1 Rxg5 26.Bxc4 Rxg2 27.Qxb2 Rg1+ 28.Kc2 Qxc4+ 29.Kd2 Bc6 30.Nxb7 Qf1 31.Nd6+ Kd7 32.Nxe8 Qe1+ 33.Kc2 Qe2+ 34.Kc3 Qc4+ 35.Kd2 Qf1 36.Nf6+ Kc7 37.h5 Qxf2+ 38.Kc3 Qe1+ 39.Kb3 Qd1+ 40.Qc2)*
9...Nc6 10.Bd3 *(10.a4 Nge7 11.Ba3 0-0 12.Bd3 f6 13.f4 a6 14.Nxc7 Qxc7 15.Nf3 Re8 16.0-0 Na5 17.Qc2 f5 18.Bd6 Qd8 19.Rfb1 Bd7 20.Bc5 Nc8 21.g4 g6 22.gxf5 exf5 23.h4 b6 24.Bb4 Nc4 25.Bxc4 dxc4 26.d5 Na7 27.Qf2 a5 28.Ba3 Rb8 29.Qd4 Bc6; 10.Nxc7+ Qxc7 11.Bd3 Bd7 12.Ne2 Na5 13.Qc2 Ne7 14.a4 Rc8 15.0-0 h6 16.Re1 0-0 17.Ba3 Qd8 18.Ng3 Nc4 19.Bc1 Kh8 20.Nh5 Rg8 21.Qe2 Be8 22.Rb1 Na5 23.Nf6 gxf6 24.Qh5 Rg6 25.Bxg6 fxg6 26.Qxh6+ Kg8 27.g4 f5 28.Bg5 Bxa4 29.Qh4 Kf7 30.gxf5 Qh8 31.Bxe7 Qxh4 32.Bxh4 Rxc3*

33.Re3 Rc4 34.fxg6+ Kxg6 35.Rg3+ Kh5 36.Bg5 Rxd4 37.Be3 Rd1+ 38.Rxd1) 10...a6 11.Nxc7+ Qxc7 12.Nf3 Nge7 13.0-0 Bd7 14.a4 Na5 15.Qb4 Nc4 16.Nd2 a5 17.Qb3 Nxd2 18.Bxd2 Rc8 19.Rfe1 Ng6 20.Qb1 0-0 21.h4 Kh8 22.h5 Nh4 23.Bxh7 g6 24.Bg5 Kxh7 25.Bxh4 Qxc3 26.Be7 Rg8 27.Bc5 Bc6 28.Re3 Qc4 29.Rh3 Kg7 30.Be7 Qxd4 31.Bf6+ Kf8 32.h6 Ke8 33.h7 Rf8 34.Bg7 Ke7 35.Rb3 Qa7 36.Qc1 Kd7 37.Rf3 f5 38.Bxf8 Rxf8 39.Qh6 Rh8 40.Qg7+ Kc8 41.Qxh8+ Kc7 42.Qg7+ Kb6 43.h8Q]

[8...Bd7 9.Qxb3 Bxb5 10.Bxb5+ Nd7 11.Ne2 a6 12.Bd3 Qc7 13.0-0 Rc8 14.Bd2 Ne7 15.f4 Nb6 16.g4 g6 17.Kh1 Nc4 18.Rf2 h5 19.f5 hxg4 20.fxe6 f5 21.Bg5 b5 22.Nf4 Ne3 23.Nxg6 Nxg6 24.Bxe3 Qxc3 25.Qxd5 Rd8 26.Qb7 Ne7 27.Bxf5 Rg8 28.Bh6 Qc6+ 29.Qxc6+ Nxc6 30.Bh7 Rh8 31.Bg6+ Ke7 32.Bg5+ Kxe6 33.Bf7+ Kd7 34.Bxd8 Nxd8 35.Bb3]

[8...Bxc3+ 9.Nxc3 Ne7 10.Qxb3 a6 11.Nf3 0-0 12.Bd3 Nbc6 13.0-0 b5 14.Bg5 Qc7 15.Rac1 Bb7 16.Qb1 Ng6 17.Ne2 h6 18.Bd2 Qb6 19.Bxg6 fxg6 20.Qxg6 Ne7 21.Qg4 Nf5 22.Ng3 Bc8 23.Bb4 Rf7 24.Qg6 Nxg3 25.fxg3 Bd7 26.Bd6 Be8 27.Qxe6 Bc6 28.Bb4 Re8 29.Qxc6 Re6 30.Qc8+ Kh7 31.Bc5 Qc6 32.Qxc6 Rxc6 33.Ng5+]

[8...f6 9.f4 fxe5 10.fxe5 Qh4+ 11.Ke2 b2 12.Bxb2 Nh6 13.Nd6+ Kd7 14.Nf3 Qh5 15.Rg1 Nc6 16.h3 Bc7 17.g4 Qg6 18.Nb5 a6 19.Nxc7 Kxc7 20.Kf2 Bd7 21.Bd3 Qe8 22.a4 Na5 23.Nd2 Nf7 24.Kg3 h5 25.gxh5 Qe7 26.Kh2 Nh6 27.Ba3 Qf7 28.Bd6+ Kc8 29.Qf3 Nf5 30.Bxf5 exf5 31.Rg6 Nc6 32.Rag1 f4 33.R1g5 Rh7 34.Qg2 Nd8 35.Rxg7 Rxg7 36.Rxg7 Qxh5 37.Nf3 b5 38.Ng5 f3 39.Qxf3 Qxf3 40.Nxf3 bxa4 41.h4 Ne6 42.Re7 a3 43.Bxa3 Kc7 44.c4 Re8 45.cxd5 Nf4 46.d6+ Kc6 47.d5+ Nxd5 48.Nd4+]

9.Qxb3

[9.Nf3 Bc7 *(9...f6 10.a4 Nge7 11.Nd6+ Kf8 12.Qxb3 Bc7 13.Nxc8 Rxc8? 14.exf6! gxf6 15.Bd3! e5 16.dxe5 Nxe5? 17.Bh6+? Kf7 18.Nxe5+ Bxe5 19.Rc1 Rg8 20.0-0? Qd7! 21.f4 Qh3 22.Be4 Qe3+ 23.Kh1 Qxe4)* 10.Qxb3 Bb8 11.a4 a6 12.Nd6+ Bxd6 13.exd6 Qxd6 14.Bd3 Nge7 15.0-0 0-0 16.Re1 h6 17.Ne5! Qc7 18.Bf4 Qd8 19.Qd1! Nxe5 20.dxe5 Ng6 21.Bd2! f5 22.Rb1 Qc7 23.f4! Bd7 24.Qb3 Rab8 25.Qa3 Bc6 26.a5 Qd8 27.Rb6 Rc8 28.Qb4 Rc7 29.Bc1 Re8 30.Qd4 Ne7 31.Ba3! Nc8 32.Rb2 g5 33.Re3 g4 34.g3! h5 35.Bc5 Rh7 36.Bb6 Qe7 37.Bf1 h4 ½-½ (52) Luers,L (1936)-Kopasov,E (2014) Lechenicher SchachServer 2018 38.Bg2∓ oder or hxg3 39.hxg3 Nxb6 40.Qxb6 Rc8 41.Rb4 Bb5∓ 1-0 (47) Gajewski,G (2648)-Olszewski, M (2567) Poznan 2015 42.Rb1 Rc6 43.Qd4 Qc5 44.Qxc5 Rxc5 45.Ra1? Rhc7? 46.Ra3! d4 47.cxd4 Rc1+ 48.Kh2 Rh7+]

[9.Bd2 f6 10.Nd6+ *(10.f4 fxe5 11.fxe5 Qh4+ 12.Ke2 Nh6 13.Nd6+ Kd7 14.Nf3 Qh5 15.Qxb3 Bb6 16.Ke1 Kc7 17.Be2 Nf5 18.Rg1 Qg4 19.g3 Rf8 20.Qd1 Qh3 21.Bf4 Nh4 22.gxh4 Rxf4 23.Rg3 Rxf3* ½-½ (32) Saitou,A (2216)-Schmidt,L (2424) ICCF 2021 *24.Rxh3 Rxh3*

25.Kd2 a6 26.Qf1 1/2 (72) Kazakovskiy,V (2430)-Nguyen,T (2429) Marianske Lazne 2017 *Rxh2=* Weiß hat viele andere Züge versucht, konnte aber keinen wirklichen Vorteil erlangen: White has tried many other moves but couldn't claim any real advantage: *27.Qg1 Rxh4* 0.08 14.♘d3 *28.Qg3 g5 29.Qxg5* 14.♗g5 0.02 und auch and even *Rh2 30.Qg3 Rxe2+ 31.Kxe2 Bd7 32.Qg7* Hier ein praktisches Beispiel: . Here is a practical example: *Na5 33.Rb1)* 10...Kf8 11.Qh5 g6 12.Qf3 Kg7 1-0 (47) Gajewski,G (2648)-Olszewski, M (2567) Poznan 2015 13.h4= h5 14.Bd3 f5 15.Ne2 Bc7-+ 16.Bg5 Qd7 17.Qg3 Bxd6 18.exd6 Nf6 19.Nf4 Qf7 20.f3!∓ e5 21.dxe5 Nxe5± ⩲22.Nxh5+ gxh5= 23.Qxe5!-+ Qe6 24.Qxe6 Bxe6 25.Rb1 d4 26.c4 Nd7= 27.Kd2 Nc5 Vorgänger: 28.Rhe1 Rhe8 29.Re5 Rac8 30.Bxf5 Bxc4 31.d7 Nxd7 32.Bxd7 Rxe5 33.Bxc8 Re2+ 34.Kd1 0-1 (32) Gelfand,B (2738)-Karjakin,S (2779) Astana 2012 Rxg2! Ein ruhmloser Rückzug. An inglorious retreat. 35.Bf5 b5 36.Be4 Dieser Zug ist jetzt unnötig und schwächt nur den b6-Bauern im Falle von ...-c7-c6. This move is now unnecessary and only weakens the b6 pawn in case of ...c7-c6. d3 37.Be3 Rh2 38.Rb2 Rh1+ 39.Kd2 a5 40.Kc3! Rxh4 41.Rg2+ Kf7!? 42.a4? 17.♘c3 -0.54 verliert eine Figur nach loses a piece after Rh1 43.Bc6 h4 Aber nicht 44.Bf4? h3 45.Rf2 Ra1-+ oder or 46.Bxb5 Bxb5 47.axb5 Ra2! (ein typischer Gedanke, in dieser Position allerdings nicht so gefährlich) (a typical idea, not so dangerous in this position, though) 48.b6 Rxf2 49.b7 h2 50.Bxh2 d2 51.b8Q= d1Q ist hier der häufigste Zug. Ein praktisches Beispiel: is the most common move here. A practical example: 52.Qa7+ Ke6 53.Qxf2 a4 54.Qe3+ Kf7 55.Qf4+ Ke7 56.Qe4+]

[9.Rb1 Nge7± *(9...f6 10.f4 fxe5 11.dxe5 Nh6 12.Qh5+ Kd7 13.Rxb3 Nf5 14.Nf3 g6 15.Qh3 a6 16.g4 axb5 17.gxf5 gxf5 18.Bxb5 Bb6 19.a4 Bc5 20.Nd4 Kc7 21.Be3 Qe7 22.Rg1 Bd7 23.Qh6 Bxd4 24.Bxd4 Nxd4 25.cxd4 Rhg8 26.Rxg8 Rxg8 27.Qh3 Bxb5 28.axb5 Kb6 29.Kd1 Rg1+ 30.Kd2 Qg7 31.Rg3 Rxg3 32.hxg3 Qe7 33.Ke3 Qa3+ 34.Kf2 Qb2+ 35.Kg1 Qxd4+ 36.Kh2 Qf2+ 37.Kh1 Qf3+ 38.Kg1 d4 39.Qxh7 Qxg3+ 40.Kh1 Qxf4)* 10.Nd6+?! Kf8 11.Rxb3 Nf5 12.Nxf5 exf5 13.Nf3? h6 14.h4 g6 15.Bd2 Kg7+- 1-0 (35) Bluebaum,M (2642)-Meskovs, N (2483) Germany 2017 16.Bd3!± Be6± 17.Kf1± Qe7 18.g3 Bd8 19.Kg2 Rc8 20.a4 Qc7 21.Qa1 Na5 22.Rb5 Qd7 23.Bc1 a6 24.Rb1 Nc4 25.Ba3 Nxa3 26.Qxa3 Ba5 27.Rb3 Rc7 28.Nd2 Rhc8 29.Nb1 f4 30.Qc1 fxg3 31.fxg3 Bf5 32.Qd2 b5 33.axb5 axb5 34.Ra3 Ra7 35.Kh2 Bxd3 36.Qxd3 b4 37.cxb4 Bxb4 38.Rxa7 Qxa7 39.Rf1 Rc4 40.Qf3 Qd7 41.Qf6+ Kg8 42.Rf2 Rc6 43.Qf4 Kg7 44.Nd2 Bxd2 45.Rxd2 Qc7 46.Rf2 h5]

9...Kf8

[9...Nge7 10.Nd6+ Kf8 11.Nf3 Qc7 12.Bd2 Bd7 13.Bd3 Nc8 14.Nb5 Qb6 15.a4 a6 16.Qa3+ N6e7 17.Nd6 Nxd6 18.exd6 Nc8 19.Ne5 Ke8 20.0-0 f6 21.Nxd7 Kxd7! 22.Bf4 Qc6 23.Rab1 Nb6 24.Rb5

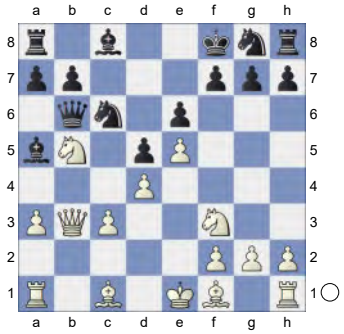
axb5 25.Bxb5 Qxb5 26.axb5 Rhc8 27.c4 dxc4 28.Qh3 Nd5 29.Bg3 Rh8! 30.Rc1 Bd2 31.Rf1 c3 32.Qh5 g6 33.Qe2 Rhc8 34.h4 Ra4 35.Qd3 ½-½ (47) Kaupert,V (2302)-Harabor,M (2316) ICCF 2018 Rcc4!? 36.b6 Rab4= 37.h5 f5 38.hxg6 hxg6 39.Be5 c2 40.Qxd2 Rb1 41.Rc1 Nc3 42.Kh2 Rxc1 43.Bf4 Rd1 44.Qxc2 Rdxd4 45.Be3 Rh4+ 46.Kg1 f4 47.Qxg6 fxe3 48.fxe3 Ne4 49.g3 Rh3 50.Qf7+ Kxd6 51.Qf8+ Kd5 52.Qd8+ Kc5 53.Qc8+ Kb5 54.Qe8+ Ka5? 55.Qa8+ Kb4 56.Qxb7 Rxg3+ 57.Kf1 Rc1+]

[9...a6 10.Nd6+ Kf8 11.Bd2 *(11.Nf3 f6 12.a4* 0-1 (70) Aymard,M (2023)-Gadzinskiy,Y ICCF 2017 *⌓fxe5 13.Ba3 Nge7 14.Nxc8∓* war nötig. was necessary. *Rxc8 15.dxe5 Nxe5∓* war einen Versuch wert. was worth a try. *16.Nd2 Kf7 17.Qxb7-+ Rc7 18.Qxa6 N7c6∓* Günstiger ist *19.Rd1 Bxc3 20.Qb6 ⌓Nd4 21.Qb1∓ Qg5 22.h4 Nef3+ 23.gxf3 Qe5+)* 11...Qc7 12.Bd3 f6 13.f4 Nh6 14.Ne2 f5 15.c4 Ng4 16.cxd5 Bxd2+ 17.Kxd2 Qa5+ 18.Qc3 Qxd5 19.Bc4 Qxg2 20.Rag1 Qf2 21.h3 Nh2 22.Rxh2 Qxh2 23.d5 Ne7 24.Qa5 Bd7 25.Qc7 Rg8 26.Qxd7 g6 27.Qxe6 Rg7 28.Qf6+ Kg8 29.Ne8 Rxe8 30.d6+ Kh8 31.dxe7 h6 32.Rxg6 Qxe2+ 33.Kxe2]

[9...f6]

10.Nf3 Qb6

(Diagram)



11.a4 E15: Damenindisch (Hauptfortsetzung, Abweichungen).

11...Nge7!

[Lieber 11...a6!∓ 12.Ba3+!= Nge7∓ scheint genauer. 13.Bc5= Qd8∓ 14.Nd6 b6 15.Ba3]

12.Ba3 g6

[12...Kg8= hält das Gleichgewicht.]

13.Bd3 Die Stellung ist ausgeglichen.

13...Kg7 14.Kf1 Aggressiv, aber kaum gefährlich für Schwarz. Aggressive but hardly dangerous for Black.

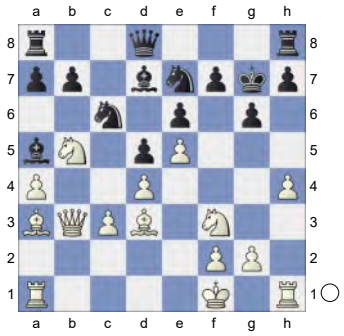
[14.0-0 Qd8 15.h4 Nf5 16.h5 Nh4 17.Nxh4? Qxh4 18.Be2 Rd8 19.Rad1 a6 20.Nd6 Bc7 0-1 (32) Gelfand,B (2738)-Karjakin,S (2779) Astana 2012 ⌓21.Rd3 Bxd6 22.Bxd6 Rd7= 23.Rh3!∓]

14...Bd7

[14...a6]

15.h4 Qd8

[15...h5]



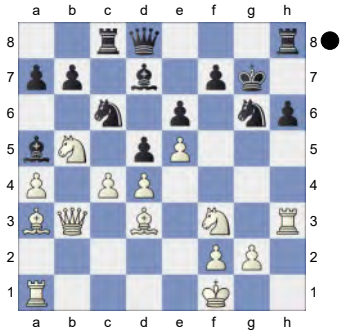
16.h5 h6 17.hxg6 Nxg6 18.Rh3 Rc8

[18...Nce7 19.Nd6 Nf4 20.Rg3+ Kf8

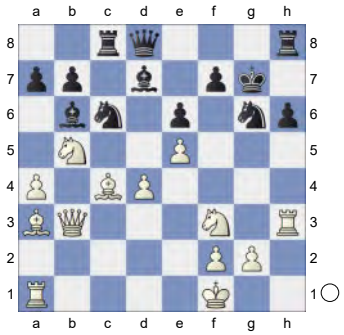
21.Nh4 Rg8 22.Rf3∓ 0-1 (32) Gelfand,B (2738)-Karjakin,S (2779) Astana 2012]

19.c4

[19.Nd6 Rb8-+ ⌓20.Nh2 Nce7 kämpft weiter.continues to fight. Lieber nicht Better not 21.Ng4 h5± 22.Nf6∓ Nf4 23.Rg3+ Neg6∓ 24.Bxg6 fxg6 25.Qc2]



19...dxc4N 20.Bxc4 Bb6



21.Qd3 Na5 22.Ba2 a6

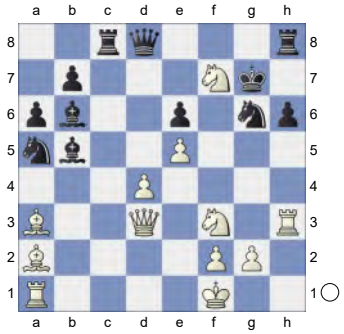
[22...Bxb5 23.axb5 Qd7 24.Bd6 a6 25.Rb1 Weiß wurde aus der Eröffnung heraus überfahren. White was run over out of the opening. Bc7? 26.d5]

23.Nd6 Bxa4 24.Nxf7 Bc2

[24...Kxf7 25.Bxe6+ Kg7 26.Qf5 Bb5+ 27.Kg1 Rc7 28.Nh4]

[24...Bb5

(Diagram)

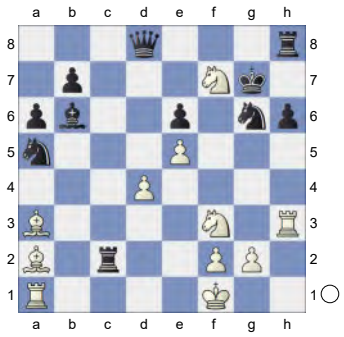


25.Qxb5! axb5 26.Nxd8 Rcxd8 Endgame 27.Bxe6 Bxd4 28.Nxd4 Rxd4 29.Bb2]

25.Qxc2

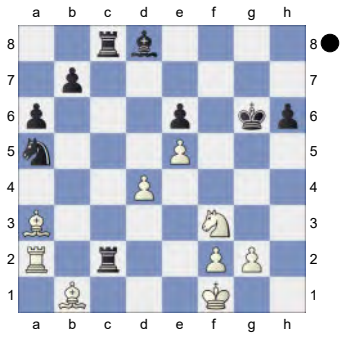
[25.Qxg6+ Bxg6 26.Nxd8 Rcxd8 27.Bxe6 Rxd4 Und weiter mit f4 wäre nett. 28.Nxd4 Bxd4 29.Rd1]

25...Rxc2



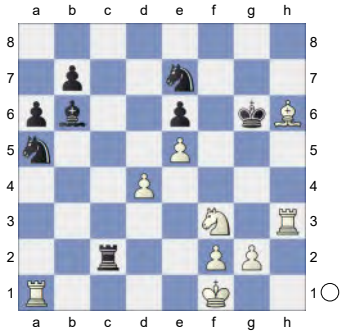
zielt auf ...Sxe3 ab. **26.Nxd8 Rxd8 27.Bb1 Rdc8 28.Bxc2**

[28.Rg3 Bd8 29.Rxg6+ Kxg6 30.Ra2



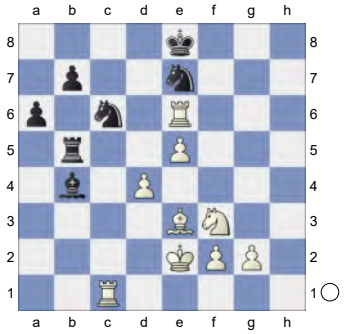
Kf7! 31.Rxc2 Rxc2 32.Bxc2 beabsichtigt Tb5. intends Rb5. b5 Schwarz steht klar auf Gewinn.Black is clearly on a win. 33.Bc1]

28...Rxc2 29.Bc1 Ne7 30.Bxh6+ Kg6



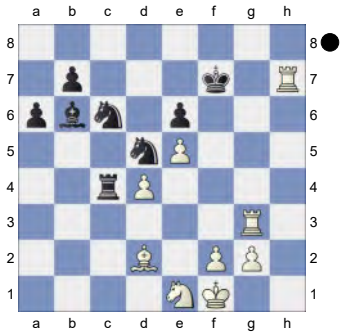
31.Ra3

[31.Bd2 Nac6 32.Rh6+ Kf7 33.Be3 Ba5 34.Rc1!-+ Rb2 35.Rf6+! Ke8 36.Rxe6 Rb5 37.Ke2 Bb4



38.g4!]

31...Nd5 32.Ne1 Rc4 33.Bd2 Nc6 34.Rag3+ Kf7 35.Rh7+



0-1

299 **C18**

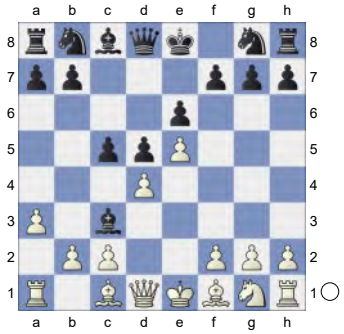
□ **Hernaez Fernandez,Cecilio** **2341**

■ **Engelen,Johan** **2345**

corr ESP-NED- 2016 07.03.2016

[Engelen,Johan H. H. M]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0

Letzter Buchzug. laatste zet uit boek

8.Be3?!

[8.Nf3!? c4=]

[8.Bd3 Nbc6 9.Qh5 Ng6 10.Nf3 Qc7 11.Be3 c4 12.Bxg6 fxg6 13.Qg4 Qf7 14.Ng5 Qe8 15.h4 Bd7 *(15...h6 16.Nh3 Ne7 17.Qe2 Nf5 18.Nf4 Bd7 19.h5 g5 20.Ng6 Rf7 21.g4 Nxe3 22.Qxe3 Qd8 23.Kd2 Rc8 24.Raf1 Rc6 25.f4 gxf4 26.Nxf4 Rb6 27.Rhg1 Rb2 28.g5 Ba4 29.Rc1 Qf8 30.Nxe6 Qxa3 31.gxh6 Bxc2 32.Rxc2 Rxc2+ 33.Kxc2 Qa2+ 34.Kd1 Qb1+ 35.Ke2 Qc2+ 36.Ke1 Qb1+ 37.Ke2 Qc2+ 38.Ke1 Qb1+ 39.Ke2* ½-½ (39) Pugh, J (2465)-Pospisil,L (2503) ICCF 2015 *)* 16.Qe2 Ne7 17.g4 Qc8 18.h5 gxh5 19.Rxh5 h6 20.Kd2 b5 21.Rh2 Be8 22.Nh3 a5 23.Bxh6 gxh6 24.Qe3 Bg6 25.Qxh6 Kf7 26.Rah1 Ke8 27.Nf4 Rg8 28.Qg5 Kd7 29.Qf6 Qc6 30.Rh7 Bxh7 31.Rxh7 Rae8 32.f3 Rgf8 33.Rxe7+ Rxe7

34.Qxf8 Re8 35.Qf7+ Re7 36.Qf6 b4 37.Ng6 Re8 38.axb4 axb4 39.Qg7+ Kd8 40.cxb4 c3+ 41.Ke1 Qa4 42.Nf8 Re7 43.Qg5 Qxc2 44.Nxe6+ Ke8 45.Qg8+ Kd7 46.Nc5+ Kc6 47.Qb8 Qd2+ 48.Kf1 Qxd4 49.Qd6+ Kb5 50.Qxe7 Qxb4 51.e6 Qxc5 52.Qxc5+ Kxc5 53.e7 1-0 (53) Repp,H (2511)-Schubert,F (2481) ICCF 2015]

8...Nbc6!∓

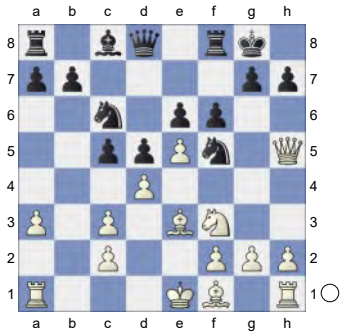
[8...f5?! 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7 11.Qh5 g6

A) 12.Qd1 Nbc6 *(12...c4 13.Be2 Nbc6 14.Nf3 Qc7 15.0-0 Nf5 16.Qd2 Nd6 17.Qe3 Nf5 18.Qd2 Nd6 19.Bf4 Ne4 20.Bxc7 Nxd2 21.Nxd2 Rxc7 22.f4 Re7 23.Rab1 Rb8 24.Bg4 Bd7 25.Rfe1 b6 26.Nf3 Rf8 27.g3 Kg7 28.Re2 Rfe8 29.Kg2 Kf6* ½-½ (29) Looschelders,W (2293)-Breitenbaum,J (1995) BdF 1997*)* 13.Nf3 Qa5 14.Bd2 c4 15.Be2 Nf5 16.0-0 Nd6 17.Ng5 Re7 18.Re1 Bd7 19.Bg4 Rae8 20.Bh3 Bc8 21.f4 b6 22.g3 h6 23.Nf3 Rf7 24.Bg2 Bb7 25.Ne5 Nxe5 26.fxe5 Nf5 27.g4 Nh4 28.Bxh6 Nxg2 29.Kxg2 Rd8 30.Qd2 Rdd7 31.Qg5 Kh7 32.Re3 1-0 (32) Schulz,G (2401)-Hanauer,A (2320) BdF 1997;

B) 12.Qh4 Nbc6 13.Nf3 c4 14.Be2 Qa5 15.Bd2 Nf5 16.Qg5 Nd6 17.h4 Ne4 18.Qh6 Ne7 19.g4 e5 20.h5 exd4 21.hxg6 Nxg6 22.Nxd4 Nxf2 23.0-0 Nxg4 24.Bxg4 Rxf1+ 25.Rxf1 Bxg4 26.Qg5 Bd7 27.Rf6 Rf8 28.Rxg6+ hxg6 29.Qxg6+ ½-½ (29) Brizzi,M (2020)-Mela,B (2327) Buenos Aires 2016]

9.Qh5?N Eine schlechte Neuerung Keen goode Nieuws **9...Nf5∓ 10.Nf3 f6∓**

[10...Nxe3!? 11.fxe3 Qa5∓]



Präziser war Precision was hier

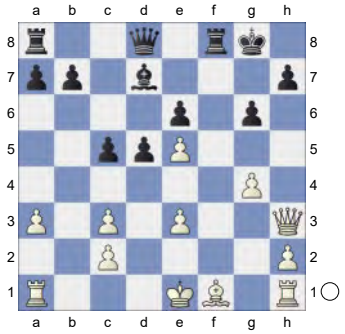
11.g4??-+

[Eine bessere Alternative war Better 11.Bd3 fxe5 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.dxe5 c4 14.Bxf5 Rxf5 15.Qg4 Rxe5∓]

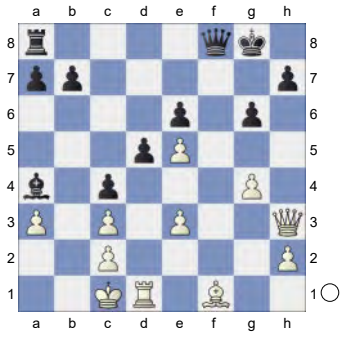
11...g6

[11...Nxe3?! 12.fxe3 fxe5 13.Nxe5 Qf6→]

12.Qh3 Nxe3 13.fxe3 fxe5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Bd7



16.Be2 Ba4 17.0-0-0 Rf2 18.Bd3 c4 19.Rhf1 Rxf1 20.Bxf1 Qf8



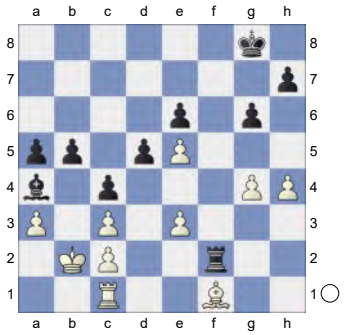
21.Kb2

[21.g5 Dies verbessert kaum etwas an der weißen Misere. Dit verbetert nauwelijks iets aande stelling. Qxa3+ 22.Kd2 Re8-+]

21...Qf2 22.Rc1 a5 23.Qg3 Rf8 24.Qxf2 Rxf2 25.h4

[25.h3 Kann das vorausgegangene nicht Rückgängig machen. Kan het voorafgegane niet meer ongedaan maken. b5-+ *(25...g5-+)*]

25...b5



26.Kb1

[26.Ka1 Ein erfolgloser Versuch seinem Schicksal zu entkommen.. Een vruchteloze poging om het lot te ontlopen. Kg7-+]

26...Kg7 27.Kb2

[27.Ka1 Das ändert nichts am Ausgang der Partie. Dit kan de uitslag niet meer beinvloeden. Rh2-+]

27...Rh2 28.g5

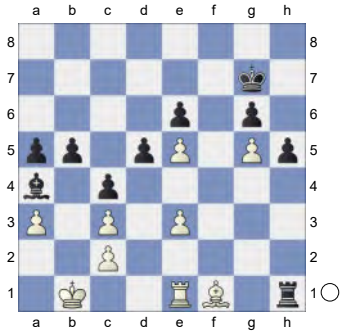
[28.Kb1-+ Kann ads Ende etwas Verzögern. Kan het einde nog wat uitstellen.]

28...h5 29.Kb1 Rxh4 30.Re1

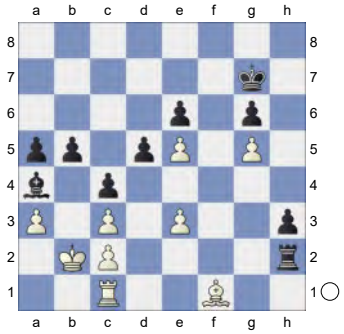
[30.Bg2 Verändert nichts mehr. Verandert niets meer.]

30...Rh1

(Diagram)



31.Rd1 Rh2 32.Rc1 h4 33.Kb2 h3



0-1

300 **C01**

□ **Jimenez Villena,Francisco Jose**

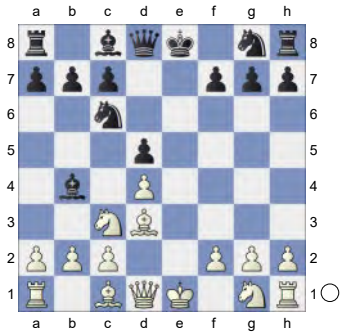
■ **Jackson,Master** **2578**

FRA-chT Top 16 GP Haute (2.5) 02.10.23

[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nc6



6.Nf3 Nge7 7.0-0 0-0

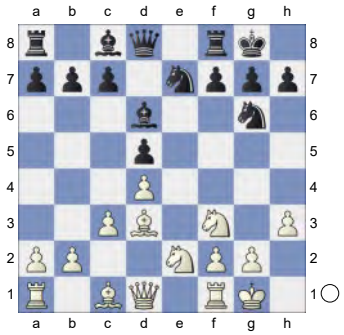
[7...Bg4 8.h3 Bh5 9.a3 Bd6 10.Re1

Kf8 11.g4 Bg6 12.Bxg6 hxg6 13.Ng5 Kg8 14.Qf3 f6 15.Ne6 Qd7 16.Kg2 g5 17.Nxd5 Ng6 18.Qb3 Kh7 19.Qd3 Rae8 20.Qf5 Rxe6 21.Qxe6 Qxe6 22.Rxe6 Grover,S (2488)-Fodor,T (2493) Budapest 2023 ½-½ (39)]

8.Ne2 Bd6N The position is equal.

[8...Bf5 9.Ng3 Bg6 10.Nh4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Qd7 12.h3 Ng6 13.Nhf5 Nce7 14.c3 Nxf5 15.Nxf5 Bd6 16.h4 Ne7 17.Nxd6 Qxd6 18.Qf3 c6 19.h5 Rfe8 20.Bg5 h6 21.Bd2 Rad8 22.Rae1 Qd7 23.Bf4 Chapter-Anti Marshall - 8.a4 Rb8 [IM Renier Castellanos] (55) Nf5 24.Qg4 Re7 25.Rxe7 Nxe7 26.Qe2 Re8 27.Re1 Kf8 28.Qd3 Nf5 29.Rxe8+ Kxe8 30.g4 Ne7 31.f3 Qe6 32.Kf2 f6 33.b3 Kf7 34.a4 Kg8 35.a5 a6 36.Qd2 Kf7 37.Bc7 Nc8 38.Qf4 Harikrishna,P (2723)-Rapport,R (2726) Shenzhen 2019 CBM 190 [Sagar,Shah] 1-0 (55)]

9.c3 Ng6 10.h3 Nce7

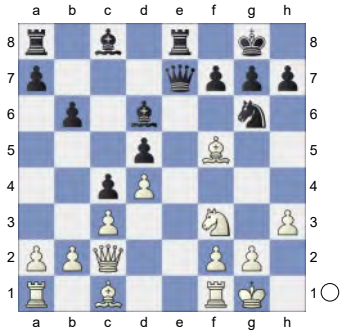


11.Qc2 b6 12.Ng3 c5 13.Nf5 c4 14.Nxe7+

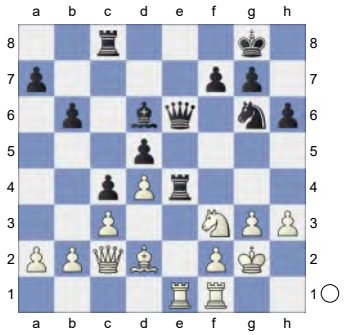
[But not 14.Nxd6? cxd3 15.Nxf7 dxc2-+]

14...Qxe7 15.Bf5 Re8

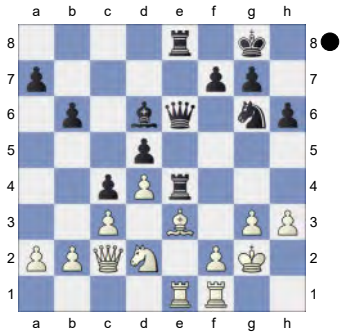
(Diagram)



16.g3 Qf6 17.Bxc8 Raxc8 18.Kg2 Re4 19.Bd2 h6 20.Rae1 Qe6



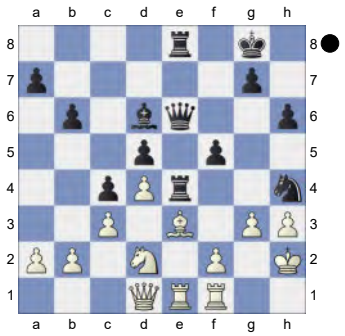
21.Be3 Re8 22.Nd2



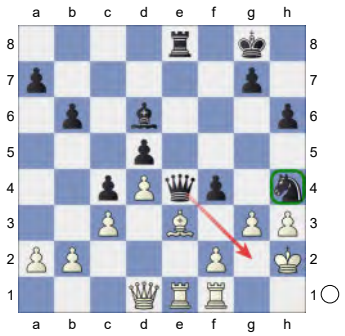
Nh4+! 23.Kh2 f5 0x0.001fbb6f315adp-1022s more active pieces. **24.Qd1?** -5.12/20

[24.a4∓ -0.92/20 is more resistant.]

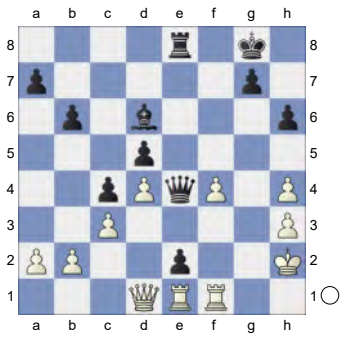
(Diagram)



White does not recover from this.
24...f4!-+ Black is clearly winning.
25.Nxe4
[25.Bxf4 Rxe1]
25...Qxe4



26.gxh4 fxe3+ Discovered Attack **27.f4 e2**

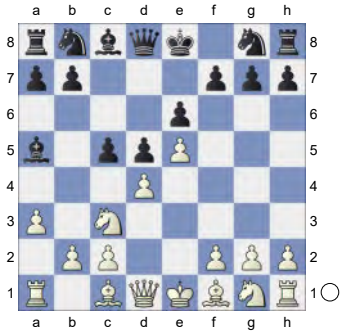


Weighted Error Value: White=0.51/ Black=0.02 (flawless)
0-1

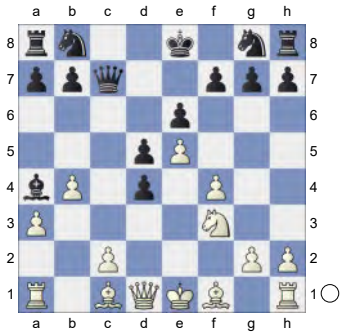
301 **C18**
□ **Bellegotti,Giorgio** **2317**
■ **Loeschnauer,Eugen** **2375**
corr WS/MN/119 20.10.2014
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5N
[4...b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qd7 7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 Nb8 11.Nf4 g6 12.Qh4 Qf7 13.c4 dxc4 14.d5 exd5 15.Bb2 Ne7 16.e6 Qf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxc4 c6 19.0-0-0 Gibney,E-Griffin,J Irish ch 1991 French Nc3 [RK] 1-0 (51)]
[4...Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40)]
[4...Qd7 5.Qg4 f5 6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bf8 8.Be2 Ba6 9.Bh5+ g6 10.Bf3 Nc6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.Bg5 Re8 13.Be3 Bh6 14.h4 Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nge7 16.h5 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Rhg8 18.hxg6 Nxg6 19.Qh2 Samisch,F (2277)-Petrov,A (2183) Tripolis 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (97)]

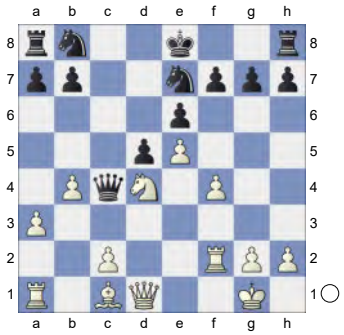
5.a3 Ba5



6.b4 cxd4 7.Nb5 Bc7 8.f4 Bd7 9.Nxc7+ Qxc7 10.Nf3 Ba4

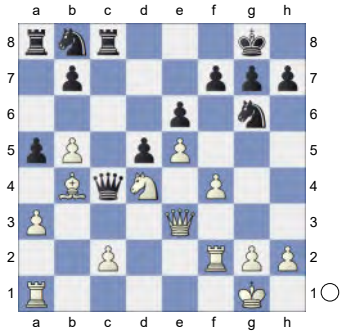


11.Bd3 Ne7 12.0-0 White has an edge. **12...Qb6 13.Rf2 Bb5 14.Bxb5+ Qxb5 15.Nxd4 Qc4**



16.Qd3 a6 Against Nb5 **17.b5 0-0 18.Bd2 Rc8 19.Bb4 Ng6 20.Qe3** aiming for f5. **20...a5!**

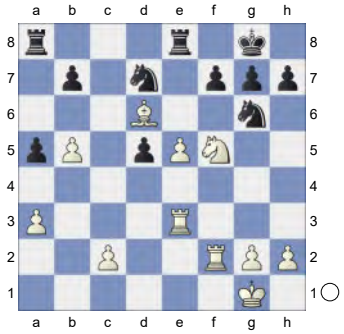
(Diagram)



21.Bd6↑ And now f5 would win. White is pushing. **21...Qc3 22.Re1 Qxe3 23.Rxe3 Nd7 24.f5 exf5 25.Nxf5**

[But not 25.Rxf5?! Rc4 26.c3 Rac8=]

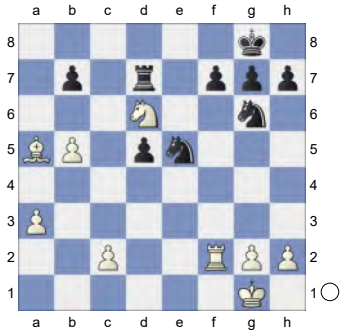
25...Re8



26.Rc3 0x0.001fbb6f3187dp-1022s more active pieces. **26...Rac8 27.Rc7 Rxc7 28.Bxc7 Ndxe5** 0.60/22

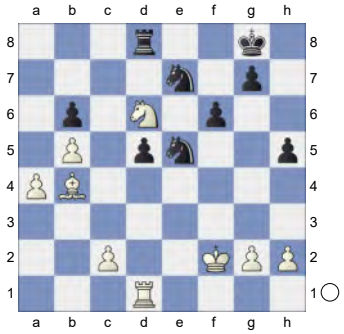
[28...b6= 0.28/21 should be considered.]

29.Nd6± Re7 30.Bxa5 Rd7

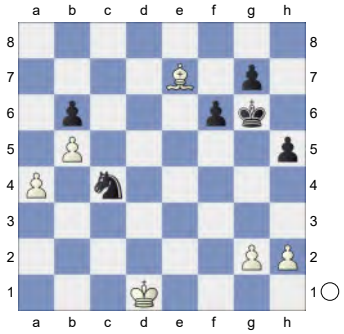


31.Bb4 Ne7 32.a4 b6 33.Rd2 f6 34.Kf2 Rd8 35.Rd1 h5

(Diagram)

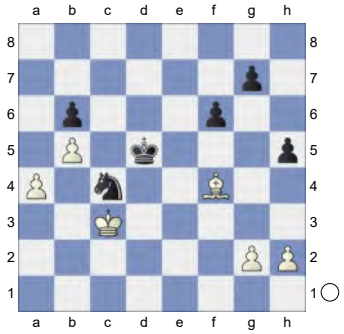


36.Ke2 0.08/20
[36.c3± 0.42/19]
36...Kh7!= 37.c4 dxc4
[37...Ra8 is interesting. 38.Bc3 dxc4 39.a5 bxa5 40.b6 Rb8]
38.Nxc4
[38.a5 looks sharper. Nd3 39.Nxc4 Nf4+ 40.Ke1]
38...Rxd1 1.10/21
[38...Nd5± 0.41/25 39.Rxd5 Rxd5 40.Nxb6 Rd3]
39.Kxd1± Nxc4 40.Bxe7= Endgame KB-KN **40...Kg6**

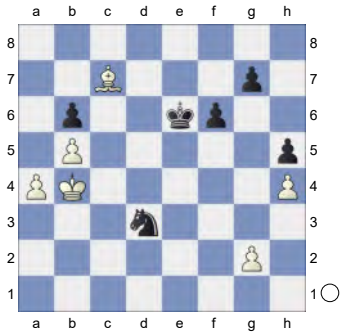


41.Kc2 Kf7 42.Bd8 Hoping for Kc3. **42...Ke8 43.Bc7** Kb3 is the strong threat. **43...Kd7 44.Bf4 Ke6 45.Kc3 Kd5**

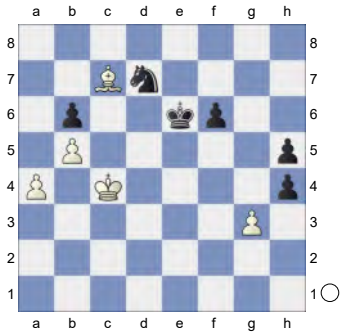
(Diagram)



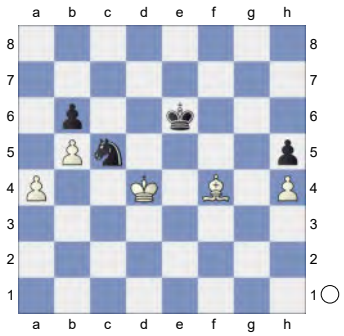
46.h4 Ne5 47.Be3 Nd7 48.Kb4 0.61/26
[Better is 48.g3= 0.01/23]
48...Ke6!± 49.Bf4 0.01/23
[49.Bg1± 0.81/24]
49...Nc5 0.84/25
[49...Ne5!= 0.01/23 remains equal. 50.Be3 Nd7]
50.Bc7± Nd3+



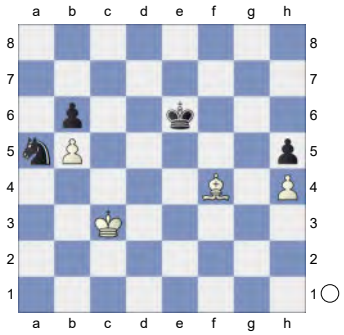
51.Kc4 White leaves nothing to chance now. **51...Ne5+ 52.Kc3 Nd7 53.Kd4 g6** 2.54/28
[53...Nc5± 1.59/25]
54.g3+- g5 55.Kc4 gxh4



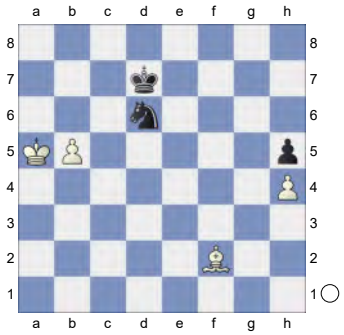
56.gxh4 f5 57.Kd4 f4 58.Bxf4 Nc5
(Diagram)



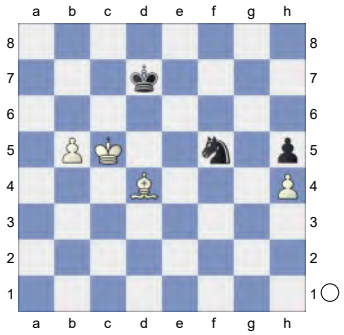
59.a5 Strongly threatening a6. **59...Nb3+ 60.Kc3 Nxa5**



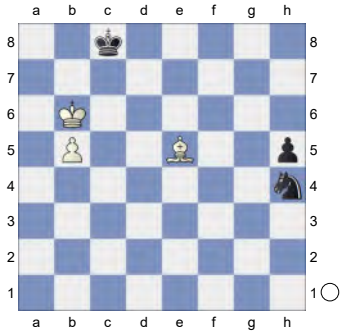
61.Be3 Nb7 6.95/37
[⌓61...Kd7 4.36/36 62.Bxb6 Nb7]
62.Bxb6 Nd6 63.Kb4 Nf5 64.Bf2 Kd7
White is clearly winning. **65.Ka5 Nd6**



66.Kb6 Ne4 67.Bd4 Nd6 68.Kc5 Nf5



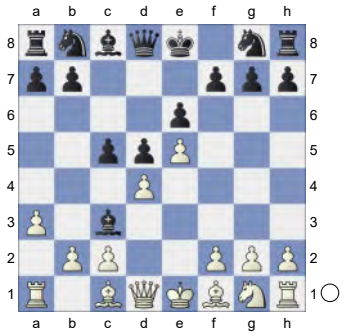
69.Be5! Kc8 70.Kb6 Black must now prevent Ka6. **70...Nxh4**



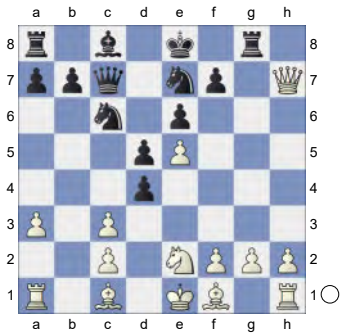
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
1-0

302 **C18**
□ **Elburg,John** **2300**
■ **Bell,Alan D** **2365**
corr NED-SCO 2012 01.02.2012
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Noel Blades and John Watson: 'A highly theoretical game annotated in considerable detail by Jose Blades. All of my own notes and analysis are prefaced by 'jw:'.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



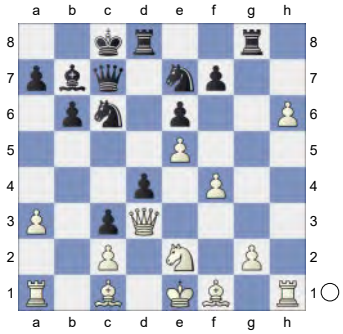
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Ne2 Nbc6
(Diagram)



11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 d4 13.h4 b6 14.h5 Bb7! 15.h6 White has an edge.

[15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Bxg2 17.Bxg2 Rxg2∓]

15...0-0-0



16.h7 Rh8 17.Rb1

[17.Ng3 Ng6 18.Qc4 Kb8 19.Bd3 Qe7 20.Ne4 Na5 21.Qb5 Qc7 22.Rb1 Nc4 23.Ng5 Bxg2 24.Qxc4 Qxc4 25.Bxc4 Bxh1 26.Nxf7 Be4 27.Nxd8 Rxd8 28.Bxe6 Bxc2 29.Rb4 Nh4 30.f5 Bxf5 31.Bg5 Rh8 Glowatzky,T (2811)-Blades,J (2729) Chessworld.net 2013 [Noel Blades and John Watson] ½-½ (40)]

[17.Rh2 Nd5 18.Rb1 f5 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Ng3 Rxh7 21.Rxh7 Qxh7 22.Qxh7 Nxh7 23.Bd3 Nf6 24.Ne4 Nxe4 25.Bxe4 Ne7 26.Bxb7+ Kxb7 27.Ke2 Rh8 28.Rb4 Nc6 29.Rb5 Rh1 30.Bb2 Rb1 31.Rh5 cxb2 Graewe,A (1912)-Pavlovic,B (2050) 2023 CHECK99 [John Watson] 0-1 (32)]

17...Nd5 0.34/19

[17...Ng6= -0.01/19 might be stronger.]

18.Rh6!±

[18.Nxd4 Nxf4 19.Bxf4 Nxd4∓]

18...Qe7N

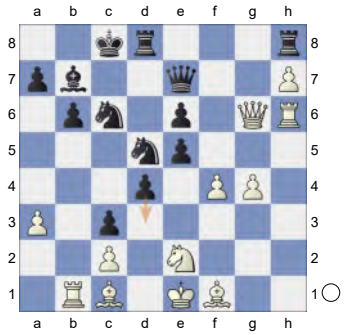
[18...Kb8 19.g4 f6 20.exf6 e5 21.Bg2 Ne3 22.Bxe3 dxe3 23.Qxc3 exf4 24.f7 f3 25.Bxf3 Qxf7 26.Qxe3 Rde8 27.Qb3 Qf4 28.Re6 Rxe6 0-1 (28) Kg Nimzowitch Gambit (2314)-Todorov,M (2463) New York 2012 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A]]

19.g4! Against f5 **19...f6 20.Qg6** -0.01/17 Prevents Qg7.

[20.Nxd4 Qg7 21.Nxc6 Qxh6 22.Nxd8 Qh4+ 23.Ke2 *(23.Kd1? Rxd8 24.Ke2 Nxf4+ 25.Bxf4 Rxd3-+)* 23...Qxg4+ 24.Kf2 Kxd8∓]

[20.Bg2± 0.62/17]

20...fxe5=



21.f5! Qc5 22.Bg2 Kb8 23.Qg7 -1.34/18

[23.fxe6? d3 24.cxd3 *(24.Qxd3? Nf4-+)* 24...Rhf8-+]

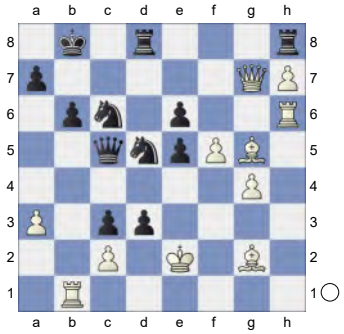
[23.Bg5= 0.01/17 remains equal. d3 24.cxd3 *(24.Qxe6? dxe2 25.Qxd5 Rxd5-+)*]

23...Ba6!∓ 24.Bg5 Bxe2

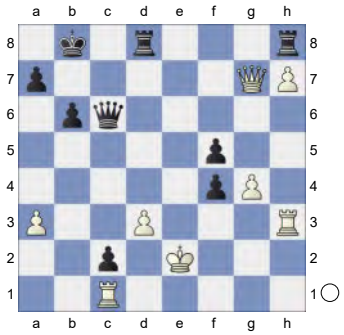
[24...Qc4 25.Bf3 e4 26.Bxd8 *(26.Rxe6 exf3 27.Bxd8 Rxd8=)* 26...exf3 27.Rxe6! Rxd8 28.h8Q-+]

25.Kxe2 Threatens to win with Rd1.

25...d3+!

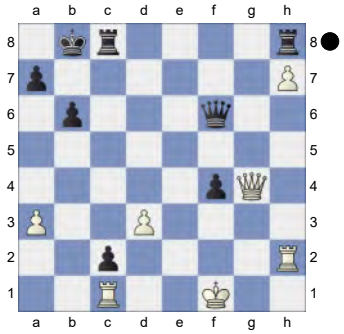


26.cxd3 -1.42/18
[⌓26.Kf3 -1.05/18 e4+ 27.Kg3 Qd6+ 28.Kf2 dxc2 29.Rc1]
26...c2 27.Rc1 And now Kf1 would win.
27...Nf4+!→ Black goes for the king.
28.Bxf4 exf4 Dancing on a razor blade.
29.Rh3 Against Qe3+
[Not 29.Rxe6? Nd4+ 30.Kf1 f3 31.Qe5+ Qxe5 32.Rxe5 fxg2+ 33.Kxg2 Rxh7-+]
29...exf5 30.Bxc6 Qxc6

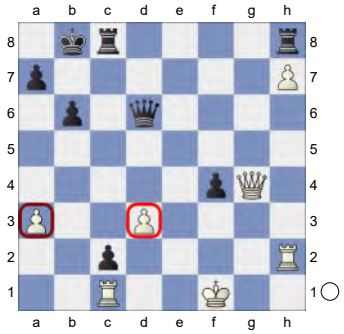


31.gxf5 Qc5! 32.Qg4 Qe5+ 33.Kf1 Rc8 White must now prevent ...Rxh7! &Nero is more active. **34.f6** -2.55/20 White does not recover from this.
[34.Qe2∓ -1.07/20 Qxf5 35.Rh5]
34...Qxf6-+ 35.Rh2

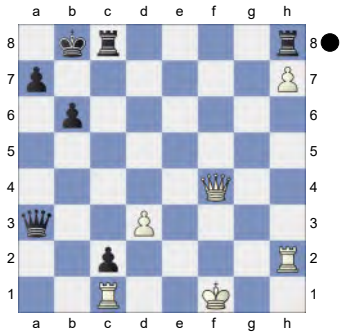
(Diagram)



Qd6!

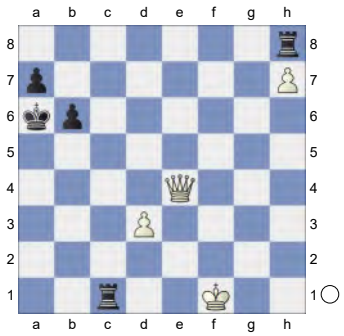


36.Qf5 Qxa3 37.Qxf4+
[But not 37.Qe5+ Kb7 38.Qe4+ Ka6 39.Rhxc2 Qxc1+ 40.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 41.Kf2 Rc7]



37...Kb7! (-> ...Rhf8) **38.Qe4+ Ka6 39.Rhxc2 Qxc1+ 40.Rxc1 Rxc1+**

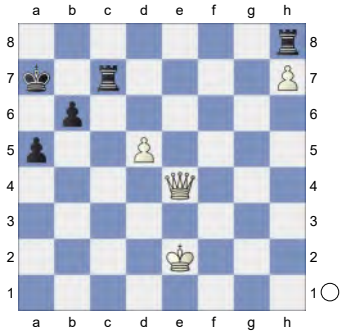
(Diagram)



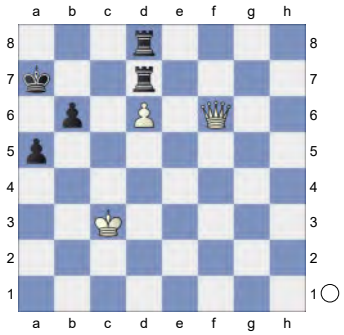
Endgame KQ-KRR **41.Ke2 Rc7 42.Qa4+ Kb7 43.Qe4+ Kb8 44.d4?** -6.20/23

[44.Ke3 -2.59/22]

44...a5 Black is clearly winning. **45.d5 Ka7**



46.Qf4 Rhxh7 47.d6 Rcd7 48.Qf6 Rhg7 49.Kd2 Rg8 50.Kc3 Rgd8



Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/ Black=0.01 (flawless)

0-1

303 **C19**

☐ **Elburg,John** **2300**

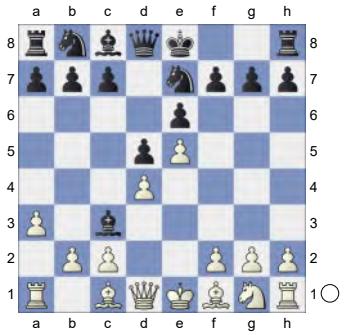
■ **Bell,Alan D** **2365**

corr NED-SCO 2012 01.02.2012

[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4

Lalic,Bogdan: 'Lalic,B: 'Inf 96/(210)'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+**

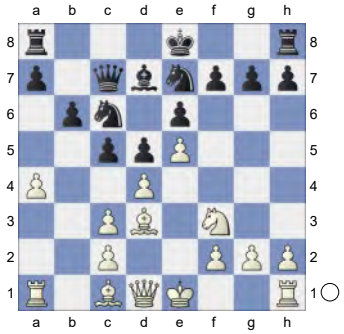


6.bxc3 c5N

[6...b6 7.Qg4 *(7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Nd7 10.0-0 Rc8* ½-½ (10) Frenz,J (1532)-Deysenroth, P (1739) Nuremberg 2023*; 7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz,R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5*

Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7 Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Ne2 Qa6 14.Qf3 c5 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Rfd1 Qc4 17.Rd2 Nge7 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.fxg3 Rc8 21.Kh2 Korneev,O (2594)-Rivas Pastor,M (2445) Benasque 2005 CI1-130 [Lalic, Bogdan]]

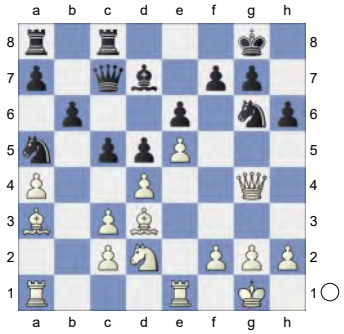
7.Nf3 b6 8.a4 Qc7 9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.Bd3 Nbc6



11.0-0 h6 12.Re1 0-0 13.Ba3 Na5 14.Nd2 Ng6 0.57/20

[14...Bxa4= 0.23/18 deserves consideration. 15.Qg4 Bd7]

15.Qg4± Rfc8



16.Bxg6 0.42/25

[16.Nf3± 0.79/21]

16...fxg6 17.dxc5

[17.Qxg6 cxd4 18.Nb1 *(18.cxd4 Qxc2 19.Qxc2 Rxc2∓)* 18...Qc6∓]

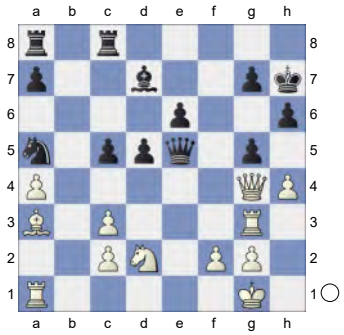
17...Kh7 18.Re3 bxc5 19.Rg3 g5 1.36/23

[19...Be8± 0.60/20]

20.h4 0.74/22

[⌓20.f4 1.36/23 Rg8 21.fxg5 Qxe5 22.Bxc5 Qxg5 23.Qxg5 hxg5 24.Rxg5]

20...Qxe5±

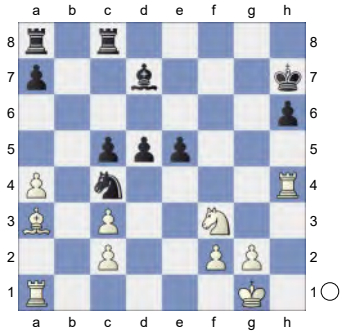


21.Nf3 -0.01/26

[21.hxg5± 0.77/24 Qxg5 22.Qxg5 hxg5 23.Rxg5]

21...Qf5= Strongly threatening ...Qxg4.

22.hxg5 Qxg4 23.Rxg4 next gxh6 is good for White. **23...e5 24.Rh4 Nc4 25.gxh6 gxh6**



26.Bc1 Rc6 27.Rb1 -0.30/23

[⌓27.Nd2 0.21/21]

27...Bc8 0.55/23

[27...Rb6= -0.30/23 28.Rxb6 axb6]

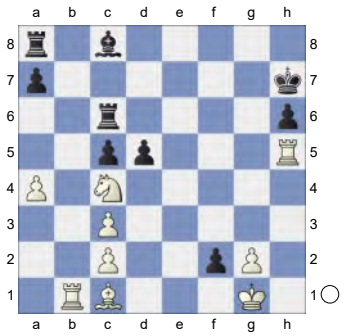
28.Rh5± e4 1.50/23

[28...Rb6± 0.63/25 29.Rxb6 axb6]

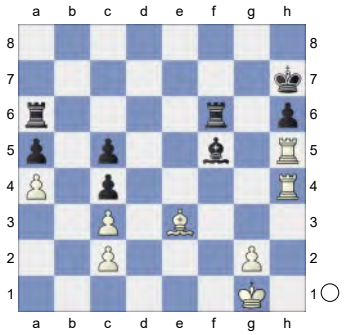
29.Nd2± Nxc4 is the strong threat.

29...e3 30.Nxc4 exf2+

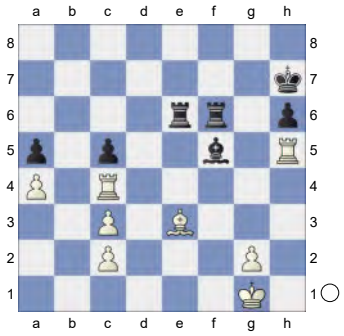
(Diagram)



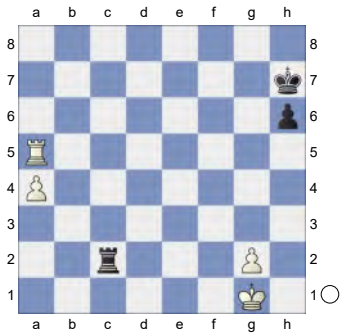
31.Kxf2 dxc4 32.Be3 1.23/21
[⌓32.a5 1.60/23]
32...a5 33.Rbh1
[33.Rxc5?! Rxc5 34.Bxc5 Bf5=]
33...Raa6 34.R1h4
[Much weaker is 34.Rxc5 Rxc5 35.Bxc5 Bd7=]
34...Rf6+ 35.Kg1 Bf5 1.26/24
[Black should try 35...Rae6 0.93/22 36.Rxc5 *(36.Bxc5 Re1+ 37.Kh2 Re2=)* 36...Rxe3 37.Rxc8 Rxc3]



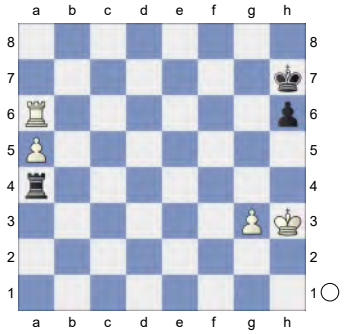
36.Rxc4 Rae6



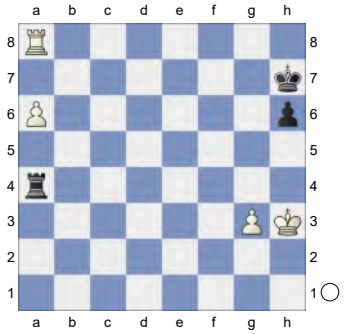
37.Rxc5 0.79/23 **Rxe3 38.Rhxf5 Rxf5 39.Rxf5** And now Rc5 would win.
39...Rxc3 40.Rxa5 Rxc2



Endgame KR-KR **41.Ra6 Ra2 42.Kh2 Ra3 43.g3** 0.25/30
[43.a5± 1.13/29]
43...Rb3= 44.a5 White wants to play Rb6. **44...Ra3 45.Kh3 Ra4**

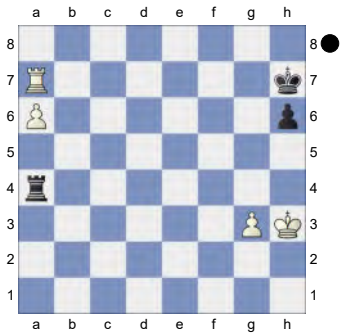


46.Kg2 Ra3 47.Kh3 Ra4! 48.Ra8 Kg7 49.a6 Kh7 1.21/29
[49...h5= 0.01/32]



50.Ra7+ 0.88/25
[Resist 50.a7 Kg7 51.Kg2 Ra3+-]
[White should play 50.g4! 1.21/29]

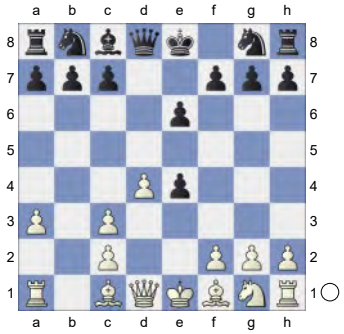
(Diagram)



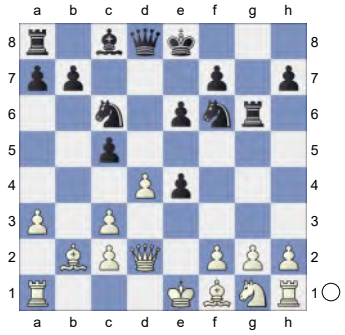
Black escapes into a draw.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.18 (very precise) .
Loss on time!?
0-1

304 **C15**
□ **Mendes** **2299**
■ **Walther,Franz** **2569**
EU-ch 12th Aix les Bains (1) 26.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

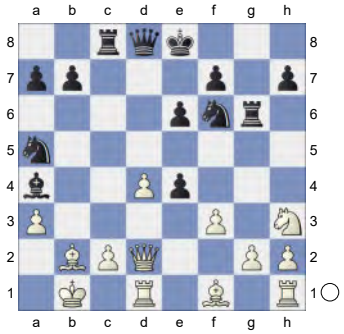
C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 dxe4



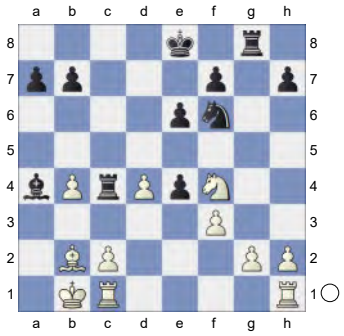
6.Qg4 Nf6 7.Qxg7 Rg8 8.Qh6 c5 9.Bb2 Rg6
[9...Nbd7 10.0-0-0 Qa5 11.Nh3 b6 12.Qf4 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bb7 14.d5 Nxd5 15.Qxe4 0-0-0 16.Qxh7 Nc5 17.Qxf7 Nc3 18.Rxd8+ Rxd8 19.Bc4 Bxg2 20.Rg1 Bxh3 21.Qf3 N3e4 22.Qxh3 Qd2+ 23.Kb1 Qxf2 24.Bxe6+ Einfalt,H-Leisebein,P (1628) www.desc-online.de 1999 UltraCorr3a [Fritz 6 (30s)] ½-½]
10.Qd2
[10.Bb5+? Bd7 11.Bxd7+ Nbxd7∓]
10...Nc6N
[10...Bd7 11.Ne2 Bc6 12.0-0-0 Nbd7 13.c4 Qc7 14.h3 cxd4 15.Nxd4 0-0-0 16.Nxc6 Qxc6 17.Be2 Qc5 18.Rhf1 Qg5 19.Qxg5 Rxg5 20.g4 Rg6 21.f4 h6 22.g5 hxg5 23.fxg5 Ne8 24.h4 f5 25.Bh5 Sakharov,Y-Spiridonov,N Varna 1968 EXT 1999 [ChessBase] 1-0]



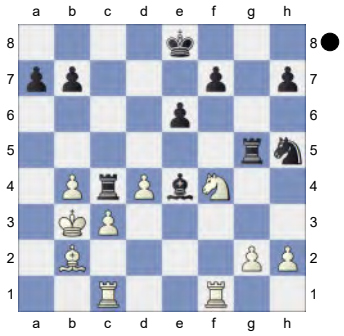
11.0-0-0 Bd7 12.f3 -0.35/19
[12.Ne2= 0.26/18]
12...cxd4∓ 13.cxd4 Rc8 And now ... Na5 would win.
[13...Qb6 0.16/18 13...Rc8 -0.35 14.Re1 e3 0.41/20 *(14...Rc8= 0.01/21 15.fxe4 Rg4)* 15.Rxe3 Nd5 16.Rb3 Qc7 17.Bc3 Against Na5 Rc8 0.33/19 *(17...Nce7=* -0.07/19 was preferrable. *18.Bd3 Ba4 19.Bxg6 Bxb3 20.cxb3 hxg6)* 18.Bd3± f5 0.65/19 *(18...Nce7=* 0.15/20 *19.Bb4 Nf5)* 19.g4 Nce7]
14.Nh3 -0.81/21
[14.Ne2= -0.21/18]
14...Na5∓ 15.Kb1! Ba4 -0.05/19
[15...exf3∓ -0.45/19 might be stronger. 16.gxf3 Ba4]



16.Rc1!= Qb6 17.Nf4
[Of course not 17.Qb4 Qxb4 18.axb4 Nc4 19.Bxc4 Rxc4∓]
17...Rg8 18.Qb4 -0.26/19 Against Bb5
[⊼18.d5! 0.27/19 e5 19.Qb4! Qxb4 20.axb4 exf4 21.Bxf6]
18...Qxb4→ Black attacks. **19.axb4 Nc4 20.Bxc4 Rxc4**

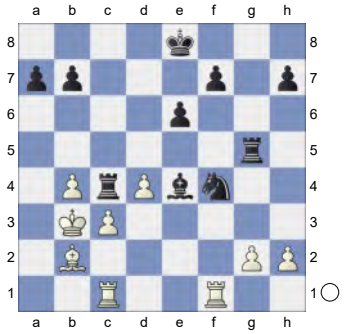


21.c3 -0.86/21
[21.fxe4∓ -0.48/21 Nxe4 22.Rhe1]
21...Bc6∓ 22.Rhf1 Rg5 23.Kc2 Nh5 24.fxe4 Bxe4+ 25.Kb3

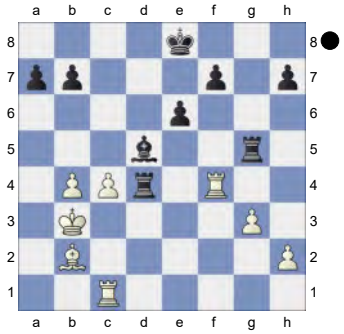


Nxf4!

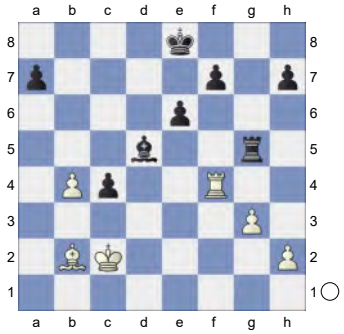
(Diagram)



26.Rxf4 Bd5 27.g3 Rxd4+ 28.c4

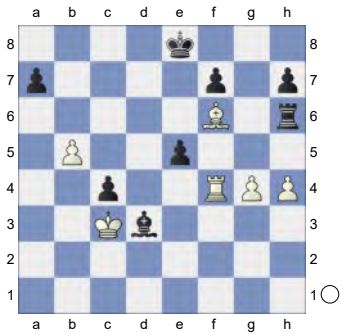


Rxc4 29.Rcxc4 b5 Pin **30.Kc2 bxc4** -0.87/23
[⊼30...Bxc4 -1.52/24 31.Bf6 Rh5]

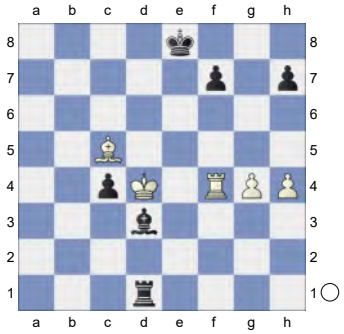


Endgame KRB-KRB **31.Bf6 Rg6 32.b5 Rh6 33.h4** -1.34/20
[⊼33.Rf2 -0.85/23]
33...Be4+ -0.30/22 **34.Kc3= Bd3 35.g4 e5!**

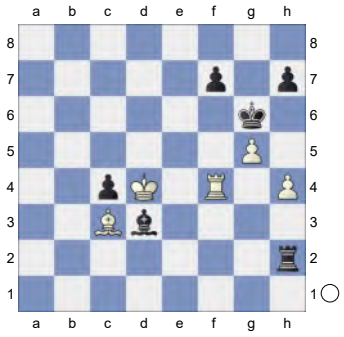
(Diagram)



36.Bxe5 -0.50/23
[36.Rf2= -0.01/25 feels stronger.]
36...Rb6!∓ 37.Bd4 Rxb5 38.Bxa7 Rb3+ 39.Kd4 Rb1 40.Bc5 Rd1

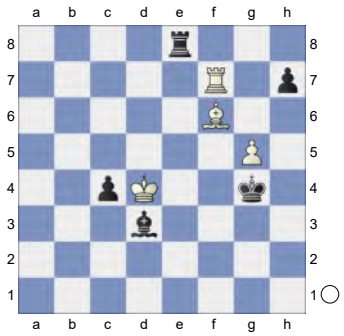


41.Bb4 Rh1 42.g5 Rh2 43.Bc3 Kf8 44.Bb4+ -0.68/21
[44.Kc5= -0.01/21]
44...Kg7 45.Bc3 Kg6

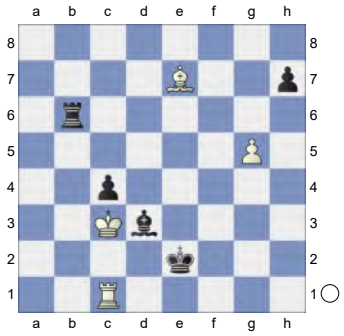


46.Be1 Re2 47.Ba5 Kh5 48.Rxf7 Kxh4 49.Bd8 Re8 50.Bf6 Kg4

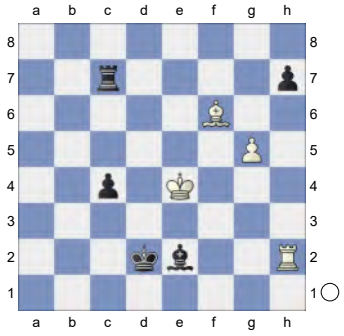
(Diagram)



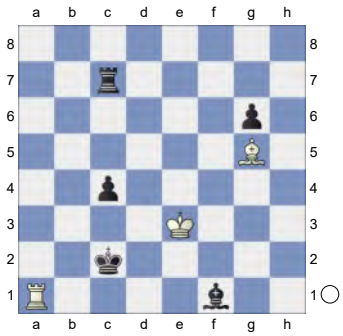
51.Re7 Rc8 52.Re1 Rc6 53.Be7 Kf3 54.Kc3 Rb6 55.Rc1 Ke2



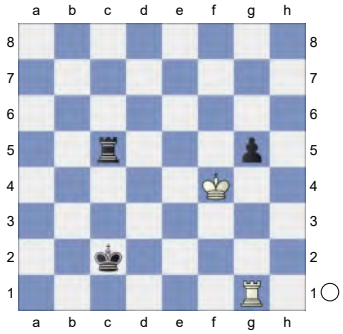
56.Rh1 Rb3+ -1.22/5
[Black should play 56...Rb7 -0.76/22 57.Bf6 Ke3 58.Re1+ Kf3]
57.Kd4∓ Rb7 58.Bf6 Kd2 59.Rh2+ Be2 60.Ke4 Rc7 0.01/22
[60...Rb4∓ -0.51/21 61.Kd5 Rb7]



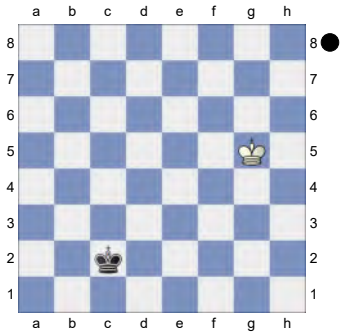
61.g6!= hxg6 Hoping for ...Rf7. **62.Bg5+! Ke1** aiming for ...Rf7. **63.Ke3! Bf1 64.Ra2 Kd1** White must now prevent ...Bd3.
[64...Rd7? gets mated. 65.Ra1+ Rd1 66.Bh4#]
65.Ra1+ Kc2



Strongly threatening ...Bh3. **66.Rxf1±** KRB-KR **66...c3 67.Bf6** 0.01/20
[67.Rf6± 0.32/20]
67...Rc6= The position is equal. **68.Bxc3 Rxc3+ 69.Kf4 Rc5** (-> ...Rf5+) **70.Rg1 g5+**



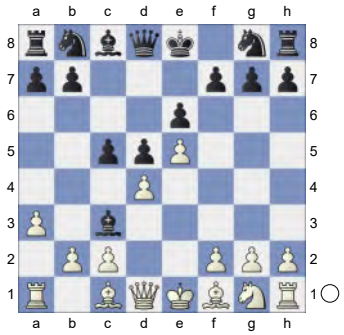
71.Rxg5 Rxg5 72.Kxg5



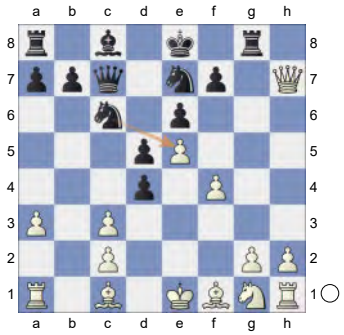
Black had all chances to win.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
½-½

305 **C18**
□ **Mostowik,Daniel** **2280**
■ **Zholob,Anatoly** **2216**
corr RM-00275 16.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

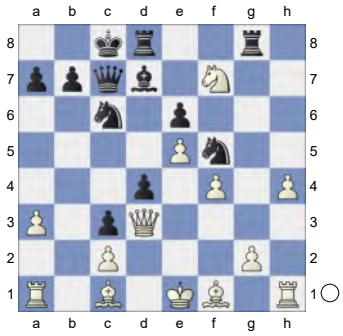


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 And now Bb2 would win. 0x0. 001fbb6f3187dp-1022s more active pieces. The black rooks are badly placed. **9...Nbc6 10.f4 cxd4**

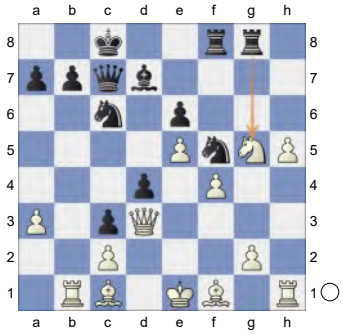


White is better. **11.Nf3 dxc3 12.h4 Bd7 13.Ng5N** 0.50/19
[13.h5± 0.91/19 0-0-0 14.Qd3 d4 15.h6 French Theory-French (Winawer): 6...Ne7 7.Q]
13...0-0-0!± 14.Qd3
[Not 14.Qxf7 Nd4 15.Bd3 *(15.Qxe7? Nxc2+ 16.Kf2 Qb6+ 17.Kg3 Nxa1-+)* 15...Nef5∓]

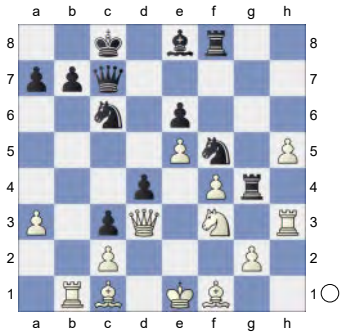
[14.Nxf7 Nf5 15.Nxd8 Qxd8=]
14...d4! 15.Nxf7 Nf5 0.98/20
[15...Rdf8⩲ 0.42/19 16.Nd6+ Kb8]



16.Rb1 Rdf8 17.Ng5↑ White is in control. **17...Rh8 18.h5** Threatens to win with Rh3. **18...Rhg8**

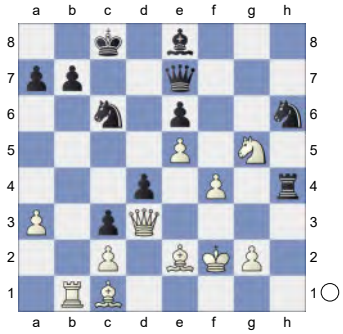


19.Nf3 Rg4! 20.Rh3 Be8

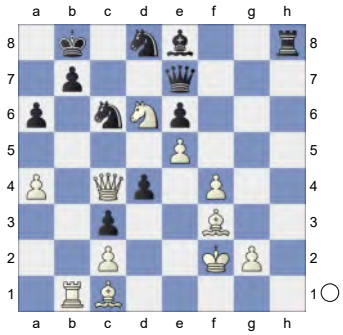


21.Kf2 0.71/18
[⧍21.Nh2 1.15/17 Rgg8 22.g4]
21...Qe7 22.h6 Rh8 23.Ng5 Rxh6 24.Rxh6 Nxh6 25.Be2 Rh4

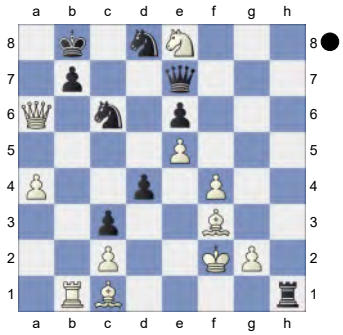
(Diagram)



26.Bf3
[Resist 26.Qc4 Bh5⩲]
26...Nf7 0.47/17
[26...Ng4+± 0.92/19 27.Kg3 Ngxe5 28.fxe5 Rh1]
27.Ne4! Rh8 0.96/18
[27...Rh2!⩲ 0.37/18]
28.a4± a6 1.18/19
[Better is 28...Bd7 0.80/17]
29.Qc4 Nfd8 30.Nd6+ Kb8 1.38/20
[Black should try 30...Kc7 0.96/19]

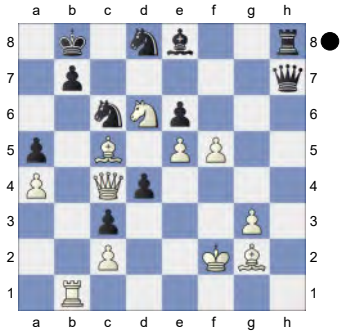


31.Ba3 Nxb7! is the strong threat.
[Don't blunder 31.Qxa6? Rh1 32.Nxe8



Rxc1! 33.Rxc1 bxa6-+]

31...Qh4+ 2.38/20
[31...Qh7± 1.38/19 keeps fighting. 32.f5 Qh4+ 33.g3 Qh2+ 34.Bg2 Rh3 35.Qxa6 Qxg3+ 36.Kg1 Qe3+ 37.Kf1 Qf4+ 38.Kg1 Qh2+ 39.Kf2 Qg3+ 40.Kg1 Qe3+ 41.Kf1 Qf4+ 42.Kg1 Qh2+ 43.Kf2 Qg3+]
32.g3+- Qh2+ 33.Bg2 Chess con chili. A strong pair of Bishops. **33...Qh7** 4.94/20
[33...Rh3 2.77/21 34.Qd3 Nxe5 35.fxe5 Bc6]
34.f5 Black must now prevent Qxa6.
34...a5 35.Bc5

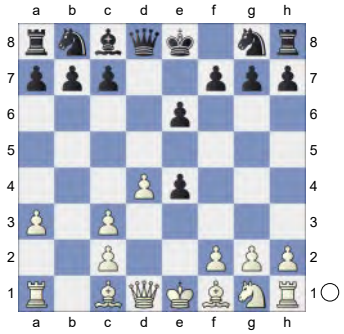


Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.24 (precise)
1-0

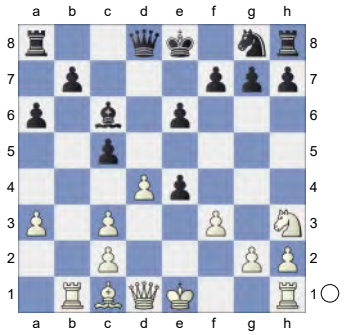
306 **C15**
☐ **Chavez,Ricardo Ernesto** **2244**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2711**
43rd Olympiad 2018 Open (1.2) 24.09.18
[TA]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 dxe4

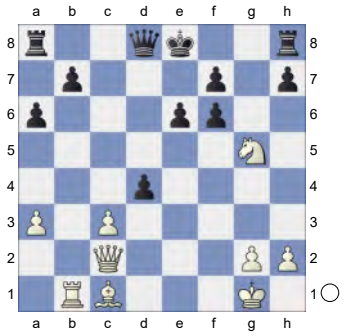
(Diagram)



6.f3 c5 7.Rb1 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bd7 9.Nh3 a6 10.Bxc6 B96: Sizilianisch (Najdorf-Variante) **10...Bxc6**



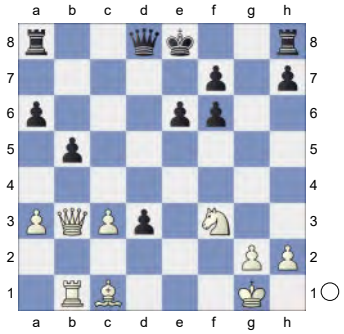
11.fxe4 Bxe4 12.0-0 LiveBook: 18 Partien. Schwarz steht etwas besser.
12...cxd4 13.Ng5 Nf6
[13...Bg6 14.Rxb7 dxc3 15.Qxd8+ Rxd8 16.Nxf7 Bxf7 17.Rbxf7 Ne7 18.Rxg7]
14.Rxf6 Bxc2 15.Qxc2
[15.Rxe6+ fxe6 16.Qxc2]
15...gxf6
[15...Qxf6 16.Rxb7]



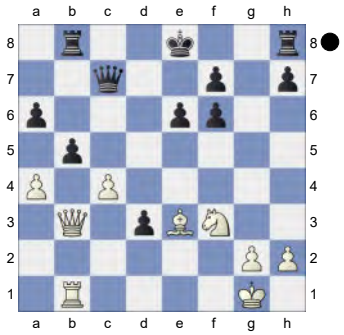
16.Nf3∓
[16.Nxf7 Kxf7 17.Rxb7+ Kg8

(17...Ke8!∓ 18.Qa4+ Kf8 19.Bh6+ Kg8 20.Qb4) 18.Qe4 Qe8∓ 19.Qg4+∓ Vorgänger: Qg6 20.Qxe6+ Kf8 0-1 (42) Duran Vallverdu,J (2115)-Gomila Marti,S (2215) ICCF email 2011 Schwächer ist 21.Bh6+ Qxh6± Lieber 22.Qe7+ Kg8 23.Qf7#]

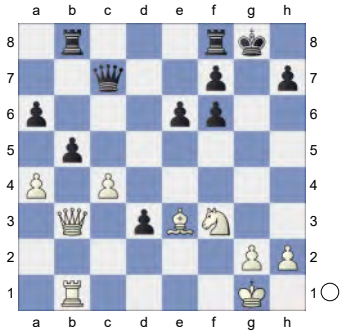
16...d3N 17.Qb3! b5



Droht ...Txe4 und aus. **18.Be3 Qc7 19.a4 Rb8 20.c4**



0-0!



...De3+ ist eine echte Drohung.

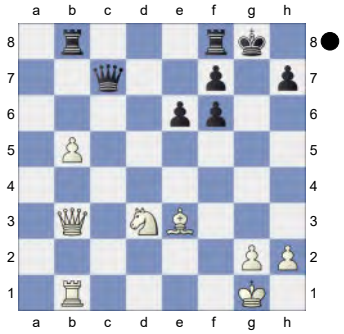
21.axb5? axb5-+ 22.cxb5? Qc2

[22...Rfd8]

23.Ne1 Qc7 Precision: Weiß = 22%, Schwarz = 92%.

[23...Qxb3 24.Rxb3]

24.Nxd3



0-1

307 **C15**

□ **Meyer** **2238**

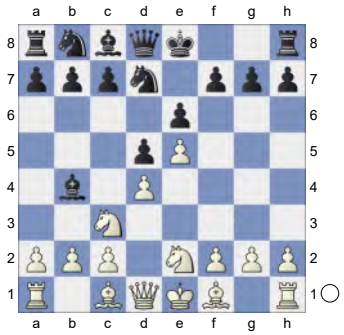
■ **Veselsky** **2651**

Copenhagen (3) 03.06.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C15: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Unusual White 4th moves

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7



6.a3 Be7 7.Be3 b6N

[7...c5 8.f4 Nc6 *(8...b6 9.g3 Nc6 10.Bh3 0-0 11.0-0 f5 12.g4 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Nc5 15.Kh1 Ne4 16.Rg1 Bb7 17.gxf5 exf5 18.Qh5 Bc5 19.Bxc5 bxc5 20.Bxf5 Rxf5 21.Qxf5 Nxc3 22.Qe6+ Kf8 23.Rg5* Tari,A (2656)-Lagarde,M (2580) Djerba 156/110 2023

[Perunovic,Milos] ½-½ (35)) 9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.Qd2 0-0 11.0-0-0 Bd7 12.Kb1 b5 13.Nd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 a5 15.Qe3 Na4 16.Nxb5 Rb8 17.Nd6 Qc7 18.b3 Bxd6 19.exd6 Qxd6 20.Ka2 Qc6 21.Bd3 Nb6 22.Qh3 Vachier Lagrave,M (2737)-Rapport,R (2740) Danzhou 2022 1-0]

8.g3 -0.04/18

[8.f4 f5 1.08/19 *(8...Bb7⩲ 0.32/17)* 9.g4± fxg4 10.Ng3 h5 11.h3 Bh4 12.Bf2 0.77/18 *(⌓12.Rg1! 1.14/19)* 12...gxh3 1.60/19 *(⌓12...0-0 0.77/18)* 13.Bxh3 1.03/18 *(⌓13.Rxh3 1.60/19* Hoping for Bd3. *g6 14.Qf3)* 13...Nf8± 14.Qf3 g6]

[8.f4⩲ 0.32/17 might be stronger.]

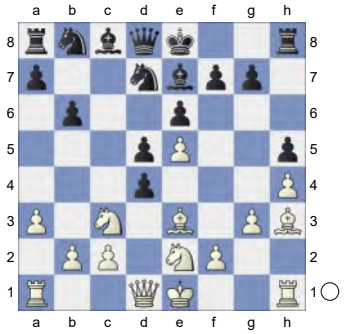
8...h5 0.62/16

[Better is 8...c5= -0.04/18]

9.h4 0.20/18

[9.Nf4⩲ 0.62/16]

9...c5= 10.Bh3 cxd4



11.Bxd4

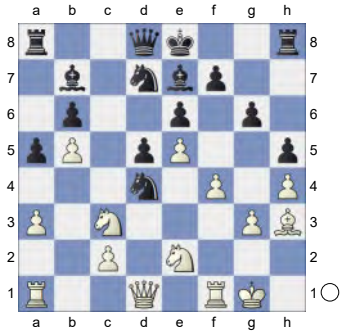
[Don't play 11.Qxd4 Nc6 12.Qf4 Ncxe5∓]

11...Nc6 12.f4 g6 13.b4 -0.35/19

[13.Qd3= 0.10/17 should be considered.]

13...Bb7 14.0-0 a5 15.b5 Nxd4

(Diagram)



16.Nxd4 Qc7 17.Nce2 Nc5 18.Kh2 0-0-0 0.01/20

[18...Rc8∓ -0.74/18]

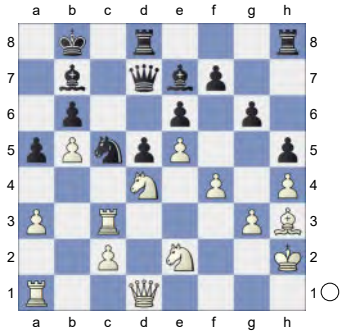
19.Rf3 -0.67/20

[19.Rc1!= 0.01/20]

19...Kb8 20.Rc3 -0.80/21

[20.Rb1∓ -0.47/19]

20...Qd7



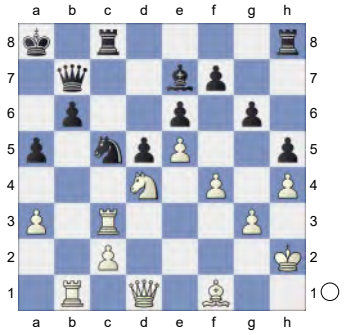
21.Nc6+ Bxc6 22.bxc6 Qxc6 23.Rb1 Ka8 -0.02/22 &Nero is more active.

[23...Rc8∓ -0.78/20]

24.Nd4 Qb7 25.Bf1 -0.72/18

[25.Re3= -0.08/21 remains equal.]

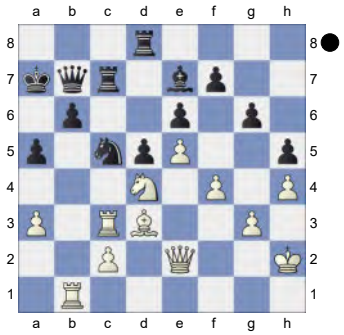
25...Rc8∓



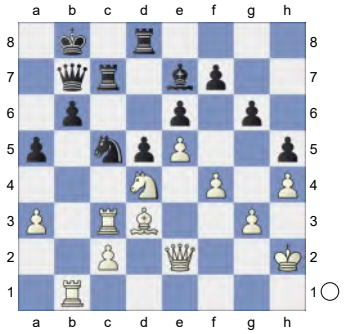
26.Bb5 -1.62/20

[26.Qe1∓ -0.71/19 keeps fighting.]

26...Rc7 -0.78/22
[26...Ne4-+ -1.62/20 has better winning chances. 27.Rxc8+ *(27.Bc6? Nxc3 28.Bxb7+ Kxb7-+)* 27...Rxc8]
27.Qe2 Rhc8
[27...Ka7 keeps more tension. 28.Re3 Ne4 29.c4 Bc5]
28.Re3 Rd8 29.Rc3 Ka7 30.Bd3 -1.01/22
[30.Rd1∓ -0.62/21]

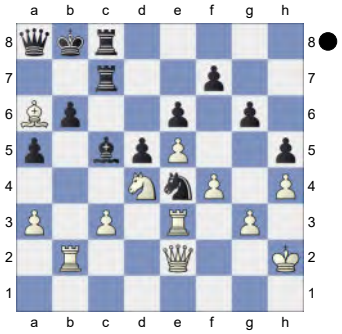


30...Kb8 -0.63/22
[30...Rcc8!∓ -1.01/22]

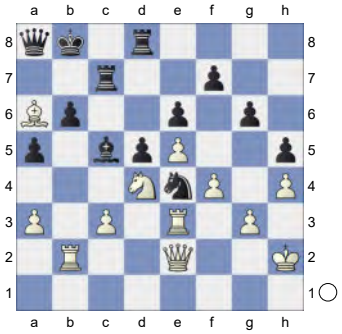


31.Bb5∓ Rdc8 32.Re3 Qa8 -0.21/20
[32...Ka7∓ -0.73/20]
33.Rb2 -0.85/21
[33.c4= -0.21/20]
33...Ne4 34.Ba6? -2.89/22 Loses the game.
[34.c4∓ -0.56/21]
34...Bc5-+ 35.c3

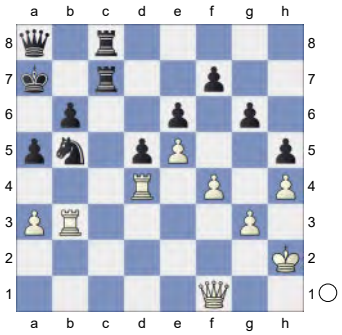
(Diagram)



Rd8 -1.62/21
[⌓35...Nxc3! -2.82/23 36.Rxc3 Bxd4 37.Rxc7 Rxc7]

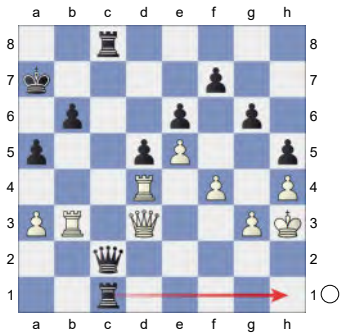


36.Bb5 -2.74/21
[⌓36.Qb5 -1.62/21]
36...Ka7 -1.38/21
[Black should play 36...Bxa3-+ -2.74/21 37.Rc2 a4]
37.Rb3 -2.48/23
[37.Ba6∓ -1.38/21 was worth a try.]
37...Rdc8 38.Rd3 -5.05/20
[38.Qg2 -2.67/22]
38...Bxd4 39.Rxd4 Nxc3 40.Qf1 Nxb5

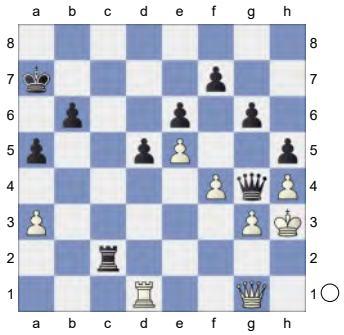


41.Qxb5 Rc2+ 42.Kh3 Qc6 43.Qd3 -9.08/26

[⌓43.Qxc6 -4.38/22 R8xc6 44.Rd1]
43...Rc3 44.Qd1 Rc1 And now ...Qc2 would win. **45.Qd3 Qc2**



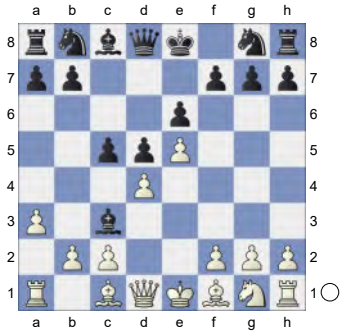
46.Qf3 Rc3 -5.98/22
[⌓46...Qf5+ -#8/18 47.g4 hxg4+ 48.Qxg4 Rh1+ 49.Kg2 Qxg4+ 50.Rg3 Rc2+ 51.Kxh1 Qxh4+ 52.Kg1 Qxg3+ 53.Kh1 Qh2#]
47.Rxc3 Qxc3 48.Qf2 Rc2 Inhibits Rd2. **49.Qg1 Qf3 50.Rd1 Qg4#**



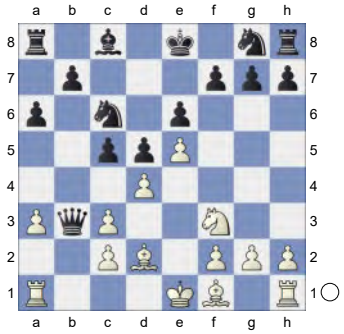
Weighted Error Value: White=0.87/ Black=0.53
0-1

308 **C18**
☐ **Proehl,Holger** **2158**
■ **5.Ng5 e6 6.Bd3 Ngf6_442** **2627**
EU-chT (Men) 15th (3) 16.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



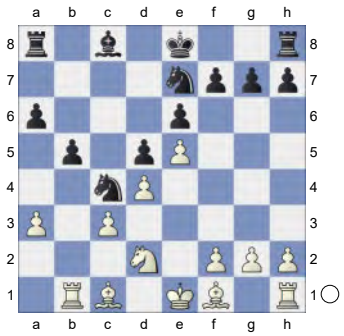
6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qb1 a6 Prevents Bb5+. **9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Qb3**
[10.Qb2 feels hotter. f6 11.Qb3 Qa5 12.c4]
10...Qxb3



White is slightly better. **11.cxb3 Na5 12.Rb1**
[Of course not 12.dxc5 Nxb3 13.Rb1 Nxc5=]
12...c4! 13.bxc4 Nxc4N
[13...dxc4 14.Ng5 Ne7 15.Ne4 0-0 16.Be2 Bd7 17.0-0 Bc6 18.Nd6 b5 19.Bd1 Nc8 20.Nxc8 Rfxc8 21.Bc2 Bd5 22.f4 Nb3 23.Be3 a5 24.g4 b4 25.cxb4 axb4 26.axb4 Rcb8 27.Rf2 Ra2 28.Bxh7+ Berthelot,Y (2309)-Wirig,A (2439) Sautron 2006 EXT 2007 [RR] 1-0 (44) Kxh7 29.Rxa2 Rxb4 30.Bd2 Rb7 31.Bc3 Bf3 32.h3 Rd7 33.Kf2 Be4 34.Re1 Bc6 35.Ra6 Bd5 36.Ke3 Kg8 37.h4 Rb7 38.h5 Kh7 39.f5 Rd7 40.Rf1 Rb7 41.Kf4 Rd7 42.g5 Rc7 43.Rd6 Berthelot,Y (2267)-Delchev,A (2571)

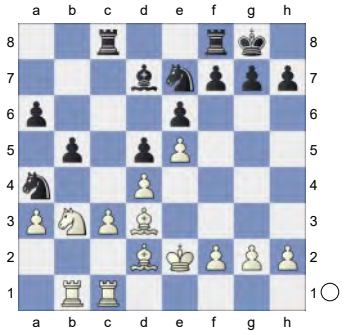
France 2019 Chess Informant 141
[Delchev,Aleksander] ½-½ (44)]

14.Bc1 Ne7 15.Nd2 b5



16.Bd3 Bd7 17.Ke2 -0.09/19
[17.Nb3± 0.50/20]

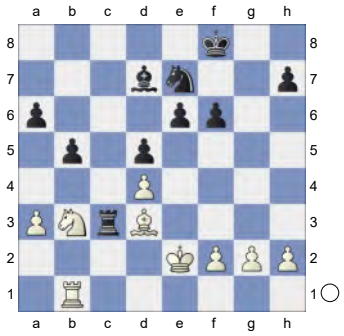
17...Nb6= 18.Nb3! Na4 19.Bd2 Rc8 20.Rhc1 0-0



21.Bg5 -0.59/21
[21.Na5= -0.01/17]

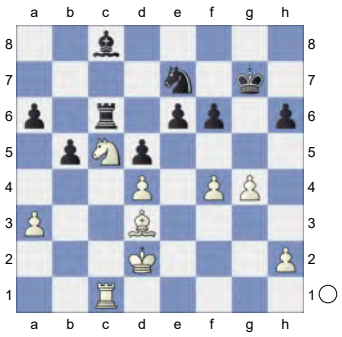
21...f6∓ 22.exf6 gxf6 23.Bh6 Nxc3+
[23...Rf7 looks sharper. 24.Kd2 e5 25.g4 Ng6]

24.Rxc3 Rxc3 25.Bxf8 Kxf8

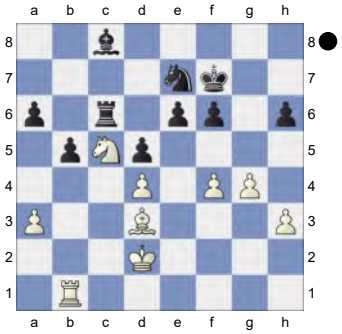


26.Kd2! Rc7 27.f4 Prevents e5.
27...Kg7 28.Nc5 Bc8 29.Rc1
And now Nxe6+! would win. **29...Rc6**

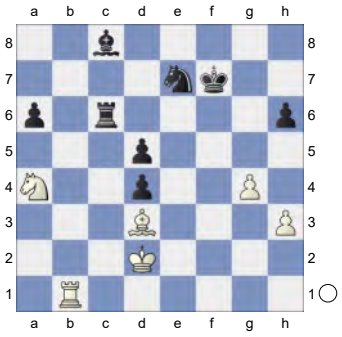
30.g4 h6
[30...e5!?]



31.h3 Kf7 32.Rb1 -0.73/21
[32.h4= 0.01/21]



32...e5!∓ 33.fxe5 fxe5 34.a4 bxa4 35.Nxa4 exd4



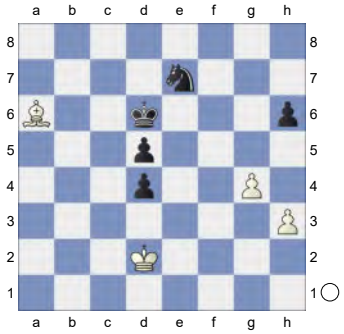
36.Rb8 -1.65/21
[36.Rb4∓ -1.10/22]

36...Ke6 37.Nb6 -1.99/23
[37.Rb1∓ -1.50/22 was called for.]

37...Kd6? -0.18/19
[37...Ke5-+ -1.99/23 Threatens to win with ...a5. 38.Ke2 a5]

38.Nxc8+= Rxc8 39.Rxc8 Nxc8

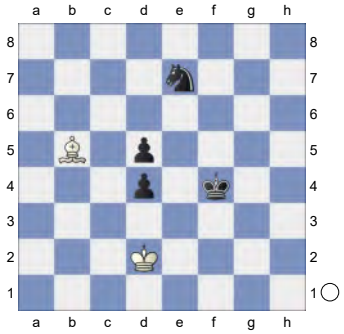
40.Bxa6 Endgame KB-KN **40...Ne7**



41.Bd3 Against Ng6 **41...Ke5** **42.h4! Kf4** **43.g5** -1.86/32

[43.Be2= 0.00/31 and White is okay.]

43...hxg5-+ **44.hxg5** **Kxg5** **45.Bb5** **Kf4**



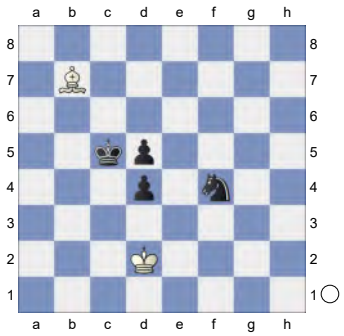
46.Kd3 **Ke5** **47.Bd7** **Ng6** **48.Kd2?** -16.36/27

[48.Bc8 -1.76/32]

48...Nf4? -1.68/32

[48...Ke4 -16.36/27 49.Bh3 Nh4]

49.Bc8 **Kd6** **50.Bb7** **Kc5**

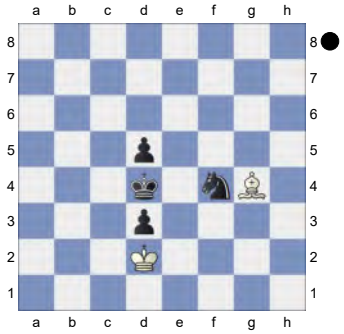


51.Bc8 **d3?** 0.00/29

[Black should play 51...Ng6-+ -2.14/30 Strongly threatening ...Ne5. 52.Bf5 Nf4]

52.Bf5 **Kd4** **53.Bg4?** -#20/25

[53.Bh7= -0.01/25]



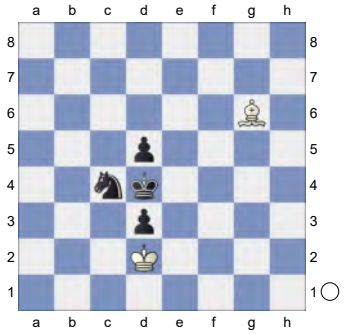
53...Ng2? -0.01/25

[53...Ng6 -#20/25 mates 54.Bh5 Ne5 55.Ke1 Nc4 56.Bf3 d2+ 57.Kf2 Nb2 58.Kg3 Kc3 59.Kh2 d1Q 60.Bg2 d4 61.Kg3 d3 62.Bh3 d2 63.Bg4 Qa4 64.Bf3 Nd3 65.Bh5 Qf4+ 66.Kg2 Qg5+ 67.Kh2 Nf4 68.Bf3 d1Q 69.Bg4 Qh4+ 70.Bh3 Qxh3#]

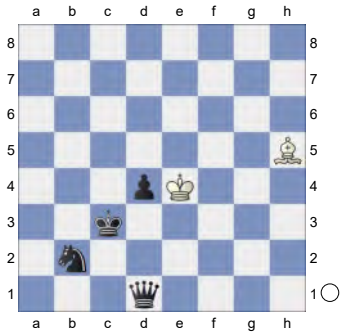
54.Bh5? -#19/23

[54.Bf5= -0.01/25]

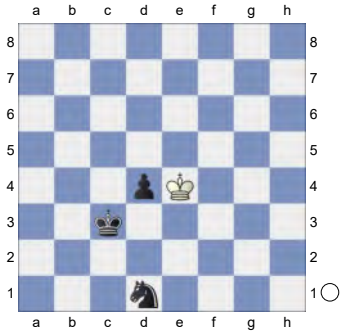
54...Ne3 Black mates. **55.Bg6** **Nc4+**



56.Kd1 **Kc3** **57.Bh5** **d2** **58.Ke2** **Nb2** **59.Ke3** **d4+** **60.Ke4** **d1Q**



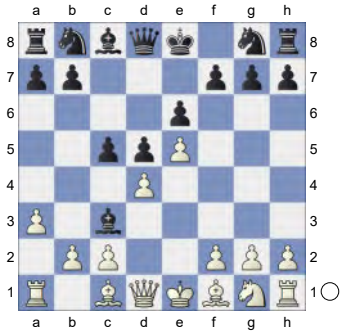
61.Bxd1 **Nxd1**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.60/ Black=0.52
0-1

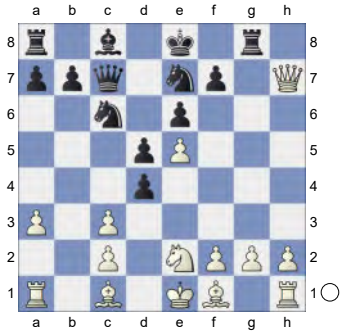
309 **C18**
□ **Al Subaihi,Khalil** **2106**
■ **Bauer,Christian** **2629**
43rd Olympiad 2018 Open (1.4) 24.09.18
[TA]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

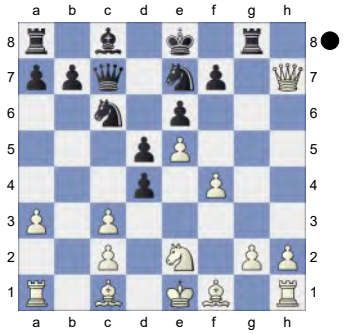


LiveBook: 3 Games **6.bxc3!** B01: Scandinavian Defence **6...Ne7 7.Qg4! cxd4 8.Qxg7** The position is equal. **8...Rg8** Threatening ...e4. **9.Qxh7 Qc7 10.Ne2 Nbc6N**

(Diagram)

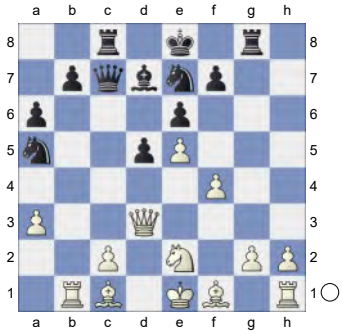


11.f4?
[11.Bf4
A) 11...dxc3 12.Qd3 *(12.Nxc3 Nxe5)* 12...Nxe5 13.Qxc3;
B) 11...Bd7 12.Qd3 0-1 (22) Ajibowo,O (2107)-Libiszewski,F (2545) chess.com INT 2017 dxc3 13.Qxc3 Rc8 *(13...0-0-0 14.Nd4)* 14.h4]
[11.Bf4]
[11.Bf4]
[11.Bf4]



11...Bd7!-+
[11...dxc3 12.Nxc3]
12.Qd3 dxc3 13.Nxc3 a6 14.Ne2
[14.Rb1 Nf5 1-0 (23) Rapport,R (2012)-Halasz,A (2248) Hungary 2006 15.Ne2 Na7 16.Qc3 Bc6 17.Nd4 Nxd4 18.Qxd4 Nb5 19.Qc5 d4]
14...Rc8
[14...Nf5 15.h3]
15.Rb1 Na5

(Diagram)



16.Nd4 Ba4

[Predecessor: 16...Nec6 17.Nf3]

17.Bd2 Nc4

[17...Nec6-+ Of course not 18.Nxc6 Qxc6∓ 19.Qh7 Rf8-+ *(19...Rg6= 20.Bxa5=* and White is okay. *)* 20.Bb4]

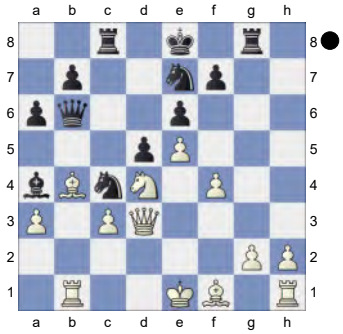
18.Bb4

[18.g3-+ White must now prevent ... Rae8. Nc6 19.Nf3 *(19.Nxc6 Qxc6)* 19...Bb5? 20.Qh7 Ne7]

18...Qb6

[18...a5 19.Bxe7∓ is a better defense. Qxe7 20.Ra1]

19.c3



Qc7! Strongly threatening ...exf2.

[⊼19...Nf5]

[19...Nf5]

[19...Nf5]

[19...Nf5]

[19...Nf5]

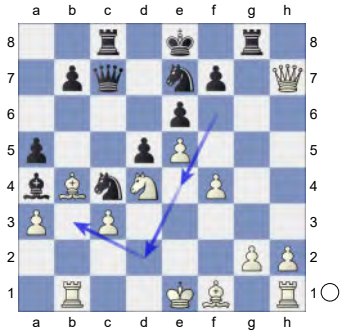
[19...Nf5]

[19...Nf5]

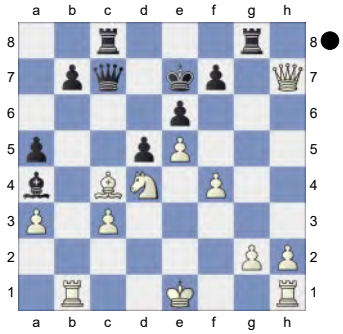
[Don't play 19...Nf5]

20.Qh7 a5

(Diagram)



21.Bxe7 Kxe7 22.Bxc4



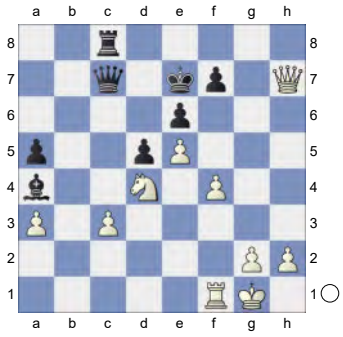
Qxc4!

[22...dxc4 23.0-0]

23.Rxb7+? Rc7 Black mates. **24.Rxc7+ Qxc7 25.0-0**

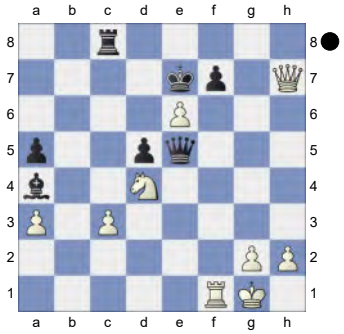
[25.Qxg8 Qxc3+ 26.Ke2 Qxd4]

25...Rc8



26.f5 Qxe5 Precision: White = 35%, Black = 76%. **27.fxe6-+**

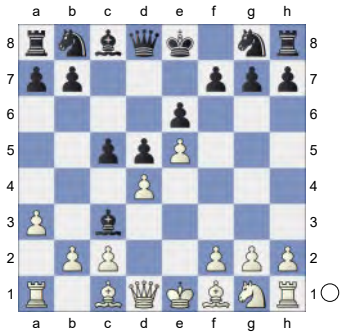
(Diagram)



0-1

310 **C19**
□ **Eckhardt,Andreas** **2012**
■ **Schatz,Dieter** **2331**
corr RSS7E adv-138 14.12.2013
[Hungerkamp,Hans]

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Ne7 7.h4 Qc7

[7...Nbc6 ist ebenfalls üblich. 8.h5 h6 9.Nf3 Qa5 10.Bd2 Qc7 11.Be2 Bd7 12.0-0 0-0 13.Qc1 f5 14.Rd1 Be8 15.Bxh6 Bxh5 16.Ng5 Bf7 17.Nxf7 Kxf7 18.Bh5+ Ng6 19.Rd3 Nce7 20.Bg5 Kg8 21.Rh3 Rac8 22.Bxe7 Nxe7 23.Qg5 f4 24.Bg4 Qd7 25.Rb1 b6 26.dxc5 Rxc5 27.Qh5 Nf5 28.Rb4 Rc4 29.Qh7+ Kf7 30.Bxf5 exf5 31.Rh6 Rc6 32.Rxc6 Qxc6 33.Rxf4 Ke8 34.Qxg7 Qd7 35.Qh6 Qe7 36.Ra4 Rf7 37.e6 Rf8 38.Qh2 a5 39.Qb8+ Qd8 40.Qe5 Qg5 41.g3 Ke7 42.Rh4 Qg6 43.c4 Qxe6 44.Qc7+ Ke8 45.Rh7 1-0 (45) Juarez de Vena,A (2017)-Taylor,K (1994) ICCF 2017]

8.h5 Weiß kann diese Variante gut spielen.GM So wendet sie gern an **8...h6**

[Nach 8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Qc3+ 10.Bd2 Qxd4 11.Nf3 Qe4+ 12.Be2 Nf5 13.Kf1 b6!? Sollte Schwarz zufrieden sein. *(13...Nc6±)*]

9.Nf3 ist die Hauptlinie

[9.Rb1!?N 'Eine interessante Neuheit von GM Leko. Der ♖urm steht sehr nützlich auf b1: er kontrolliert die b-Linie und vermeidet, dass es von der unangenehmen Drohung auf c3 erwischt wird. Nbc6 *(9...0-0* ist auch natürlich. *; 9...b6 10.Qg4 Nf5 11.Bb5+ Nc6 12.Qf4 Bd7 13.Nf3 c4 14.a4 a6 15.Bxc6 Bxc6 16.Ba3 Bxa4 17.Kd2 a5 18.g4 Ne7 19.Rhg1 b5 20.Bc5 b4 21.g5 b3 22.gxh6 gxh6 23.Qf6 Rf8 24.cxb3 cxb3 25.Qxh6 0-0-0 26.Ng5 Rfe8 27.Qf6 Nf5 28.h6 Rd7 29.h7 Qd8 30.Qxd8+ Rexd8 31.Ra1 Bc6 32.Rxa5 b2 33.Ra6* 1-0 (33) Mulde,R (2173)-Hoeger,G (1933) www.desc-online.de 2016*)* 10.Qg4 Nf5 11.Bd3 0-0!? ist das solideste für Schwarz 12.Ne2 b6∞ und obwohl die Position von Weiß mächtiger aussieht, ist dies immer noch ein unklares Mittelspiel.]

[9.Bd2 Nbc6 10.Qg4!? Der beste Zug *(10.Nf3 Bd7 11.Bd3 c4 12.Be2 0-0-0 13.Bf4 Qa5 14.Qd2 Kb8 15.g4 Nc8* Schwarz steht schon besser. *)* 10...Nf5 11.Nf3 c4 *(11...cxd4 12.cxd4 0-0* ist ebenfalls möglich, führt aber zu einer offeneren Position, in der das ♗äuferpaar eine Rolle spielen kann.

Daran ist jedoch nichts auszusetzen.*)* 12.Qf4

A) Es gibt die typische Möglichkeit 12...Qb6 zu spielen.Aber Weiß ist mit der folgenden Variante zufrieden: 13.Be2 Qb2 14.0-0 Qxc2 15.Bd1 Qe4 16.Qh2 Nfe7 17.Re1 *(17.Rc1!? Qh7 18.Qh4⩲)* 17...Qh7;

B) 12...Qa5!? 13.g4 Nfe7 14.g5 Bd7 kann eine Möglichkeit für Schwarz sein, in zukünftigen Partien zu spielen.;

C) 12...Bd7 13.Be2!? Ein überraschender Zug , logisch war das direkte g2-g4. Qa5 Schwarz fällt es schwer sich zu entscheiden 14.a4 b5 15.Ra2 bxa4 16.0-0 Eine komplizierte Position für Schwarz . Optisch steht Schwarz auf beiden Flügeln schlechter. Die Engines zeigen an, dass dies eine ausgeglichene Position ist,also doch eine spielbare Variante.]

9...b6

[9...Bd7 10.Rh4 cxd4 11.cxd4 Ba4 12.Bd2 Nbc6 13.Rg4 Nf5 14.Bd3 0-0-0 15.Qb1 Kb8 16.Qb2 Rdg8 17.Rc1 g6 18.c4!± Weiß steht besser Naiditsch-Apicella, Haguenau 2013,]

[9...Nd7 10.Bd3 Nb6 11.0-0 c4 12.Be2 Na4 13.Bd2 Nf5 14.Nh2 0-0 15.g4 Ne7 16.f4 Bd7 17.Qe1 Rae8 18.Nf3 Kh8 19.Nh4 Rg8 20.f5 exf5 21.gxf5 Qd8 22.Rb1 b5 23.Kh1 f6 24.e6 Bc6 25.Qg3 a6 26.Rf2 1-0 (26) Degro,H (2046)-Rattay,W (1863) LSS 2009]

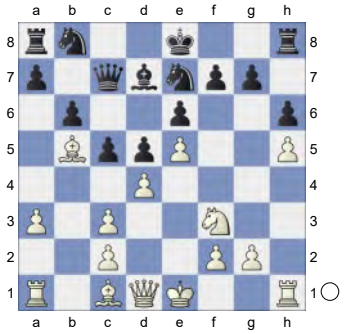
10.Bb5+

[10.a4 Ba6 11.Bb5+ Bxb5 12.axb5 a5 *(12...cxd4 13.cxd4 Qc3+ 14.Bd2 Qc4 15.Qb1 a5 16.Qb3 Qc8 17.Bc1 Ra7 18.Ba3 Rc7 19.Rc1 Rc3 20.Qb2 Nf5 21.Rh3 Qc7 22.Kd2 Rc4 23.g4 Ne7 24.Ke2 Qb7 25.Nd2 Rc7 26.c4 dxc4 27.Nxc4 Qe4+ 28.Kf1 0-0 29.Nxb6 Rb7 30.Bxe7 Rxe7 31.g5 hxg5 32.Nc8 Rd7 33.Nd6 Qg4 34.Rg3 Qxh5 35.Kg2 g4 36.b6 f6 37.Qa2 fxe5 38.Qxe6+ Kh7 39.Ne4 Re8 40.Qxg4 Qxg4 41.Rxg4 Rxd4 42.Nf6+ gxf6 43.Rh1#* 1-0 (43) Oliynyk,V (2264)-Roenko,A ICCF 2014*)* 13.bxa6 *(13.0-0 Nd7 14.Re1 Rc8 15.c4 dxc4 16.Ra4 cxd4 17.Nxd4 0-0 18.Ba3 Nc5 19.Rxc4 Rfd8 20.Qe2 Qd7 21.Ra1 Rc7* ½-½ (21) Kudr,R (2089)-Cimicki,D (2082) Lechenicher SchachServer 2014*)* 13...Rxa6 14.Rxa6 Nxa6 15.Qd3 Nb8 16.0-0 Nd7 17.Bf4 So wie es aussieht, sollte Schwarz hier keine Probleme haben. 0-0 *(17...Qa7* war möglich. *)* 18.Ra1 Rc8 19.Qd2 Kh7 20.Qd3+ Kg8 21.Qd2 Kh7 Es wird deutlich, dass Schwarz nichts gegen ein Remis hat. 22.g4 Weiß fühlt sich verpflichtet etwas zu unternehmen. Qc6 23.Qd3+ Kh8 24.Bg3 Ra8 25.Rxa8+ Qxa8 26.Bh4 Nc6 *(*Das Beste ist hier *26...g5! 27.hxg6 Nxg6 28.Bg3 Kg7* die sich darauf vorbereiten, mit der ♕ame einzudringen. *)* 27.g5 fühlt sich bedrohlich für Schwarz an.]

[10.Rb1 Ba6 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.0-0 0-0 13.a4 Rfc8 14.Ba3 Nb8 15.Re1 Nd7 16.Qe2 Qc6 17.Ra1 Nf5 18.Red1 Rab8 19.Qd2 Qc7 20.Re1 Ne7 21.Qf4 Re8 22.c4 Rbc8 23.a5 bxa5 24.Nd2 cxd4 25.Bd6 Qb6 26.Reb1 Qd8 27.Rb7 a6 28.Ra7 dxc4 29.Bxe7 Qxe7 30.Qxd4 Red8 31.Nf3 Qe8 32.Rxa6 Nc5 33.Rd6

Nb7 34.Rxd8 Nxd8 35.Qb6 Nc6 36.Qa6 Qd8 37.c3 Ne7 38.Nd4 Nd5 39.Nxe6 Qd7 40.Nd4 Nxc3 41.Rc1 Nd5 42.g3 c3 43.Qxa5 Ne7 44.Qb4 Nc6 45.Nxc6 Qxc6 46.Qd4 ½-½ (46) Mergard,H (2211)-Sanchez de Ybargueen Gutierre,L (2241) ICCF 2014]

10...Bd7



11.Bd3

[11.a4!?∞]

11...c4!?

[11...Ba4 12.Bd2 Nd7 13.0-0 a6 *(13...c4!?)* 14.Re1 *(14.Nh4)* 14...Bb5 *(14...c4!?)* 15.Bxb5 *(15.Nh4!? Ba4 16.Rb1 c4 17.Bf1 0-0-0)* 15...axb5 16.Qe2 *(16.Nh4!?)* 16...0-0 17.Qxb5 Ra5 18.Qe2 Ra4 19.g4 Rfa8 mit einer guten Position für Schwarz. (Hansen-So, Chess.com PRO League 2017)]

[11...Nbc6 12.0-0 0-0 13.Be3 c4 14.Be2 b5 15.Qd2 Rae8 16.Kh1 f6 17.Bf4 fxe5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.Bxe5 Qd8 20.Kg1 Rf7 21.Bd1 Kh7 22.Qe3 Nf5 23.Qd2 Ne7 24.Rb1 Ng8 25.Re1 Bc6 26.Qe3 Nf6 27.Qg3 Ne4 28.Qg6+ Kg8 29.Bg4 Bd7 30.f3 Nf6 31.Bh3 Nh7 32.f4 Qh4 33.Qg4 Qe7 34.a4 bxa4 35.Rb7 a5 36.Ra1 Nf6 37.Qg6 a3 38.g3 a4 39.Kg2 Ra8 ½-½ (39) Rivas Romero,G (2171)-Flor Trejo,R (2149) ICCF 2017]

12.Be2 Ba4 13.Nh4

[13.Rb1 Nbc6 14.0-0 Kd7 15.Nh2 Qd8 16.Ng4 Nf5 17.Ne3 Nfe7 18.Bg4 Qg8 19.f4 f5 20.exf6 gxf6 21.f5 e5 22.dxe5 Nxe5 23.Rb4 Bc6 24.Be2 Kc7 25.Ng4 Nxg4 26.Bxg4 Qg7 27.Bf4+ Kb7 28.Re1 Rad8 29.Re6 Bd7 30.Bf3 Bxe6 31.fxe6 Nc6 32.Bxd5 Rxd5 33.Qxd5 Rd8 34.Qf3 Qe7 35.Rb1 Qxe6 36.Bxh6 Qd5 37.Rf1 Ne5 38.Qe2 Qc6 39.Bg7 Qc5+ 40.Kh1 Rd5 41.Bxf6 Nd7 42.g4 Qc6 43.Qg2 Ka6 44.Bd4 Qe6 45.Rf4 Nc5 46.Qf3 Rg5 47.Kh2 Qd6 48.Kg2 Ne6 49.Rf6 Qd7 50.Be3 Rg8 51.Qe4 1-0 (51) Tauscher,K (2422)-Schatz,H (2302) www.remoteschach.de 2014]

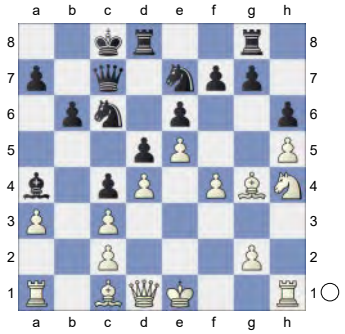
13...Nbc6 14.Bg4 0-0-0 15.f4

Exponiert den eigenen ♔önig ,zumal schon h2-h4 gezogen wurde.

[15.g3 mit der Idee ♘g2 war besser für Weiß]

15...Rhg8

[Deutlich besser war hier wohl 15...Qd7!∓]



16.f5

[Sicherer war 16.0-0 g6 17.hxg6 Nxg6 *(17...fxg6?? 18.Bxe6++-)* 18.Nxg6 Rxg6 19.f5 Bxc2 20.Qf3 exf5 *(20...Rxg4 21.Qxg4 Bxf5 22.Qg7 h5 23.a4⩲)* 21.Bxf5+ Bxf5 22.Qxf5+ mit beiderseitigen Chancen]

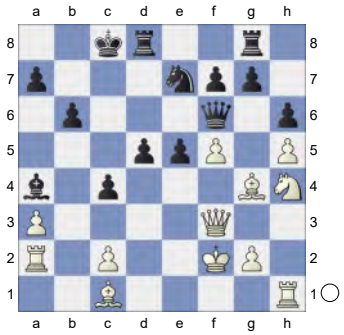
16...Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qxe5+ 18.Kf2 Qxc3 Für die Figur hat Schwarz drei Bauern und erreicht das der weiße ♔önig sehr exponiert steht.Trotzdem hätte Weiß jetzt mit **19.Ra2** Es war nicht nötig den ♖urm aus der Schußlinie der schwarze ♕ame zu ziehen.

[19.fxe6! f5! *(Natürlich nicht 19...fxe6 20.Bxe6+; 19...Qxa1?? 20.exf7+* Weiß gewinnt eine Figur *Kb7 21.fxg8Q Nxg8 22.Re1→)* 20.Nxf5]

19...Qf6!= Schwarz verhindert das unangenehme fxe6 **20.Qf3?** Logisch verhindert aber nicht das starke

[20.Nf3! exf5 *(20...e5? 21.Nxe5+-)* 21.Bh3 Nc6∞ Mit komplizierten Spiel und Chancen für beide Seiten. Stockfish erster Eindruck 0.00=]

20...e5!∓



Schwarz beherrscht mit seinen Bauern das Zentrum und weiß hat alle Hände voll zu tun seine Stellung zusammen zuhalten. **21.Qg3 e4?** Ja schlicht der falsche Bauer,öffnet die Diagonale h2-b8 mit weißer Kompensation.

[Besser war es,erst den eigenen ♔önig aus der Schußlinie zu bringen um d5-d4 spielen zu können. 21...Kb7 22.Bb2 d4! 23.Bf3+ Ka6 24.Re1 Bxc2 und Schwarz steht schon fast auf Gewinn. 25.Rxe5 Bb3 26.Ra1 Nc6 27.Bxc6 Qxc6 28.Nf3 f6-+]

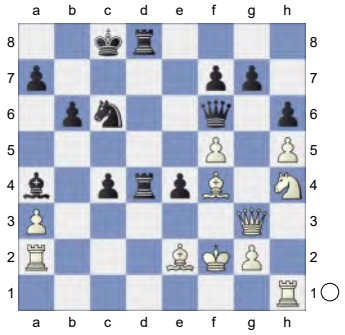
22.Bf4□= und Weiß ist wieder im Spiel

22...Nc6 23.c3 d4 24.cxd4 Rxd4

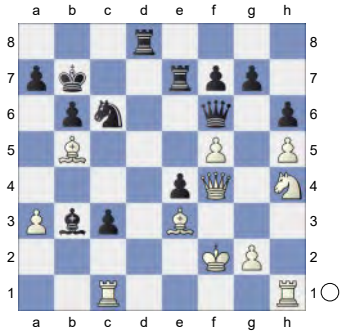
25.Be2

[25.Rd2! Rxd2+ 26.Bxd2]

25...Rgd8



26.Be3 Bb3 27.Raa1 R4d7 28.Qf4 Kb7 29.Rac1 c3 30.Bb5 Re7



31.Bxc6+ Qxc6??

[Schwarz muß f5-f6 verhindern,indem er ♕ame auf f6 vorerst stehen läßt. 31...Kxc6 und die Partie endet wohl gerecht nach beiderseitigen guten und schlechten Zügen Unentschieden.]

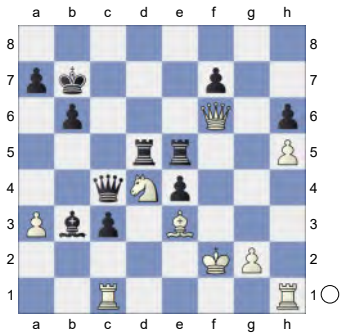
32.f6!+- gxf6

[32...Qxf6 33.Qxf6 gxf6 34.Nf5 und die weiße Mehrfigur kommt zum tragen.]

33.Nf5 Mit der Idee ♘d4 **33...Re5**

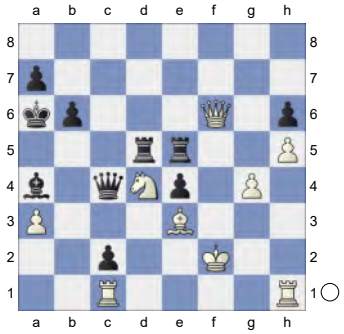
34.Nd4 Mit dem ♘er im Zentrum steht Weiß prächtig und hat keine Probleme mehr **34...Qc4 35.Qxf6 Rdd5**

(Diagram)



36.Qxf7+ Ka6 37.Qf6 Ba4 38.g4 c2

[38...c2 39.Rhe1 Re8 40.Re2 und der Bauer auf c2 wird irgendwann fallen.]



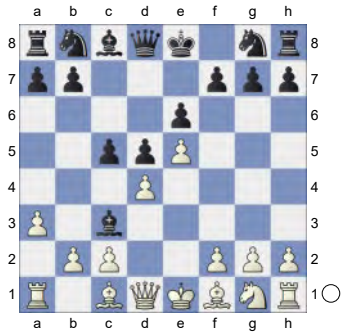
1-0

311 **C18**
□ **Lukas,Norbert** **1974**
■ **Wilshusen,Horst** **1512**
corr Dino17-14 26.06.2017
[Methling,Ludger]

1.e4 e6 Fernschachfreund Horst Wilshusen spielt sehr häufig die Französische Verteidigung als schwarzer(insgesamt finde ich 91 Partien).Leider hat sie im Fernschach keinen guten Ruf.Norbert Lukas zeigt in dieser Partie, die schwächen der Verteidigung hübsch auf! **2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4** Die alte Hauptvariante. Heute wird sehr oft die Alternative 3.....♘f6 gespielt.

[3...Nf6 4.e5 *(4.Bg5* galt lange als Hauptzug, doch nach 4...dxe4 bekommt Schwarz gleiches Spiel. *dxe4 5.Nxe4 Nbd7 6.Nf3 h6 7.Nxf6+ Nxf6 8.Bh4 c5=)* 4...Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2⇄ Es entsteht eine Stellung mit verschiedenen guten Möglichkeiten für beide Seiten.]

4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Qc7 Eine Nebenvariante, die jedoch präzises Spiel vom Weißspieler verlangt.

[6...Ne7 7.Qg4

A) 7...Qc7 Das Bauernopfer galt lange Zeit als interessant, heute hat Weiß jedoch klaren Vorteil nachweisen können. 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 dxc3 12.Qd3 Bd7

A1) 13.Nxc3 Nf5 *(13...a6 14.Rb1 Na5 15.h4 Nf5 16.Rh3 Rc8 17.Bd2 Nc4 18.a4 Bc6 19.h5 Nxd2 20.Kxd2 Ke7 21.Rb2 Rg4 22.g3 Rcg8 23.Ne2 Qa5+* ½-½ (23) Lukin,A (1272)-Wilshusen,H (1214) Lechenicher SchachServer 2016 *)* 14.Nb5 Qd8 15.Bb2 a6 16.Nd6+ Nxd6 17.exd6 Qb6 18.Rb1 0-0-0 19.h3 f5 20.Qb3 Qxb3 21.cxb3 d4 22.Rc1 Kb8 23.Rd1 e5 24.fxe5 Nxe5

25.Bxd4 Rde8 26.Kf2 f4 27.Bxe5 Rxe5 28.Bc4 Rg7 29.Rd4 Bc6 30.Rg1 Re4 31.Rxe4 Bxe4 32.g4 Rg6 33.Re1 Bc6 34.Be6 Rg7 35.Rd1 1-0 (35) Cerne,P (1316)-Wilshusen,H (1214) Lechenicher SchachServer 2016;

A2) 13.Qxc3 Nf5 14.Rb1 Rc8 15.Bd2 a6 16.Ng3 Nce7 17.Qxc7 Rxc7 18.Nh5 Rh8 19.Nf6+ Kf8 20.Ba5 Rxc2 21.Nxd7+ Kg7 22.g4 Ng3 23.Rg1 Nxf1 24.Rxf1 Rhxh2 25.Kd1 Nc6 26.Be1 Ra2 27.Nc5 Nd4 28.a4 b5 29.axb5 axb5 30.f5 Nc2 31.Bf2 Na3 32.Rb3 Nc4 33.Nd3 Nd2 34.Ra3 Rxa3 35.Kxd2 Rh3 36.f6+ Kg8 37.Nb2 Rab3 38.Nd1 Kf8 39.Kc2 Ke8 40.Bc5 Rbg3 41.Rf4 Rg2+ 42.Nf2 Rhg3 43.Kd2 Kd7 44.Be3 Rg1 45.Rb4 Kc6 46.Rb2 Ra1 47.Rc2+ Kb7 48.Bc5 Ra4 49.Bd6 Rd4+ 50.Ke2 Rc4 51.Rb2 Kc6 52.Rd2 b4 53.Rd3 Rg1 54.Kf3 Kb5 55.Bb8 Ka4 56.Bd6 Rc3 57.Ke3 Rxd3+ 58.Nxd3 Rxg4 59.Kf3 Rh4 60.Kg3 Rc4 61.Nb2+ Kb5 62.Kf3 Re4 63.Nd1 Kc4 64.Ne3+ Kd3 65.Ng4 b3 66.Ba3 Ra4 67.Bb2 Kc2 68.Nh2 Kxb2 69.Nf1 Kc1 70.Ke3 b2 71.Nd2 Ra3+ 72.Ke2 Rc3 73.Nb1 Kxb1 74.Kd2 d4 75.Ke1 Kc2 76.Kf2 b1Q 77.Kg2 Qe1 0-1 (77) Obrien,G (1202)-Wilshusen,H (1228) Lechenicher SchachServer 2016;

A3) 13.Rb1 0-0-0 14.Rg1± Δg4-♖g3;

B) 7...0-0 8.Bd3⇄]

7.Qg4

[7.Nf3 Ne7 8.a4 Nbc6 9.Be2 cxd4 10.cxd4 Nb4 11.0-0 Qxc2 12.a5 Qxd1 13.Rxd1 Nbc6 14.Ba3 h5 15.Bd3 Nf5 16.Bxf5 exf5 17.Bd6 Bd7 18.Ng5 Rh6 19.f4 Rc8 20.Nf3 Nd8 21.Rdc1 Rxc1+ 22.Rxc1 Bc6 23.Kf2 Kd7 24.Ke3 Ne6 25.g3 Rh8 26.Rb1 Rg8 27.Bc5 Ra8 28.Rb2 a6 29.Rb6 Nc7 30.Rb2 Bb5 31.Nh4 g6 32.Nf3 Ne6 33.Rc2 Rc8 34.Ng5 Nxg5 35.fxg5 h4 36.Kf4 hxg3 37.Kxg3 Ke6 38.h4 Rh8 39.Bd6 Bc6 ½-½ (39) Wilshusen,H (1771)-Just,J (1940) BdF 2011]

7...f5 Nach 7....♘e7 geht die Partie zur 6....♘e7 Variante über.

[7...Ne7]

8.Qg3

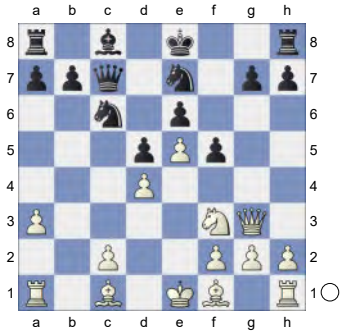
[Betrachtung verdient die Variante 8.Qh5+!? g6 9.Qd1 Weiß hat Schwarz dazu gezwungen, schwarze felder am Königsflügel zu schwächen, er hofft später diese Schwächen auszunutzen. Bd7 10.Nf3 cxd4 11.cxd4 Ba4 12.Bd2 h6 *(12...Qxc2 13.Qxc2 Bxc2 14.Rc1 Ba4 15.Rc7 Bc6 16.Ng5+-)* 13.Bd3 Nc6 14.0-0 Nge7 15.h4± Sutovsky - Moskalenko (Evry, 2004)]

8...Nc6 Alternativen sind 8...cxd4 und 8...♘e7.

[8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Ne7 10.Bd2 0-0 11.Bd3 b6 12.Ne2 Ba6 13.Nf4 Qd7 14.h4 Bxd3 15.Qxd3 Nbc6 16.Rh3 Rac8 17.Rg3 Rf7 18.h5↑ Kasparov - Short (Novgorod, 1997)]

[8...Ne7 9.Qxg7 Rg8 10.Qxh7 cxd4 11.Ne2 Nbc6 12.Qh5+ Ng6 13.Bg5! Qxe5 14.f4 Qg7 15.h4± Anand - Hansen (Middelfart, 2003)]

9.Nf3 cxd4 10.cxd4 Nge7



Der wichtige Unterschied zur Variante 8.... ♘e7 ist, dass Weiß nicht auf g7 nehmen kann. **11.Be2**

[11.Bd2 '⌓' 0-0 12.Bd3 Bd7

A) 13.h4 f4! 14.Bxf4 *(14.Qg5 h6 15.Qh5 Be8 16.Qg4 Nxd4!! 17.Nxd4 Qxe5+ 18.Kf1 Qxd4 19.Qxe6+ Bf7-+)* 14...Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Qc3+ 16.Ke2 Qxd4∓ Lacasa Diaz - Moskalenko (Sants, 2003);

B) 13.0-0 Weiß muss den König verstecken, Schwarz hat die Drohung f4 aufgebaut! 13...Be8 Schwarz will seinen schlechten französischen Läufer aktivieren. 14.c4? Ein einfacher Einsteller. *(14.Qh3!?* Erstmal bleibt der Läufer passiv. Dann kann man ♖fc1-c4 spielen. *)* 14...dxc4

B1) 15.Ng5 Nd8 *(15...cxd3 16.Nxe6+-* Die Dame hängt und Matt auf g7 droht.*)* 16.Rfc1 b5 17.a4⩲ Und Weiß hat zumindest eine gewisse Kompensation für den Bauern.;

B2) 15.Bxc4? Nun sieht's ganz schlecht aus. Die beste Chance war 15. ♘ g5. 15...Nxd4! Schwarz gewinnt einfach den Bauern und damit eigentlich schon die Partie. 16.Nxd4 Qxc4 17.Bb4 Rf7 *(17...Qxd4 18.Bxe7 Rf7 19.Bd6 Bc6∓* Weiß hat sehr geringe Chancen, die Partie zu halten. *)* 18.Qc3 Es ist schon die richtige Entscheidung, die Damen zu tauschen, doch die Stellung bleibt weiterhin sehr schwierig. *(18.Bxe7? Rxe7 19.Rfd1 Rd8-+)* 18...Qxc3 19.Bxc3 Nd5 20.Bd2 Bd7 21.Rfc1 Rff8 Nun kann Schwarz langsam aufspielen. Zuerst bringt er den König nach e7 (nachdem er h6 spielt, um das Schach von g5 zu verhindern), danach tauscht einen Turm und rollt die Bauern am Damenflügel auf. 22.a4? Ein ganz schlechter Zug. Der Bauer wird auf a4 fixiert und wird zur andauernden Schwäche. a5! 23.Rcb1 b6 Die schwarzen Bauern sind unantastbar. Dafür ist der weiße Turm nun für immer an die Verteidigung des Bauern a 4 gebunden. 24.Ne2! Weiß findet den einzigen Weg, sich vorerst zu retten, nämlich die Springer zu tauschen. Rfc8 25.Nf4 Nxf4 26.Bxf4 Rc4! Doch das Endspiel ist auch ohne Springer sehr schwer zu halten. 27.Be3 Bxa4! Nur so! *(27...Rxa4?? 28.Rxa4 Bxa4 29.Rxb6 Bd7 30.Rb7 Be8 31.Ra7 Rxa7 32.Bxa7 a4 33.Bc5=)* 28.Rxb6 Bc6 Der a-Bauer läuft! 29.f3 a4 30.Rc1 *(30.Bc1 Ra5 31.Bb2 Rd5-+* Die schwarzen Türme kommen auf die 2. Reihe.*)* 30...Bd5 Nun macht der Türmetausch nichts mehr aus - der Bauer läuft zu weit. 31.Rxc4 Bxc4 32.Rb7 a3 33.Ra7 Rxa7

34.Bxa7 f4! Weiße Bauern werden auf den weißen Feldern fixiert. 35.g3 g5 36.Kg2 Bd5 37.Kf2 Kf7 38.gxf4 gxf4 39.Ke2 a2 40.Bd4 Ke8 0-1 (40) Smeets, J (2662)-Ponomariov,R (2744) Wijk aan Zee 2011 Weiß ist hilflos - der schwarze König marschiert zum Damenflügel und sein weißer Kollege ist an die Verteidigung des Bauern f3 gebunden.]

[11.Qxg7? Rg8 12.Qxh7 Nxd4!∓ Plötzlich steht Schwarz auf Gewinn.]

[11.Rb1 0-0 12.Bh6 Qa5+ 13.Bd2 Qa4 14.c3 Qc2 15.Rc1 Qe4+ 16.Be2 f4 17.Qh4 h6 18.Kf1 Bd7 19.Ne1 Qf5 20.Bd3 Ng6 21.Bxf5 Nxh4 22.Bd3 Na5 23.Rb1 Rac8 24.g3 Nf5 25.Ke2 b6 26.Rb4 Be8 27.Rg1 Bg6 28.g4 Nh4 29.Bxg6 Nxg6 30.Nf3 Nc4 31.a4 Ne7 32.Bc1 g6 33.h4 Rf7 34.Ne1 Nc6 35.Rb1 Kg7 36.Rh1 Rh8 37.Rh3 h5 38.f3 g5 39.hxg5 hxg4 40.Rxh8 Kxh8 Karjakin,S (2776)-Ivanchuk,V (2779) Monte Carlo 2011 ½-½ (117)]

11...Bd7 Fernschachfreund Horst Wilshusen spielt diesen ♗zug gern, verlor aber alle seine Schwarzpartien!

[11...0-0 12.0-0 *(12.h4?!N* Eine interessante Neuheit, denn mit dem geschlossenen Zentrum, ist es logisch,am ♔flügel anzugreifen, aber Schwarz finden eine starke Antwort *f4!* Widerlegt sofort die Neuheit! *13.Qh3* Die ♕h3 steht abseits und Schwarz wird es nutzen, um im Zentrum anzugreifen *Nxd4!!* Führt zu einer schwarzen überlegenen Stellung! *14.Nxd4 f3-+)* 12...a5 13.a4 b6 14.c3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.h4 Na7 17.Ba3 h6 18.Rfc1 b5 19.Ne1 Rc6 20.Bd6 f4 21.Qd3 Rxd6 22.exd6 Qxd6 23.axb5 Qb6 24.Nf3 Rb8 25.Ne5 Qc7 26.c4 dxc4 27.Rxc4 Qd6 28.Rc5 Nf5 29.Nf3 Rd8 30.Qc4 Qb6 31.Rxf5 1-0 (31) Djukic, N (2539)-Drasko,M (2469) Cetinje 2013]

12.0-0 g6?+- Schwächt den schwarzen ♔önigsflügel.Weiß verhindert sofort die kurze Rochade mit

[12...0-0 13.a4 Ng6 *(13...Rfe8 14.Bd2 Na5 15.Rfe1 Rec8 16.h4 Qd8 17.h5 Rxc2 18.h6 g6 19.Bxa5 Qxa5 20.Qg5 Qd8 21.Reb1 Rc7 22.Qf6 Qf8 23.Bb5 Nc6 24.Bxc6 Qxf6 25.exf6 Bxc6 26.Ng5 Bd7 27.a5 Rf8 28.f7+ Rxf7 29.Nxf7 Kxf7 30.f4 Kf6 31.g3 g5 32.Rc1 Rc4 33.Rxc4 dxc4 34.Rc1 Bb5 35.Kf2 a6 36.Re1 c3 37.Ke3 gxf4+ 38.gxf4 Kg6 39.d5 exd5 40.Rc1 Kxh6 41.Rxc3 Kg6 42.Kd4 h6 43.Rc8 h5 44.Rd8 Bc4 45.Rg8+ Kf6 46.Rb8 Kg6 47.Ke3 Kh6 48.Rxb7 h4 49.Rb6+ Kh5 50.Rb8 d4+ 51.Kxd4 Ba2 52.Ke3 Bd5 53.Rd8 Be4 54.Rh8+ Kg4 55.Rg8+ Kh3 56.Rg6 Bb7 57.Kd4 Kh2 58.Rb6 Bc8 59.Rh6 Kg3 60.Ke3 h3 61.Rg6+ Kh4 62.Kf2 Bb7 63.Rb6 Bc8 64.Kf3 Kh5 65.Kg3 h2 66.Rb1 Bd7 67.Rh1 Kg6 68.Rxh2 Bb5 69.Rb2 Bc4 70.Kh4 Kf6 71.Rb6+ Ke7 72.Kg5 Bd3 73.Rf6 Be4 74.Rxa6* 1-0 (74) Hannibal 1.2 32-bit-Spike 1.4 Leiden (2924) CCRL 2012*)* 14.Ba3 Rfc8 15.h4 Na5 16.h5 Nf8 17.h6 g6 18.Qh4 Qd8 19.Be7 Qe8 20.Qf6 Qf7 21.Rfb1 Qxf6 22.exf6 Rxc2 23.Bb5 Bxb5 24.axb5 Nc4 25.Ng5 Nd7 26.f7+ Kh8 27.Rxa7 1-0 (27) Zemlyanov,S (2297)-Avery,B (1755) ICCF 2011]

[12...0-0-0 13.Qxg7 Rhg8 14.Qh6 Rg6 15.Qxh7 Rdg8 16.g3 Qd8 17.Qh3 Rh8 18.Qg2 Qg8 19.Rb1 Rg7 20.h4 Ng6 21.Bg5 Rhh7 22.c4 Nce7 23.Rfc1 Bc6 24.cxd5 Nxd5 25.Bb5 Nge7 26.Bxe7 Nxe7 27.Ng5 Kd8 28.Bxc6 1-0 (28) Thew,B (2083)-Wilshusen,H (1665) ICCF 2013]

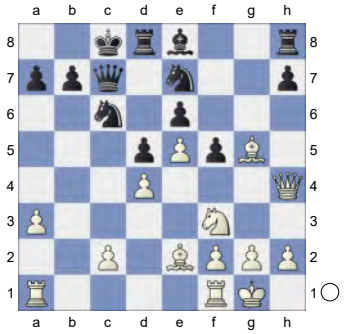
[12...h6 13.Qxg7 0-0-0 14.Rb1 Rdg8 15.Qf6 Qd8 16.h3 Rg6 17.Qh4 Qg8 18.g3 Rg7 19.Qf4 h5 20.Nh4 Ng6 21.Nxg6 Rxg6 22.h4 a6 23.Bd2 Rh7 24.Rfc1 Rhg7 25.c4 dxc4 26.Rxc4 Rg4 27.Bxg4 Rxg4 28.Qf3 Rxh4 29.Rb6 Rg4 30.Qb3 h4 31.Rxb7 hxg3 32.Rb8+ 1-0 (32) Evsin,I (1373)-Wilshusen,H (1324) Lechenicher SchachServer 2014]

13.Bh6! 0-0-0 Aber Schwarz hat ja noch die lange Rochade?! **14.Qh4 g5** Schenkt freiwillig einen Bauern her.Das Motiv ist unklar?

[Zäher war 14...Kb8 oder]

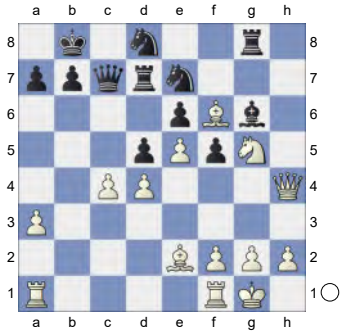
[14...Rdg8]

15.Bxg5 Die schwarze Stellung bricht nun schnell zusammen. **15...Be8**

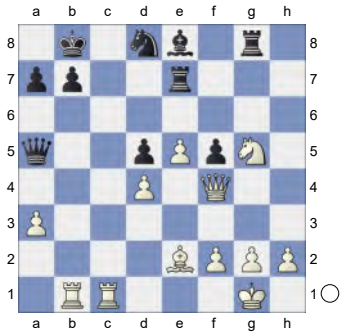


16.Bf6 Rg8 17.Qxh7 Bg6 18.Qh4 Rd7 19.Ng5 Nd8 20.c4 Kb8

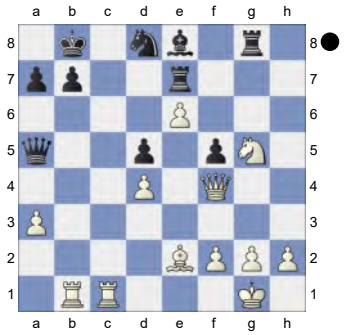
(Diagram)



21.Rfc1 Qa5 22.Qf4 Be8 23.Rab1 Rc7 24.Bxe7 Rxe7 25.cxd5 exd5



26.e6+



1-0

312 **C18**

□ **Bevan,Peter M** **1940**

■ **Geus,Alan De** **2094**

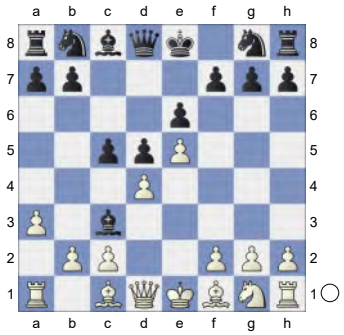
corr NED-WLS 2016 04.04.2016

[Kitty Kat]

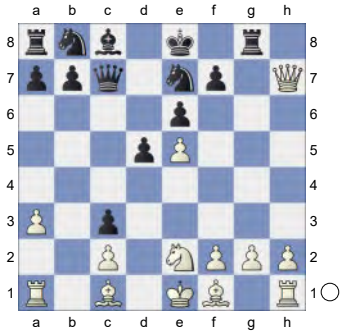
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

'John Watson: 'An amazing game

'Arsovic,Goran: 'Kritz,Leonid: 'Kritz,L: 'John Watson: 'An amazing game between supergrandmasters.""" between supergrandmasters." **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

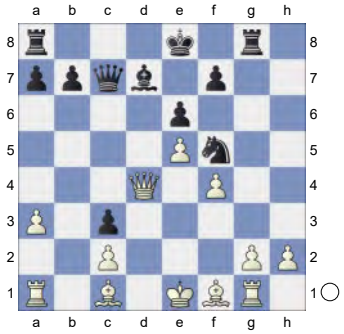


6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 Ne7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 dxc3



11.f4 Nbc6 12.Qd3 d4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Bd7 15.Rg1 Nf5 0.66/23

[⚠15...a6 0.31/20]

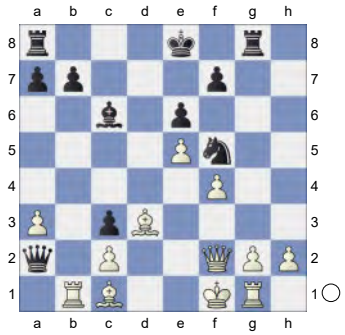


16.Qf2!⩲ Qc6 17.Bd3! Against Qe4+ **17...Qd5** White is better. **18.Rb1 Bc6 19.Kf1** -0.35/22

[19.Rb3!⩲ 0.69/23 0-0-0 20.Rxc3 Kb8 21.g4 Nd4 22.Rg3 Qh1+ 23.Bf1 *(23.Qf1 Qd5 24.h3 Nf5 25.Bxf5 exf5 26.Rgd3 Qe4+ 27.Be3 fxg4 28.hxg4 Rd5 29.Rxd5 Qxd5 30.Qd3 Rxg4 31.Qxd5 Bxd5 32.f5 b6 33.Rd3 Bc4 34.Rd8+ Kc7 35.Rh8 Rg2 36.Bf2 Rg4 37.Be3* ½-½ (37) Bellmann,H (2382)-Korba,R (2387) freechess.de 2018 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Bellmann, Herbert] *)* 23...b6 24.Bb2 Be4 25.a4 Rd5 26.Ba3 Rc8 27.Bd6+ Kb7 28.Rxc8 Nf3+ 29.Ke2 Rd2+ 30.Ke3 Kxc8 31.Rg1 Nxg1 32.Kxd2 Nf3+ 33.Kc3 Nxh2 34.Be2 Leko,P (2730)-Caruana,F (2775) Dortmund 2012 CBM 161 [Kritz,L] ½-½ (42)]

19...Qa2 0.77/23

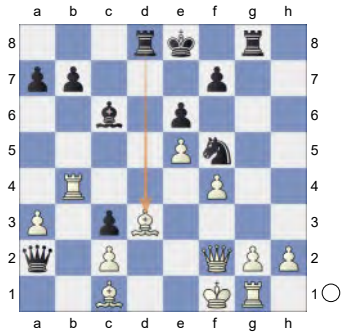
[19...0-0-0!∓ -0.35/22 stays ahead.]



20.Rb4 0.01/22

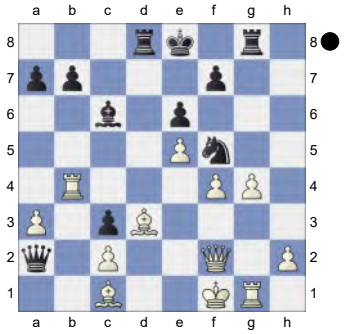
[Better is 20.Rb3!± 0.77/23]

20...Rd8=



21.g4

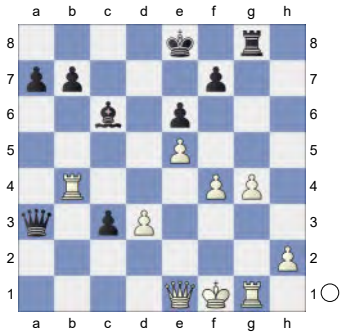
(Diagram)



Rxd3N

[21...a5 22.Rc4 Bd5 23.Rxc3 Nd4 24.Rg3 Qb1 25.Qe3 Rh8 26.h3 b5 27.Rc7 Bc4 28.Kf2 Bxd3 29.cxd3 b4 30.axb4 axb4 31.f5 Qa2+ 32.Bd2 Nb3 33.fxe6 fxe6 34.Kg1 Nxd2 35.Qc5 Qa1+ 36.Kh2 Gunnlaugsson,G-Bison,B corr CAPA 1995 1-0 (47)]

22.cxd3 Qa1 23.Qe1 Nh4 24.Qxh4 Qxc1+ 25.Qe1 Qxa3



26.Rc4 c2 27.Qc3 -0.01/22

[Much worse is 27.Rxc2 Qxd3+ 28.Qe2 Qd4=]

[White should play 27.Qd2± 0.69/22]

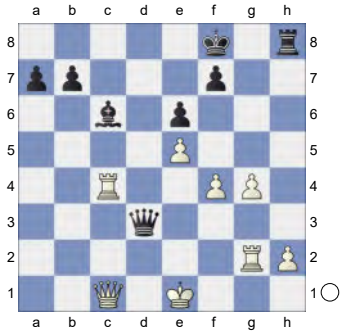
27...c1Q+ 28.Qxc1 Chess con chili.

28...Qxd3+ 29.Ke1 Rh8 30.Rg2 -0.41/20

[30.Rc3= -0.01/23 was preferrable. Qe4+ 31.Qe3 Qb1+ 32.Qc1 Qe4+ 33.Qe3 Qb1+ 34.Qc1 Qe4+]

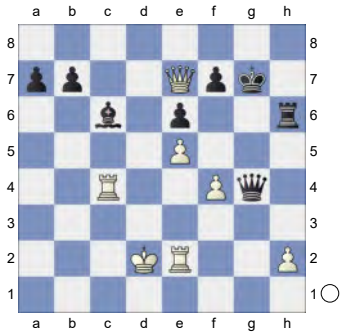
30...Kf8 0.07/19

[30...Qd5∓ -0.41/20 might be stronger. 31.Re2 Rh4]

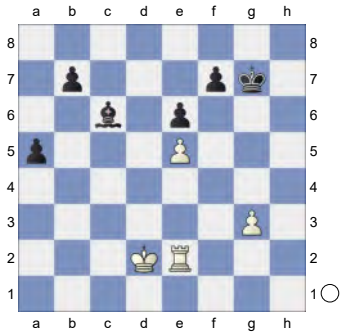


31.Rd2 Qe3+ 32.Re2 Qg1+ 33.Kd2 Qxg4 34.Qa3+ Kg7! aiming for ...Rd8+.

35.Qe7 Inhibits Rd8+. **35...Rh6**



Against Qf6+. Strongly threatening ... Bb5. **36.Qg5+ Qxg5 37.fxg5** Endgame KRR-KRB **37...Rh5 38.Rc3 Rxg5 39.Rg3 Rxg3 40.hxg3** KR-KB **40...a5**



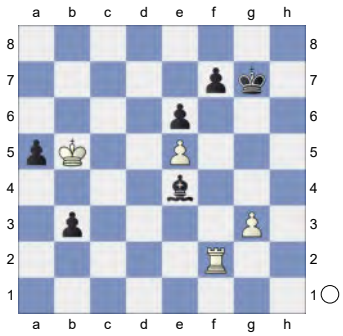
41.Rf2 b5 42.Kc3 Bd5 43.Kd4 b4 0.46/30

[43...a4= -0.01/28 is superior.]

44.Kc5± White has compensation.

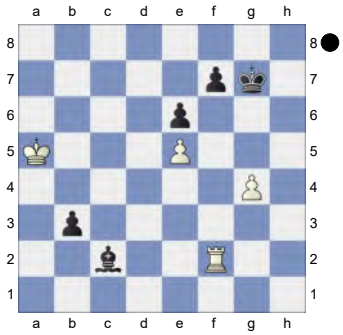
44...b3 45.Kb5 Be4

(Diagram)



46.Ka4!

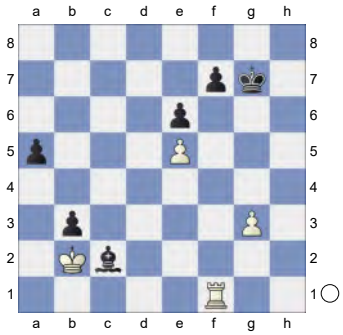
[Don't go for 46.Kxa5? Bc2 47.g4



b2! 48.Rxc2 b1Q-+]

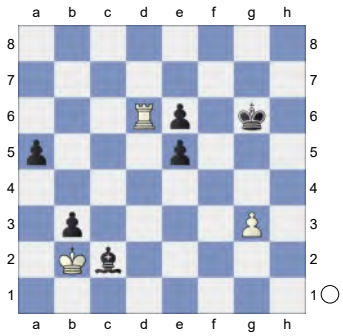
46...Bc2 Threatens to win with ...b2+.

47.Ka3 Kg6 48.Rf4 Bd1 49.Kb2 Bc2 50.Rf1 Kg7

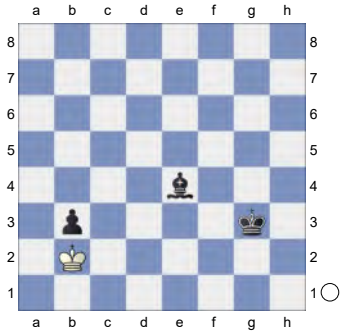


51.Rf6 Bd1 52.Rf4 Kg6 53.Rd4 Bc2 54.Rd7 f6 55.Rd6 fxe5

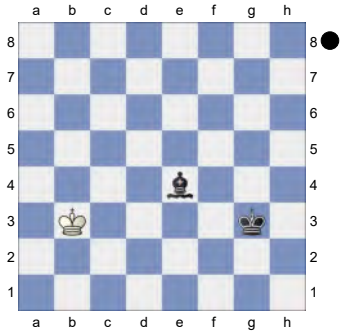
(Diagram)



And now ...Kf6 would win. The position is equal. **56.Rxe6+ Kf5 57.Ra6 Kg4 58.Rxa5 e4 59.Re5 Kxg3 60.Rxe4 Bxe4**



61.Kxb3

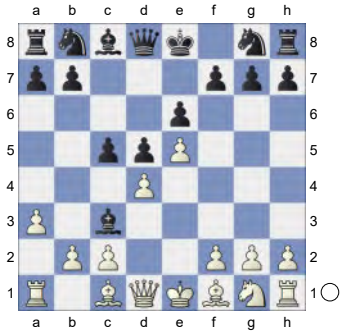


Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.09 (flawless) . Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?

1-0

313 **C18**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano**
■ **Lenderman,Aleksandr**
13: U.S. Championship 2018
[Cyrus Lakdawala]

Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: 'C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4 '
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+
[5...Ba5 is less popular due to 6.b4! .]



6.bxc3 Qa5
[This is the Hook variation of the Winawer, Black's third most popular try in the position, behind 6...Ne7]
[and 6...Qc7 .]
7.Bd2
[7.Qd2?! is considered slightly inferior due to Nc6 , threatening ...cxd4, ... Qxd2+ and ...Nxd4. After 8.Nf3 b6 9.a4 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Qxa6 11.Ba3 , M.Martinez Romero-J.Cori Tello, Cali 2011, and now Qxa4! , I prefer Black's position as if 12.0-0 Qc4 13.Qg5 Nge7! 14.Qxg7 Rg8 15.Qxh7 Qxc3 16.dxc5 Kd7! 17.Qd3 Qxd3 18.cxd3 b5! , Black's two connected queenside passed pawns give him a close to winning position.]
7...Qa4 QUESTION: What is the point of Black moving his queen around so much in the opening? ANSWER: The ideas behind this move are: 1) Black's queen blocks out a2-a4 later on. 2) With the black queen on a4, White must worry about his pawns on d4, c2 and a3. Of course the downside of the move is that Black wastes a lot of time with his queen when he could be developing. QUESTION: What is the point of Black moving his queen around so much in the opening? ANSWER: The ideas behind this move are: 1) Black's queen blocks out a2-a4 later on. 2) With the black queen on a4, White must worry about his pawns on d4, c2 and a3. Of course the downside of the move is that Black wastes a lot of time with his queen when he could be developing.
[Also played is 7...Ne7 8.Qg4 0-0 .]
8.Qg4 Kf8
[8...g6?! is dubious, creating too many dark-squared holes in Black's kingside.]
9.h4!? This is a rare continuation. Caruana ignores Black's threat to chop on c2.
[9.Qd1 is the main line.]
9...Nc6 This threatens ...Nxe5.
[Instead, 9...Qxc2 0.78/20 is playable, when Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '9...Nc6 0.36 is playable, when' 10.Nf3 0.13/18 *(* perhaps Caruana planned the improvement *10.Rc1!?* 0.48/20 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '10.h5 0.84' *Qe4+* Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '!' *11.Qxe4 dxe4 12.f3! exf3* Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '!' *13.Nxf3* with great compensation for the missing pawn, despite the absence of queens*;* Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' White should play' *10.h5±* 0.67/20 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' **±**'*)* 10...Nc6 0.59/21 *(10...b6=* 0.13/18 *)* 11.dxc5

Nge7 12.Be2 0.25/19 looks dynamically balanced, A. Gabrielian-S.Shipov, Dos Hermanas (blitz) 2003. *(12.h5±* 0.62/18 was preferrable. *)*]

10.h5!? This is a colour outside the range of the normal spectrum. Veering away from ordinariness in the opening tends to unnerve our opponents, since they fear you know something they don't. Caruana continues to offers pawns. QUESTION: Why isn't Caruana protecting any of his pawns? ANSWER: Technology shouldn't be the sole measure of a time period, but in today's chess world, if a world-class player makes a move like this, you can bet everything you own that he has comped the living daylights out of the position. In this instance it is justified to gambit a pawn (or pawns) as he has a big lead in development. Here, Caruana leaves unprotected pawns on e5, d4 and c2. This appears reckless, but the comp has the position at dead even. So White's space, bishop pair and potential to puncture the kingside dark squares do add up to sizeable compensation if Black decides to waste time grabbing a pawn or two. This is a colour outside the range of the normal spectrum. Veering away from ordinariness in the opening tends to unnerve our opponents, since they fear you know something they don't. Caruana continues to offers pawns. QUESTION: Why isn't Caruana protecting any of his pawns? ANSWER: Technology shouldn't be the sole measure of a time period, but in today's chess world, if a world-class player makes a move like this, you can bet everything you own that he has comped the living daylights out of the position. In this instance it is justified to gambit a pawn (or pawns) as he has a big lead in development. Here, Caruana leaves unprotected pawns on e5, d4 and c2. This appears reckless, but the comp has the position at dead even. So White's space, bishop pair and potential to puncture the kingside dark squares do add up to sizeable compensation if Black decides to waste time grabbing a pawn or two.

[10.Nf3 is a safe alternative.]

10...h6!

[If Black takes some bait, we have: 1) If Black takes some bait, we have: 1) 10...Nxe5!? 11.Qf4 Nc6 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '!'

A) 12.Qd6+± 0.43/19 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' might be stronger.' Ke8 13.Qg3 *(13.Qxc5 Qxc2 14.Rc1)*;

B) 12.h6 0.01/19 12...Nxh6 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '=' 13.Rxh6 looks rather dangerous for Black, even if Komodo thinks the game is even.]

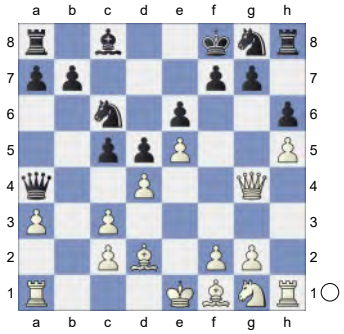
[2) 10...Qxc2 0.96/19 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '10...Nxe5 0.41 10...Nxe5 0.37' 11.Rc1 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '!' Qf5 1.91/19 *(*Black should play *11...Qe4+* 0.71/19 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' ±' *12.Qxe4 dxe4)* 12.Qg3 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '+-!' Qe4+ 13.Ne2 Cyrus Lakdawala, MH: ' And now Rh4 would win.'

A) 13...Qf5± 1.30/20 14.Qh4 1.20/20 *(14.h6+-* 1.81/20 *Nxh6 15.Bxh6 gxh6 16.Rxh6)* 14...Qe4 1.62/19 *(14...h6±* 1.20/20 *)*;

B) 13...h6 1.72/21 14.Rh4! also looks exceedingly uncomfortable for Black.]

[3) 10...cxd4 11.h6! gxh6

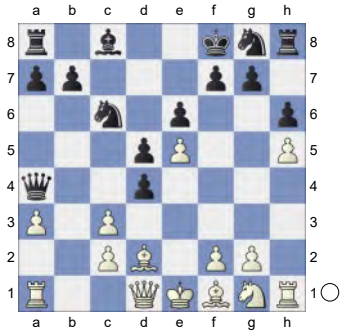
Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '!' 12.Qf4 Qxc2 13.cxd4 Qb2 1.49/20 *(⌓13...Qe4+* 0.91/20 *14.Qxe4 dxe4)* 14.Rd1 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' ±!' Ke8 (now the d4-pawn is threatened) 15.Ne2! Qxa3 (the queen grabs a pawn or three) 16.Nc3 a6 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' Prevents Nb5. Inhibits Nb5.' 17.Bd3 and White is down a whopping three pawns, yet the comp clearly prefers his attacking chances.]



I think this is Black's wisest response, although it's annoying when we can find no suitable argument to refute our opponent's preposterous claim. Lenderman refrains from all temptations to grab material and also halts h5-h6 ideas. **11.Qd1!** Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: 'White is slightly better. White is slightly better.' **11...cxd4!?** 0.72/21 I have the feeling Lenderman underestimated the power of White's coming attack. Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '

[Safer and probably better was 11...b6 0.28/23 with ...Ba6 and ...Nge7 to follow, when Black has a completely playable game. Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '=' '=!' '!']

(Diagram)



I have the feeling Lenderman underestimated the power of White's coming attack.' **12.Nf3** Cyrus Lakdawala, MH: ' ± !' **12...dxc3?** 1.20/21 This is where Black goes too far. With this grab he opens the position and falls fatally behind in development.

[He should try Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' Better is ' 12...Nge7 0.80/22 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' ±!' 13.Rh4 b6 14.Rf4 0.54/22 *(14.Rb1±* 0.90/21 *)* 14...Kg8 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '±' 15.Nxd4 Nxd4! 16.cxd4 Ba6 with a still playable position.]

13.Bxc3 g5! Lenderman makes the best of it in an already bad situation. QUESTION: This looks crazy. What prompted this violent outburst where Black creates a self-inflicted gash to his own king's cover? ANSWER: White had the decisive threat of Rh4 and this move, along with ...Qe4+, are the only two ways to sidestep it. Lenderman makes the best of it in an already bad situation. QUESTION: This looks crazy. What prompted this violent outburst where Black creates a self-inflicted gash to his own king's cover? ANSWER: White had the decisive threat of Rh4 and this move, along with ...Qe4+, are the only two ways to sidestep it. Cyrus Lakdawala, MH: 'Lenderman makes the best of it in an already bad situation. QUESTION: This looks crazy. What prompted this

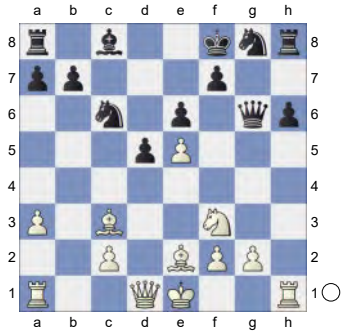
violent outburst where Black creates a self-inflicted gash to his own king's cover? ANSWER: White had the decisive threat of Rh4 and this move, along with ...Qe4+, are the only two ways to sidestep it. Lenderman makes the best of it in an already bad situation. QUESTION: This looks crazy. What prompted this violent outburst where Black creates a self-inflicted gash to his own king's cover? ANSWER: White had the decisive threat of Rh4 and this move, along with ...Qe4+, are the only two ways to sidestep it. Wards off Rh4'

[Let's look: a) Let's look: a) 13...Nge7?? 5.17/20 (ignoring White's threat is fatal) Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '13...Qe4+ 1.23 13...Nb8 1.05 (ignoring White's threat is fatal)' 14.Rh4! (Black's primary asset on a4 is threatened with dissolution) d4 15.Nxd4 and White threatens Nxe6+ and Rxa4. Now if Nxd4 16.Rxd4 Black's queen is attacked, as is his d8-square.]

[b) After 13...Qe4+ 14.Be2 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' Black must now prevent Rh4. Threatens to win with Rh4.' Nge7 1.56/19 *(⌓14...g5* 1.19/22 *)* 15.Rh4 Cyrus Lakdawala, MH: '±' Qh7 16.Bd3 Qg8 Black's king, queen and rook on f8, g8 and h8 exude a Black Hole of Calcutta feel. At least in this version Black hasn't yet weakened his kingside. Still, I don't like his chances for continued survival.]

14.hxg6 Qe4+ 15.Be2 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' Hoping for g7+! White is more active. Black must now prevent g7+!' **15...Qxg6**

(Diagram)



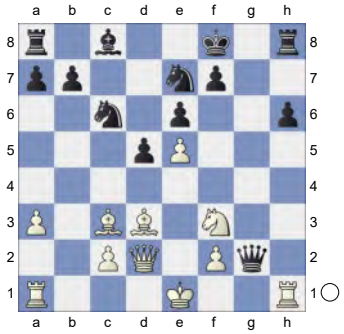
Black's kingside is riddled with holes and potential targets. **16.Qd2** Caruana happily offers his g-pawn to open lines against Black's king. Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: 'Caruana happily offers his g-pawn to open lines against Black's king. Black is weak on the dark squares'

[The Petrosianic comp prefers the safe 16.Kf1 1.03/19 . Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '16.Qd2 1.39 . ']

16...Nge7 17.Bd3! I insist! Caruana goes with a scorched earth, kill-them-all-and-let-God-sort-them-out mindset. Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: 'I insist! Caruana goes with a scorched earth, kill-them-all-and-let-God-sort-them-out mindset. This pair of bishops is nice.' **17...Qxg2!?** 2.32/25 This looks suicidal, but is it, if not taking the pawn is also unpalatable? Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '

[17...Qg7 1.22/21 feels miserable and Black's counterplay looks stone dead. After Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' **±**' '**±**' Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' was worth a try.' 18.Kf1 Bd7 19.Rh5 Rd8 1.64/21 *(19...Ke8±* 1.30/19*; 19...b6±* 1.22/21 might work better. *20.g3 Rd8)* 20.g3 1.22/18 White can follow up with Kg2, Rah1 and Rxh6. *(20.Qf4+-* 1.73/19 *)*]

(Diagram)



This looks suicidal, but is it, if not taking the pawn is also unpalatable? A mistake that costs the game.' **18.Ke2** Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '+-!'

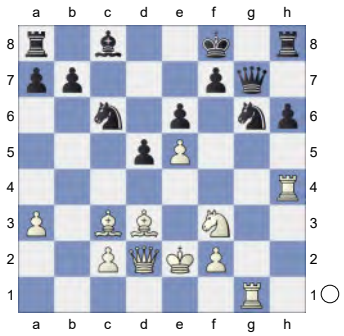
[18.Rxh6 Qg7 19.Rxh8+ Qxh8± Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '=']

18...Qg4 Black wants to play for tactical tricks with ...Nf5 and then give a knight check on d4. The trouble is he doesn't have time. **19.Rh4!** This move gains two tempi, rather than one, since the rook gets a free lift to its destination on f4.

[19.Rag1 is less accurate. Qa4 20.Bb4 *(20.Rxh6 Rxh6 21.Qxh6+ Ke8+-)* 20...Ke8 Cyrus Lakdawala, MH: '⩲' 21.Rxh6 Rxh6]

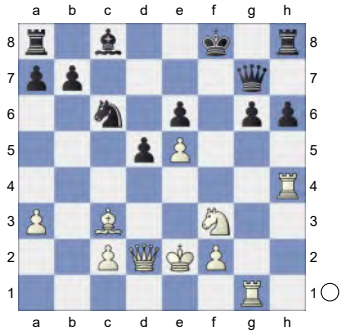
[19.Rxh6?! 1.66/23 19.Rh4 3.12 Rxh6 20.Qxh6+ Qg7+- Cyrus Lakdawala, MH: '±']

19...Qg7 20.Rg1 Ng6



21.Rf4! It's disconcerting when our opponent's move stokes a fear we already had, bubbling up, from subconscious to conscious mind. Caruana reveals that it is g6 that is the target, rather than h6.

[21.Bxg6? 0.89/20 21.Rf4 2.87 fxg6



22.Rgh1!

A) 22...g5

A1) 23.Nxg5!± 1.01/21 Ke7 *(23...b6 24.Nf3)* 24.Bb4+ Kd7 25.f4;

A2) 23.Qxg5 0.28/23 23...hxg5= 24.Rxh8+⩲;

B) 22...h5±;

C) 22...Bd7⩲]

21...Nce7 7.80/23 The bad in our position has a way of driving out the good. There is no such thing as a mistake in a position where everything you play loses.

[Also losing are: 1) Also losing are: 1) 21...Ke7 2.99/22 22.Rf6

A) 22...Rg8? 5.38/24 23.Bb4+ *(23.Bxg6 fxg6 24.Bb4+ Nxb4+-)* 23...Kd8;

B) 22...Kd8 2.80/21 23.Nd4! *(23.Bxg6 fxg6 24.Rgxg6 Qe7 25.Ba5+ Nxa5)*

B1) 23...Bd7 2.20/18 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' ⩲ ' 24.Bxg6 *(24.Nxc6+ Bxc6 25.Bxg6 Bb5+ 26.Ke1 Rg8 27.Ba5+ b6)* 24...Nxd4+ 25.Bxd4 fxg6 26.Rgxg6 Threatening mate with Qa5+. Qh7? 5.13/21 *(26...Qe7* 2.39/21 *27.Qa5+ Ke8)* 27.Qa5++- Ke8;

B2) 23...Nxd4+ 4.94/19

Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '?' 24.Bxd4 Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '+-' Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' Threatens to win with Qa5+.' Bd7 25.Qb4 and now if b6 then 26.Bxb6+! (annihilation of defensive barrier) axb6 27.Qxb6+ Ke8 28.Bxg6 fxg6 29.Rgxg6 Qe7 30.Rxe6 wins.]

[2) 21...Nxf4+ 6.58/21 leaves Black's queen trapped after Cyrus Lakdawala, MH: '?' Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '21... Ke7 3.06 21...Ke7 2.56 leaves Black's queen trapped after' 22.Qxf4 Qxg1 23.Nxg1 , when Black's position is hopeless.]

[Don't blunder Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: ' Not' 21...Ke8? 22.Rxf7 Kxf7 *(22...Qxf7?* loses. *23.Bxg6+-* Pin *)* 23.Rxg6 *(23.Bxg6+?* 0.90/22 23.Rxg6 6.72 *Ke7∓* Cyrus Lakdawala, MH: '=' *)* 23...Qxg6

A) 24.Bxg6+ Kxg6 25.Qf4 White threatens Qf6+ and mate. Kg7+- *(25...Rh7+-)*;

B) 24.Bxg6+ Kxg6 25.Qf4 Kg7+-;

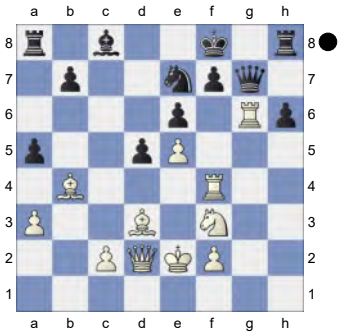
C) 24.Qf4++-]

22.Bb4! a5

[22...Ke8 23.Bxe7! Kxe7 *(after 23...Nxf4+ 24.Qxf4)* 24.Qb4+ Black's queen is trapped, as The Beatles would agree: “Her Majesty's a pretty nice girl, but she doesn't have a lot to say”) Ke8 *(24...Kd8 25.Qd6+ Bd7 26.Bb5 f5 27.exf6 Qh7 28.Rxg6* is crushing*)* 25.Bb5+ Bd7 26.Bxd7+ Kxd7 27.Qxb7+ and Black will soon be mated.]

When we are already hopelessly busted our thoughts tend to go elsewhere, while our eyes remain vacant. EXERCISE (combination alert): Black blundered in a hopeless position. How did Caruana end

the game in a single move? When we are already hopelessly busted our thoughts tend to go elsewhere, while our eyes remain vacant. EXERCISE (combination alert): Black blundered in a hopeless position. How did Caruana end the game in a single move? **23.Rxg6!**



. ANSWER: Multiple pin. Both black knight and f7-pawn are pinned. Cyrus Lakdawala,MH: '. ANSWER: Multiple pin. Both black knight and f7-pawn are pinned. Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.28 (precise) . Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.23 (precise) '

1-0

314 **C18**

□ **Danielsen,Henrik**

■ **Jones,G.**

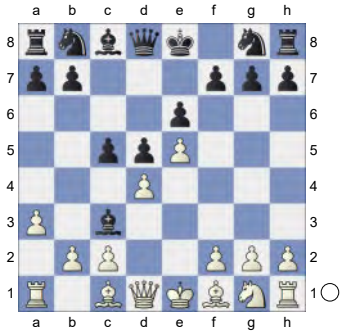
35 Reykjavik 2016

[Kitty Kat]

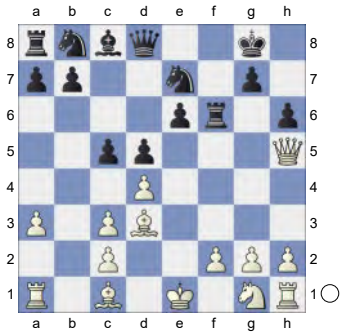
C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

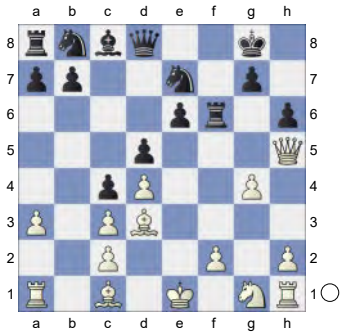
(Diagram)



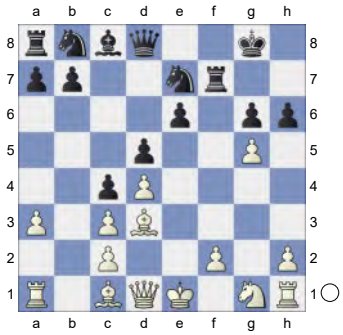
6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f6 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Qh5 h6



11.g4 Black should prevent g5. **11...c4**

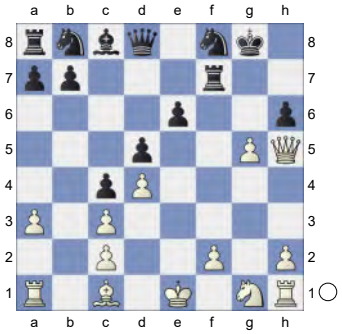


12.g5! 0.02/21 **g6= 13.Qd1**
[13.Qxh6 Rf7 14.Bxg6 Rg7∓]
13...Rf7

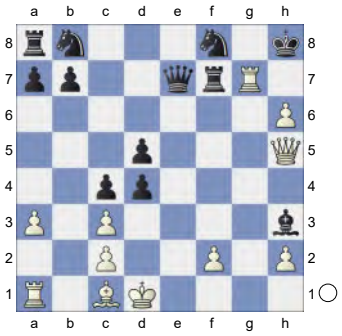


The position is equal. **14.Bxg6 Nxg6**

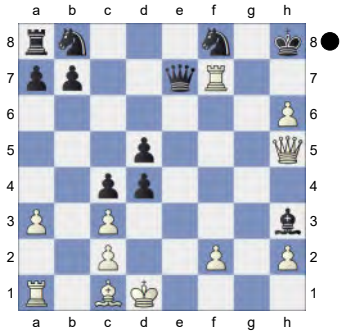
15.Qh5 White wants to play Nf3.
15...Nf8
[15...Rg7? 16.gxh6 Qh4 17.Qxh4 Nxh4 18.hxg7+-]



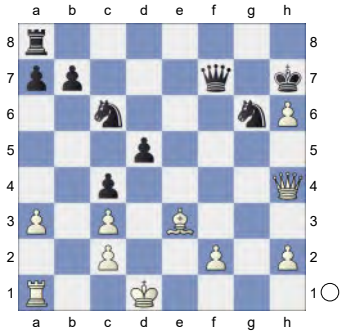
16.Nh3 e5 aiming for ...exd4.
[16...Qa5 17.Bd2 Qc7 18.gxh6±]
17.Rg1N -0.50/20
[17.gxh6= 0.01/20 Qf6 18.dxe5 *(18.Rg1+ Kh8∓ 19.dxe5 Qf5 20.Rg5 Qf3 21.Qxf3 Rxf3 22.Nf4 Nc6 23.Ke2 Rxf4 24.Bxf4 Ne6* C 18/40 *)*]
17...Qe7 0.76/20
[17...Rg7∓ -0.50/20 18.gxh6 Rxg1+ 19.Nxg1 Qf6 20.dxe5 Qg6 21.Qxg6+ Nxg6]
18.gxh6+± Kh8 19.Rg7 exd4+ 20.Kd1 -0.84/21
[20.Be3!= 0.01/23 keeps the balance. Rxg7 21.hxg7+ Kxg7 22.Ke2]
20...Bxh3 -0.01/22



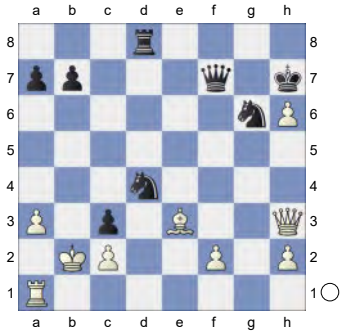
21.Rxf7? -1.93/24
[21.Qxf7= -0.01/22 and White is okay. Qxf7 22.Rxf7]



This move loses the game for White. **21...Bg4+!-+ 22.Qxg4 Qxf7** Chess con chili. **23.Qxd4+ Kh7 24.Be3 Nc6 25.Qh4 Ng6**



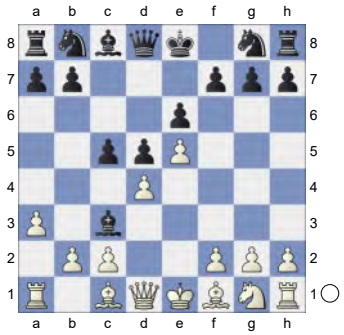
26.Qh3 Inhibits Qf3+. **26...Rd8 27.Kc1 d4 28.cxd4 Nxd4 29.Kb2?** -21.25/22
[29.Bxd4 -3.29/21 Rxd4 30.Kb2]
29...c3+



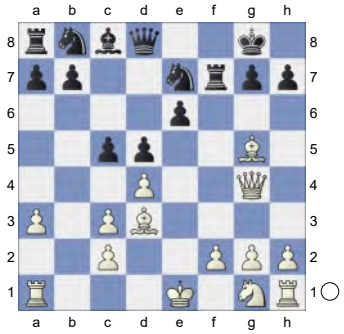
Weighted Error Value: White=0.82/ Black=0.28 (precise)
0-1

315 **C18**
□ **Altieri,Carlo**
■ **Krueger,Michael**
corr WS/O/692 09.11.2013
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
Pogorelov,Ruslan: 'Pogorelov,R: 'Inf 94/ 219" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**

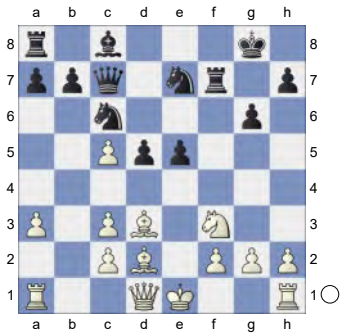


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Rf7

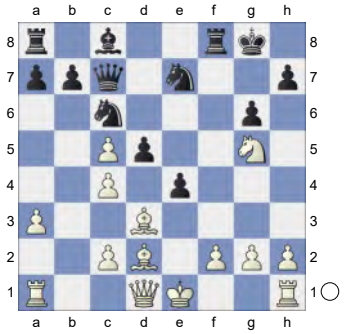


11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1! Qa5 13.Bd2 Nbc6 14.Nf3 Qc7 White is slightly better. **15.dxc5 e5!**

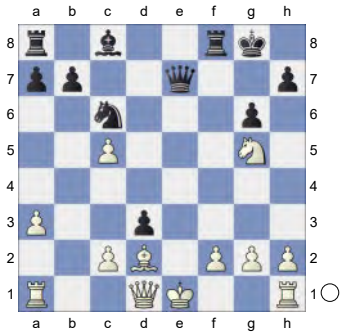
(Diagram)



16.Ng5 Rf8 17.c4 e4!



18.cxd5! exd3 19.d6 Qd8 20.dxe7 Qxe7+



21.Be3 Rf5 22.Nf3

[22.h4 h6 23.Nf3 dxc2 24.Qxc2 Be6 Winawer Qg4-8 Bd3 f5 & 8 Nf3 ChessPub Guide 2024 French [John Watson]]

22...Qf6N ...dxc2 is the strong threat.

[22...dxc2 23.Qxc2 Be6 24.Rd1 Bd5 25.Nd4 Nxd4 26.Rxd4 Raf8 27.Rg4 Rxf2 28.Rxg6+ hxg6 29.Qxg6+ Kh8 30.Qh6+ Kg8 31.Qg6+ Kh8 ½-½ (31) Filippov,L (2611)-Pereira,M (2448) ICCA corr 2005 Telechess CBM 89 [Stross,F]]

[22...Be6 23.Qxd3 Bd5 24.0-0-0 Qf6 25.Kb1 Rd8 26.Qb5 a6 27.Qa4 Re8 28.Rhe1 Re4 29.Bd4 Qe6 30.Rxe4 Qxe4 31.Re1 Qf4 32.Re8+ Kf7 33.Rh8 g5 34.Rxh7+ Ke8 35.Rxb7 g4 36.Rb6 Qe4 37.Qxa6 5.♕d2 c6 6. ♗h6_46517 (2776)-Tiitta, S (2474) Dublin 2006 CYB 12 [Keffler; FS 1970/(135)] 1-0 (76)]

23.0-0 0.01/23

[23.cxd3± 0.86/20 Threatens to win with Rb1. Qc3+ 24.Nd2]

23...Rxf3 0.68/24

[23...dxc2= 0.01/23 24.Qxc2 Be6]

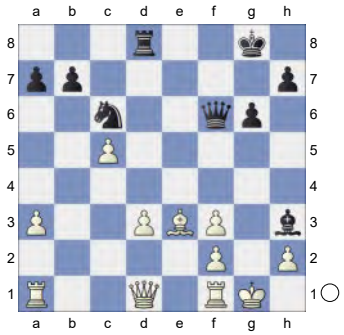
24.gxf3 0.32/22

[⌓24.Qxf3 0.68/24 Qxf3 25.gxf3 dxc2 26.Ra2]

24...Bh3 0.97/22

[24...dxc2± 0.32/22 25.Qxc2 Ne5]

25.cxd3± Rd8



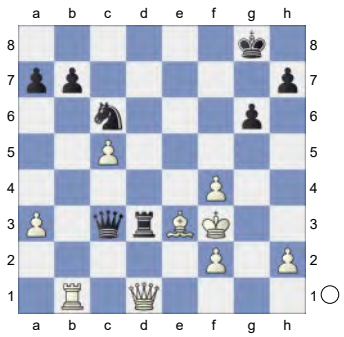
26.f4! Bxf1 27.Kxf1

[Don't play 27.Qxf1 Qf5=]

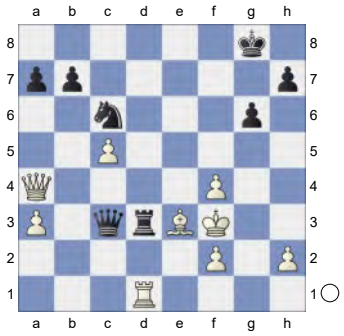
27...Qc3 Inhibits Qb3+. **28.Ke2** 0.50/20

[White should try 28.Rb1!± 0.90/21]

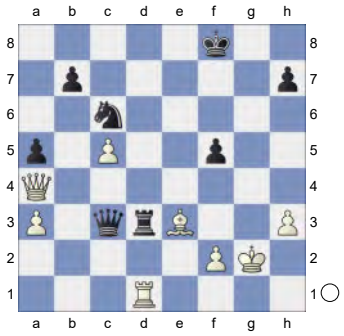
28...Qb2+± 29.Kf3! Qc3 30.Rb1 Rxd3



31.Qa4 Rd7 0.83/20
[31...Qxc5!⩲ 0.37/21 32.Qe4 Nd4+ 33.Kg2 Qc6 34.Qxc6 bxc6]
32.Rd1 Rd3

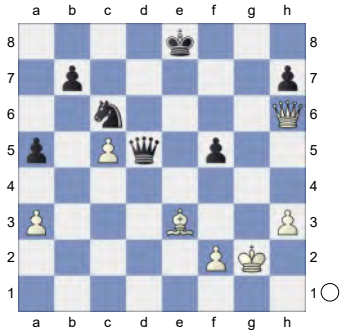


33.Kg2! And now Rb1 would win.
33...Kf8
[33...Qxa3? 34.Qc4+ Kf8 35.Rxd3+-]
34.h3 0.58/21
[34.Rb1± 1.12/21]
34...a5! 35.f5 gxf5

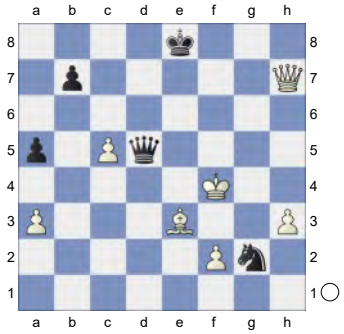


36.Rxd3 0.35/20
[36.Rb1!± 0.72/21 Qg7+ 37.Kh2]
36...Qxd3 37.Qf4 Qd5+ 38.Kg3 Ke8
39.Qh6 0.22/21
[39.h4± 0.74/18]
39...Qe5+= 40.Kg2 Qd5+

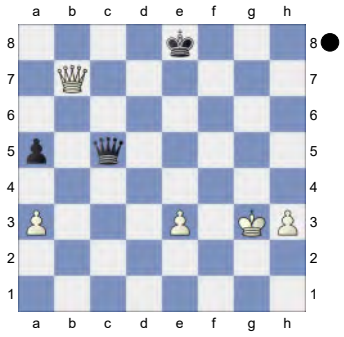
(Diagram)



41.Kg1 0.16/22
[41.Kh2!⩲ 0.53/21 deserves consideration.]
41...Ne5 42.Kh2 Nf3+ 43.Kg3 Ne1
White must now prevent ...Qg2+.
44.Qxh7 f4+! Decoy **45.Kxf4 Ng2+**



46.Kg3 Nxe3 47.fxe3 Strongly threatening Qh8+. **47...Qxc5 48.Qxb7**

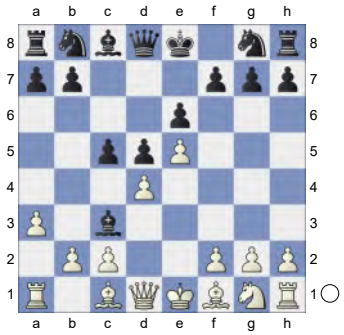


Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

316 **C19**
□ **Milan Vidmar**
■ **Miles**
Mobile (6) 1993
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4

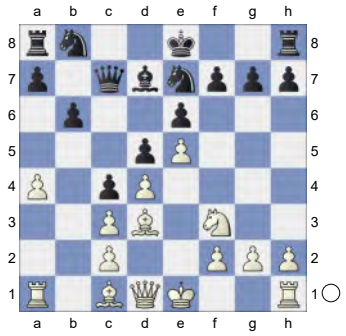
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Nf3 Ne7 8.a4N

[8.h4 Nbc6 *(8...b6 9.h5 h6 10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.Bd3 Ba4 12.0-0 Nd7 13.Re1 0-0-0 14.Nh4 Kb7 15.Ra2 Qc6 16.Qg4 Rdg8* Chess Informant Eco-N,N Survey 2006 *)* 9.h5 h6 10.Be2 Bd7 11.0-0 *(11.Rb1 Rc8 12.0-0 Na5 13.Bd3 0-0 14.Bf4 b6 15.Qc1 c4 16.Bxh6 cxd3 17.Qg5 Nf5 18.Bxg7 Kh7 19.h6 Rg8 20.Qf6 Rxg7 21.hxg7 Kg8 22.g4 Nxg7 23.Ng5 Be8 24.cxd3 Qxc3 25.Rbc1 Qxc1* Costa,I (1876)-Nemeth Junior,H (2189) Recife 2022 0-1 *26.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 27.Kg2 Rc7 28.Qh6* 1-0 (28) Dowling,J-4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 Wijk aan Zee 2000 Telechess CBM 89 [Sh Bull 1957/3 #12]*)* 11...Na5 12.a4 Rc8 13.Re1 cxd4 14.Qxd4 Nf5 15.Qg4 Nc4 16.Bd3 Kf8 17.Rb1 b6 18.Qf4 Ne7 19.Nd4 Kg8 20.Nb5 Bxb5 21.axb5 Qd7 22.Ra1 Rc7 Fedorov,A (2575)-Morozevich,A (2745) Wijk aan Zee 2001 CI1-130 [Morozevich,Alexander] 0-1 (37)]

8...b6 9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.Bd3 c4



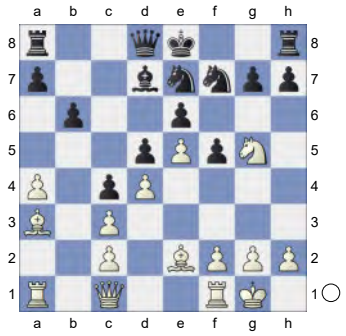
11.Be2 f5 1.18/18

[11...Nbc6± 0.47/17]

12.0-0 0.79/20

[⌓12.exf6 1.18/18 gxf6 13.Nh4]

12...Nbc6± 13.Ba3 Nd8 14.Qc1 Nf7 15.Ng5 Qd8



16.Nxf7 0x0.001fbb6f3187dp-1022s more active pieces. The black rooks are badly placed. **16...Kxf7 17.g4** 0.39/20

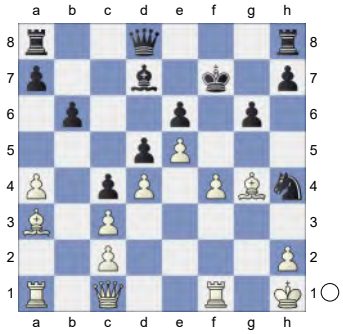
[Better is 17.Bh5+± 0.85/18 g6 18.Bf3 *(18.Qg5 Nc8∓)*]

17...fxg4 18.Bxg4 Ng6 19.f4 f5 is the strong threat. **19...Nh4** 0.67/19 Inhibits f5.

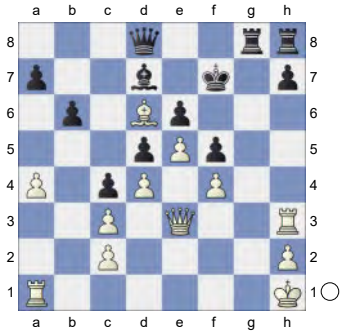
[19...Qh4= 0.13/19 20.Bf3 Bc6]

20.Kh1± g6

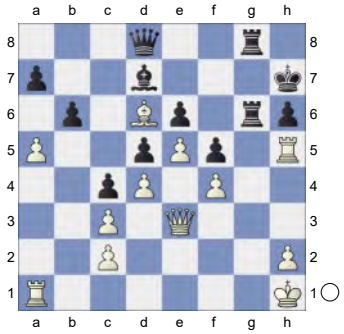
(Diagram)



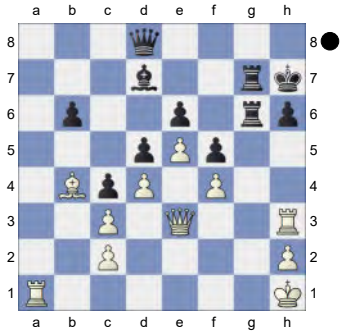
21.Bd6 0.26/21
[21.a5± 0.57/19]
21...Nf5 22.Bxf5 gxf5 23.Qe3 Qh4 Against Qh3 **24.Rf3** aiming for Rh3.
24...Rag8 0.49/23
[24...Rhg8= 0.01/24 was preferrable.]
25.Rh3 0.01/24
[25.a5!± 0.49/23 might be stronger.]
25...Qd8 0.92/21
[25...Qg4!= 0.01/24 keeps the balance. 26.Rg3 Qh5]



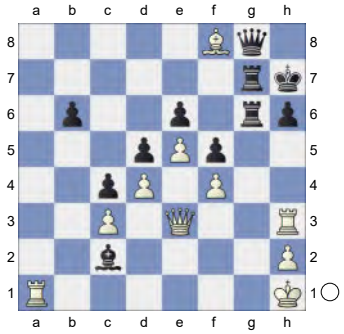
26.Rh6 0.01/23
[26.a5!± 0.92/21]
26...Rg6= 27.Qh3 Hoping for Rg1. Really sharp! **27...Kg7 28.Rh5** -0.94/24
[28.Rg1= 0.01/23]
28...h6!∓ 29.a5 Rg8 -0.10/24
[29...bxa5∓ -1.18/24 30.Qe3 *(30.Rg1 Ba4∓)* 30...Rg8]
30.Qe3 -0.91/24
[30.axb6= -0.10/24 Qxb6 31.Bb4]
30...Kh7 -0.31/23
[30...bxa5∓ -0.91/24 31.Rh3 Kh7]



31.Bb4? -1.97/26
[White should try 31.axb6∓ -0.31/23 axb6 32.Rh3]
31...R8g7 Threatens to win with ...bxa5.
32.axb6 axb6 33.Rh3

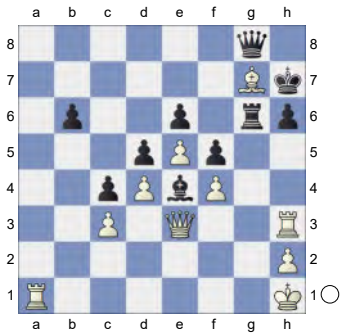


Qg8! 34.Bd6 Ba4 -1.13/22 **35.Bf8 Bxc2** -0.01/22
[Black should play 35...Qxf8∓ -1.21/23 36.Rxa4 Qe8]

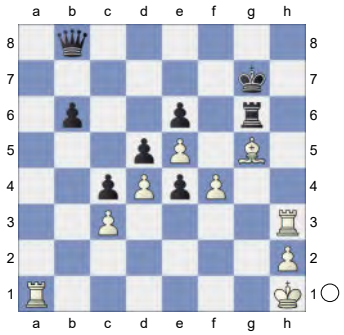


36.Bxg7= Be4+
[36...Qxg7!? 37.Rg3 Rg4+-]

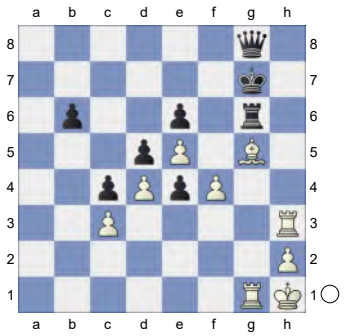
(Diagram)



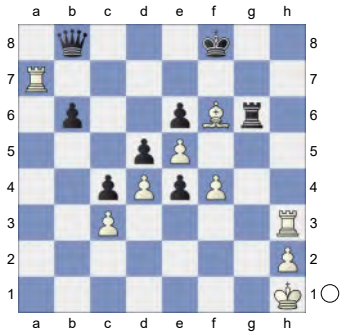
37.Qxe4! !! What a wonderful way to beat an IM, with a classy combination.
37...fxe4 **38.Bxh6** Threatening mate with Bf8+. **38...Qb8** 4.86/25 On 38... Rxh6, 39. Ra7+ Qg7 40. Rxh6+ Kxh6 41. Rxg7+ Kxg7 42. Kg2 Kg6 43. h4! and eventually an f4-f5 break will succeed.
[38...Qe8= -0.01/28 and Black is okay. 39.Bg5+ Kg8]
39.Bg5++- Kg7



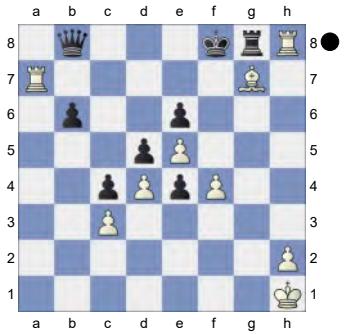
40.Rg1! Qg8



41.Ra1? -0.01/24
[41.Bf6++- 5.84/25 Kf7 42.Ra1]
41...Qb8 **42.Rg1** **Qg8!** **43.Bf6+** **Kf7** **44.Ra1** **Qb8** 9.52/23 Still trying to keep the rook out, but there is a surprise... Prevents Ra7+.
[⌓44...Rg4 4.41/23 45.Rh6 *(45.Rh8 Qxh8 46.Bxh8 Rxf4+-)* 45...e3]
45.Ra7+? 3.60/5 ! and the rook cannot be captured because of Rh7+.
[45.Rh7+ 9.52/23 Kf8 46.Raa7 Qxa7 47.Rxa7]
45...Kf8? #3/8
[45...Qxa7+- 3.60/5 46.Rh7+ Kg8 47.Rxa7 e3]



46.Rh8+ Skewer **46...Rg8** **47.Bg7+**

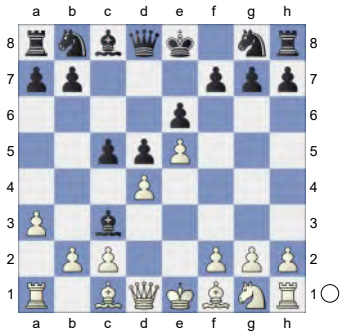


Deflection.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.49/ Black=0.59
1-0

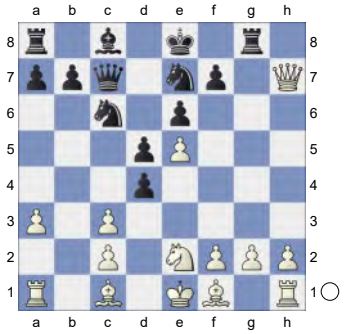
317 **C18**
□ **Sadovoy,Yury V**
■ **Anton,Volker Michael**
W-ch14 q03 corr8793 1987
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

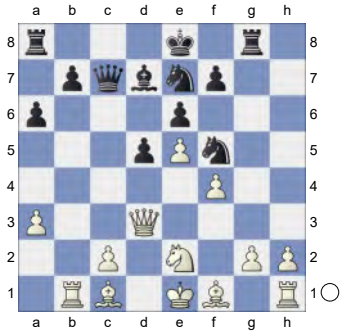


6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6

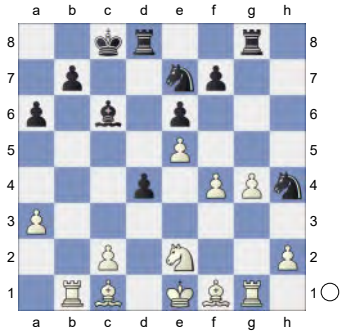


11.f4 Bd7 12.Qd3 dxc3 13.Nxc3 a6 14.Ne2 Nf5 15.Rb1 0.08/19
[15.h3± 0.70/19]
15...Nce7 0.70/20
[Black should try 15...Na5= 0.08/19]

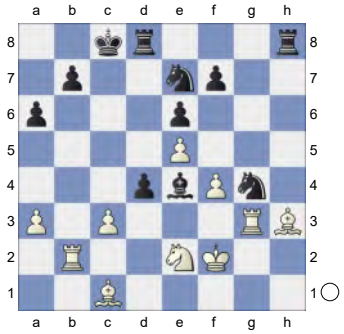
(Diagram)



16.Qc3 -0.28/19
[Better is 16.h3!± 0.70/20]
16...Qxc3+= 17.Nxc3 Bc6 The position is equal. **18.Ne2 d4 19.Rg1 0-0-0 20.g4** 0.01/22
[20.Kf2± 0.51/20]
20...Nh4

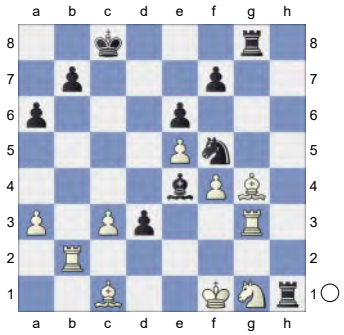


21.Rg3N Be4 22.Rb2 Nf3+ 23.Kf2 Threatens to win with Bg2. **23...Nxh2** Pair of Knights! **24.Bh3 Rh8 25.c3 Nxg4+** 0.74/22

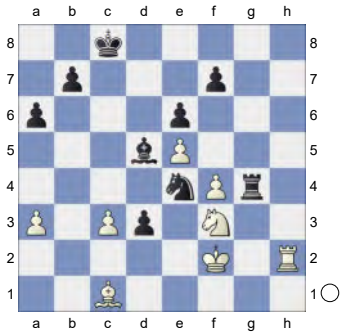


26.Bxg4± Rh2+ 27.Kg1 -0.01/20
[27.Ke1!± 0.69/24]
27...Rh1+= 28.Kf2 d3 29.Ng1 -0.81/21
[29.Rh3∓ -0.39/21 Rxh3 30.Bxh3 dxe2 31.Rxe2]

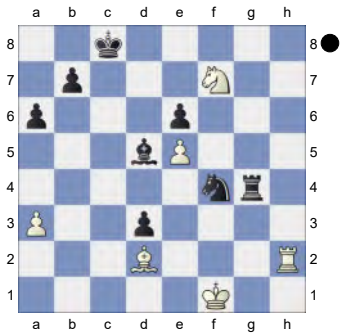
29...Rg8∓ &Nero is more active. **30.Kf1?** -2.84/20 This costs White the game.
[30.Bf3∓ -0.63/20 Bxf3 31.Rxg8+ Nxg8 32.Kxf3 Rxg1 33.Bd2 *(33.Be3 Ra1∓)*]
30...Nf5-+



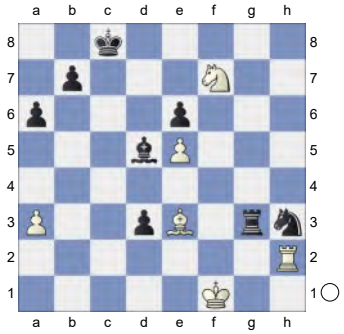
Deflection. Dancing on a razor blade.
31.Rh3 Rxg4 32.Rxh1 Bxh1 33.Rh2 Bd5 34.Kf2 Ng3 35.Nf3 Ne4+



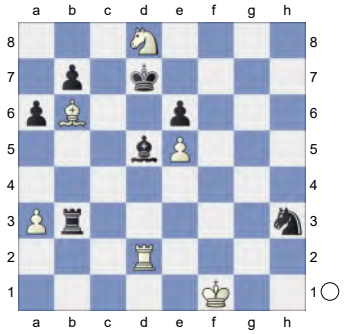
36.Kf1 Nxc3 37.Ng5 Ne2 38.Bd2 Nxf4 39.Nxf7



Black is clearly winning. **39...Nh3!**
40.Be3 Against Rg1+
[Don't play 40.Nd6+ Kd7 41.Be3 Ng5-+]
40...Rg3



41.Bb6 Kd7 42.Nd8 d2 43.Rxd2 Rb3

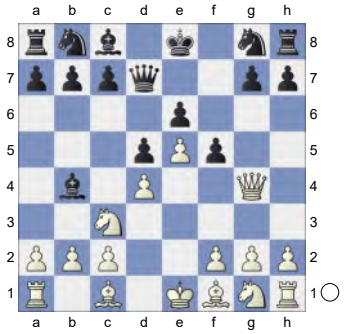


Weighted Error Value: White=0.54/ Black=0.27 (precise)
0-1

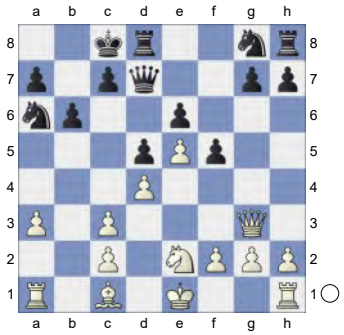
318 **C16**
□ **Vasiukov,Evgeni**
■ **Gulko,Boris F**
USSR 21/188 1976
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.Qg4 f5

(Diagram)



6.Qg3 b6 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Ne2 0-0-0



11.0-0N

[11.a4 Kb7 *(11...Nb8 12.a5 b5 13.a6 Qf7 14.Ba3 Nd7 15.Rb1 c6 16.c4 dxc4 17.Qf3 Nb8 18.Bd6 Rxd6 19.exd6 Qd7 20.d5 exd5 21.Nd4 g6 22.0-0 Nf6 23.Rfe1 Ne4 24.Qf4 Nxd6 25.Re6 Ne4 26.Qe5* Egan,M (2650)-Sandten,U (2270) 7...♗e7/Analyse 2008 CBM 146 [Zaitsev, I] 1-0 (35)*)* 12.0-0 Qf7 13.c4 Ne7 14.Bg5 dxc4 15.Qc3 Nd5 16.Qxc4 Ra8 17.Bd2 f4 18.Ra3 g5 19.a5 c6 20.axb6 axb6 21.Qb3 Nac7 22.c4 Rxa3 23.Qxa3 Ra8 24.Qb3 Ne7 25.Nc3 Qf5 Gebuhr,G-3...c5 4.d5 - Benoni Approach Guarulhos (m/3-rapid) 98/(76) 1957 Inf 46 [Thipsay, Praveen Mahadeo; Thipsay,B] 1-0 (41)]

[11.Nf4 Nb8 12.a4 Nc6 13.a5 Nxa5 14.Rxa5 bxa5 15.0-0 Kb8 16.Ba3 Ne7 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Qd3 c6 19.Qa6 Ka8 20.Qxc6+ Qb7 21.Qxe6 Rc8 22.g3 Rxc3 23.Nxd5 Rxc2 24.Ne3 Rb2 25.Qxf5 a4 Polgar,J (2555)-Adams,M (2505) Haifa 1989 1-0 (43)]

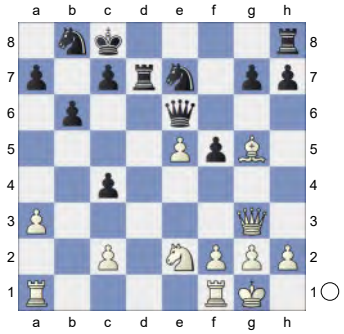
11...Nb8 12.c4 -0.07/19

[12.a4± 0.56/18]

12...dxc4= The position is equal. **13.d5** Against Nc6 **13...Ne7 14.dxe6**

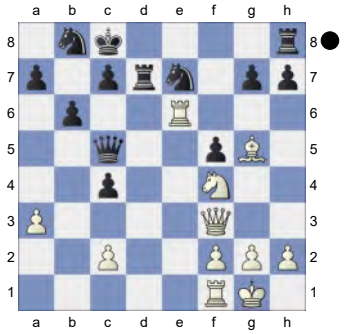
[14.d6!? Nd5 15.Bg5∓]

14...Qxe6 15.Bg5 Rd7!



16.Nf4 Qxe5 17.Rae1 Qd6 18.Re6 Qc5 19.Qf3 -1.88/20

[Better is 19.Qh3∓ -0.70/19]



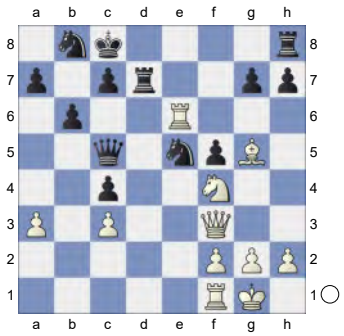
19...Nec6!-+ Strongly threatening ...Nd4.

20.c3 -2.52/20 Prevents Nd4.

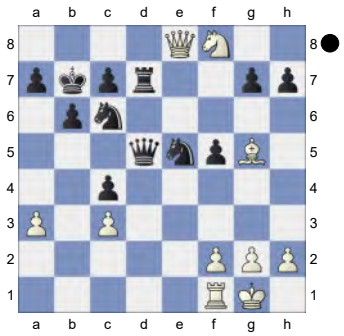
[⌓20.Re3 -1.76/20]

20...Ne5

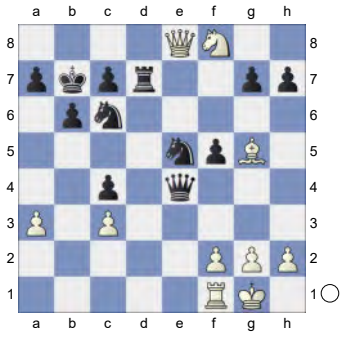
(Diagram)



21.Qh5 -2.84/20
[21.Qa8 -1.87/20 keeps fighting.]
21...Nbc6 22.Re8+ -4.10/22
[⌓22.h3 -2.69/19]
22...Rxe8 23.Qxe8+ Kb7 24.Ne6 Qd5 25.Nf8

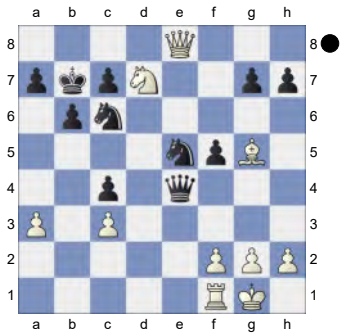


Qe4!

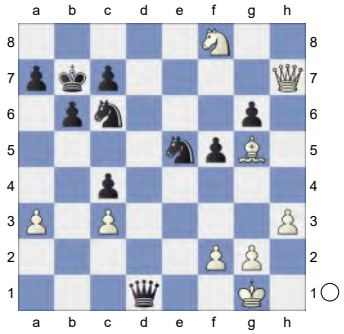


26.Qh5 Inhibits Nf3+.
[26.Nxd7?

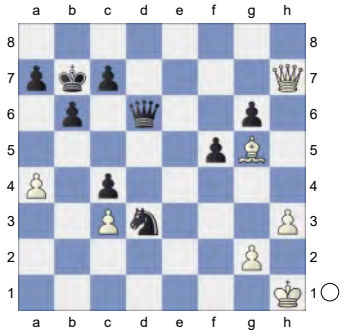
(Diagram)



too greedy. Nf3+! 27.gxf3 Qxe8]
26...g6 27.Qh3 -6.72/22
[27.Qh4 -3.42/20 Qxh4 28.Bxh4]
27...Rd3 28.Qxh7 Qe2 29.h3 Rd1 30.Rxd1 Qxd1+→

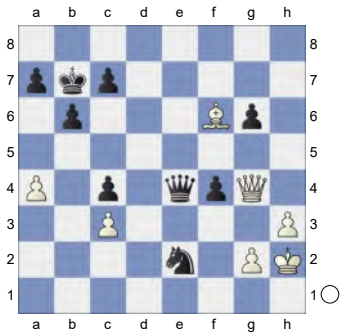


Black attacks with force. **31.Kh2 Qd6 32.f4 Qxf8 33.fxe5 Nxe5**
[Don't go for 33...Qxa3? 34.Bf4-+]
34.a4 Qd6 (-> ...Ng4+) **35.Kh1 Nd3**

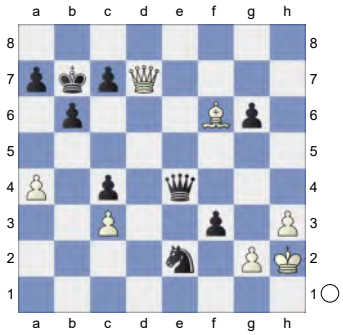


36.Qh4 f4 37.Kg1 Qe5 38.Bf6 Qe4 39.Qg4 Nc1 Black is clearly winning.
40.Kh2 Ne2

(Diagram)



41.Qd7 -9.01/22
[⌓41.h4 -4.68/23]
41...f3

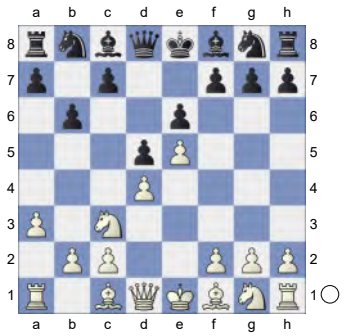


White got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.64/ Black=0.16 (very precise)
0-1

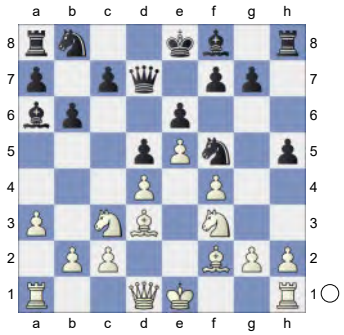
319 **C16**
□ **Zuidema,Coen**
■ **Andersson,Ulf**
15/213 Wijk aan Zee 1973
[Kitty Kat]

C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8

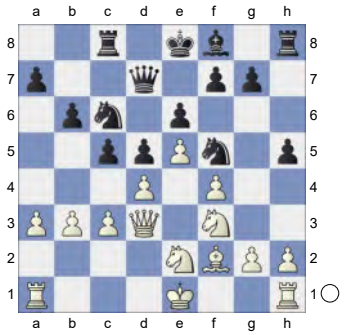
(Diagram)



6.f4 Ne7 7.Be3 h5 8.Nf3 Qd7 9.Bf2 White is slightly better. **9...Nf5 10.Bd3 Ba6**

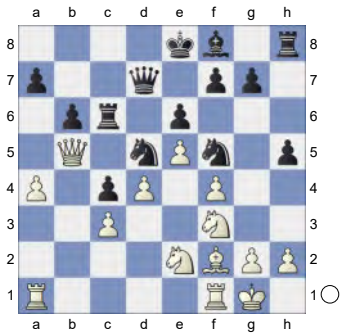


11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Qd3 Nb8 13.Ne2 c5 14.b3N -0.07/18
[⌓14.Ng3 0.28/17]
14...Nc6= 15.c3 Rc8

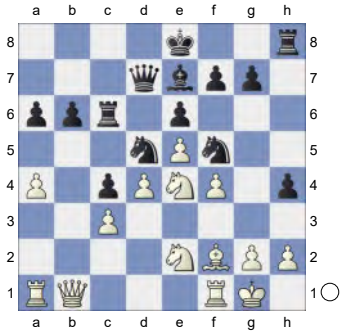


16.0-0 c4 17.bxc4 dxc4 18.Qb1
[18.Qxc4 Ncxd4! 19.Qd3 Nxe2+ 20.Qxe2 Rxc3∓]
18...Nce7 19.a4 Nd5 20.Qb5 Rc6 0.16/20
[⌓20...Be7 -0.19/18]

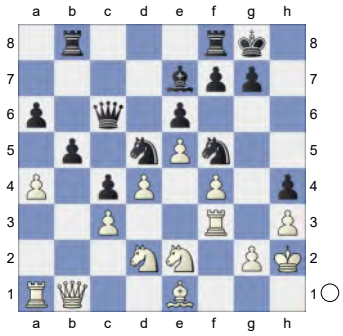
(Diagram)



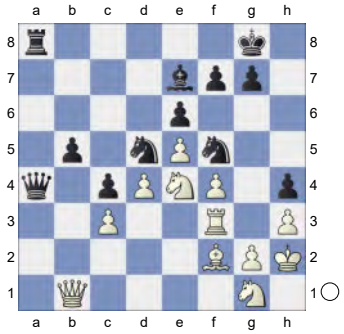
21.Nd2 -0.43/18
[Better is 21.a5= 0.16/20]
21...Nc7 22.Qb1 Be7 23.Ng3 -0.60/20
[23.Qe4= -0.13/18]
23...Nd5∓ 24.Ne2 a6 0x0.001fbb6f315adp-1022s more active pieces. **25.Ne4 h4**



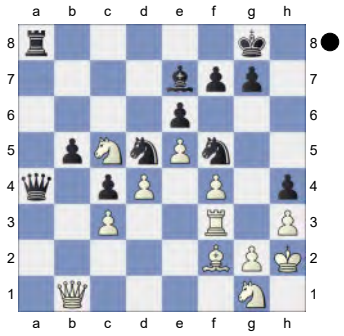
Black continues to play with concentration. **26.h3 Rc8 27.Kh2 Qc6 28.Be1 Rb8 29.Rf3** -1.40/20
[⩲29.Rg1 -1.07/19]
29...0-0∓ 30.Nd2 -2.07/21
[30.g4∓ -1.29/18 hxg3+ 31.N2xg3]
30...b5-+



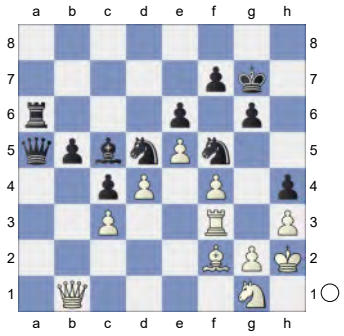
31.axb5 axb5
[Not 31...Rxb5 32.Qc2∓ *(32.Qa2 Rc8∓)*]
32.Bf2? -3.17/22
[32.Ne4 -1.64/20 was necessary.]
32...Ra8
[Wrong is 32...b4? 33.cxb4 c3 34.Qc2-+]
33.Rxa8 Rxa8 34.Ne4 Qa6 Threatens to win with ...Qa2. **35.Ng1 Qa4**



36.Nc5

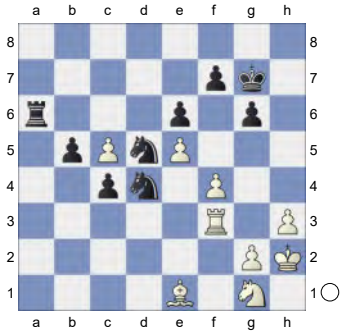


Qa5 37.Ne4 g6 38.Qb2 Kg7 39.Qb1 Ra6 40.Nc5? -6.48/21
[40.Be1 -3.75/21 Qa1 41.Qxa1 Rxa1 42.Bd2]
40...Bxc5



Black is clearly winning. **41.dxc5 Nxc3 42.Qe1 Nd5** Hoping for ...Qxe1. Pair of

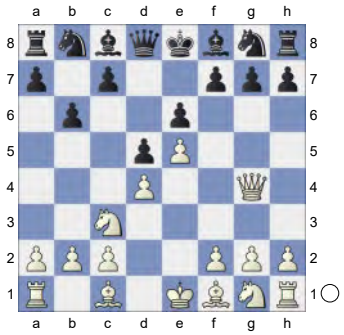
Knights! **43.Bxh4 Qxe1 44.Bxe1 Nd4**



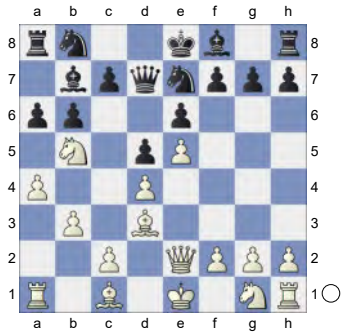
Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/ Black=0.05 (flawless)
0-1

320 **C16**
□ **Ljubojevic,Ljubomir**
■ **Andersson,Ulf**
15/218 Hilversum 1973
[Kitty Kat]

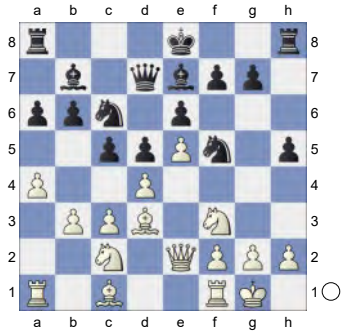
C16: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5: Lines without ...c5
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.Qg4 Bf8



6.a4 Ba6
[6...Nc6 7.Bb5 Bd7 8.Bg5 Nge7 9.Nf3 h6 10.Qh3 Nb4 11.Rc1 a6 12.Be2 c5 13.0-0 Qc7 14.dxc5 bxc5 15.Rfe1 Rg8 16.Bd2 Nbc6 17.Bd3 g6 18.b3 Bg7 19.Qg3 Nb4 20.h4 Rb8 21.Bf1 Beliavsky,A (2632)-Bologan,V (2690) Sibenik 2010 CBM 144 [Postny,Evgeny] 1-0 (77)]
7.Nb5 Qd7 8.Bd3 Ne7N White is slightly better.
[8...Bb7 9.b3 a6 10.Na3 c5 11.c3 Nc6 12.Nc2 cxd4 13.cxd4 Nb4 14.Nxb4 Bxb4+ 15.Bd2 Bxd2+ 16.Kxd2 f5 17.Qh5+ g6 18.Qg5 Qf7 19.Ke2 Ne7 20.Nf3 h6 21.Qd2 Nc6 22.b4 g5 23.b5 Lassen,H-Schestak, H Palma de Mallorca 1974 Telechess CBM 89 [FS 3] 1-0 (39)]
9.Qe2 Bb7 10.b3 a6

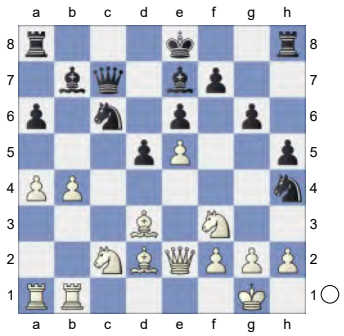


11.Na3 c5 12.c3 Nbc6 13.Nf3 Nf5 14.Nc2 h5 15.0-0 Be7

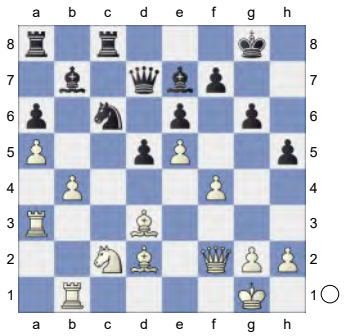


16.Bd2 g6 17.Rfb1 Qc7 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.b4 cxb4 1.21/20
[⌓19...0-0 0.76/16]
20.cxb4±
[20.Nxb4 Nxb4 21.cxb4 0-0±]
20...Nh4 2.23/21
[20...Qd8± 1.58/18 21.b5 axb5]

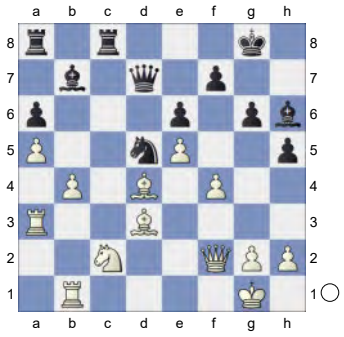
(Diagram)



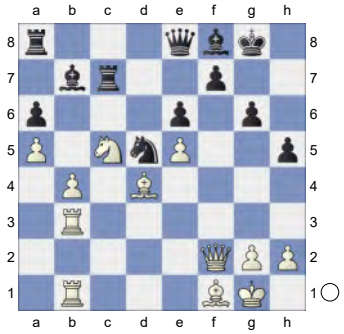
21.Nxh4+- Bxh4 22.f4 0.92/19
[22.b5!+- 1.92/19 axb5 23.axb5 *(23.g3 Bd8±)* 23...Rxa1 24.Rxa1]
22...Be7 23.a5 0.63/20
[23.Kh1± 1.09/19]
23...0-0≌ 24.Qf2 Qd7 25.Ra3 Rfc8



26.Be3 Bf8 0.67/20
[⌓26...d4 0.33/19 27.Bxd4 *(27.Nxd4 Nxb4 28.Be2 Nd5∓)* 27...Nxd4 28.Qxd4 *(28.Nxd4 Rc7=)* 28...Qxd4+ 29.Nxd4 Rd8]
27.Bb6 Ne7 28.Qe2 -0.32/20
[28.h3± 0.82/17]
28...d4!∓ 29.Qf2
[29.Nxd4 Nd5 30.Nf3 Bxb4∓]
29...Nd5 30.Bxd4 Bh6

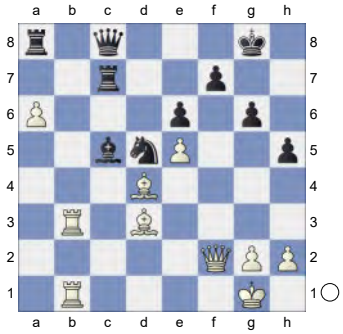


31.Bf1 Bxf4 0.26/21
[31...Qc6 -0.20/21 should be considered. 32.Bc5 Nxb4 33.Bxb4 *(33.Rxb4 Qxc5 34.Rxb7 Qxc2=)* 33...Qxc2 34.Qxc2 Rxc2]
32.Ne1= Bh6 33.Nd3 Rc7 0.92/19
[33...Ne7≌ 0.52/19 is more appropriate.]
34.Nc5± Qe8 35.Rab3 0.74/18
[⌓35.Ne4 1.18/18]
35...Bf8 1.07/20
[⌓35...Qd8 0.74/18]

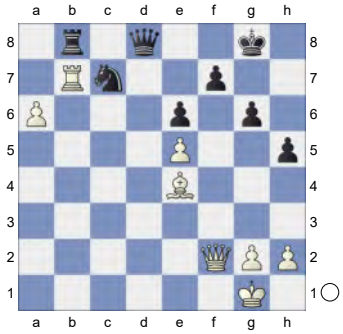


36.Nxb7 Rxb7 37.b5 axb5 38.Bxb5 0.10/22
[38.a6!± 0.85/23 Re7 39.Rxb5 *(39.Bxb5 Qc8+-)*]
38...Qc8 39.a6 Rc7 1.13/22
[39...Rxa6= 0.03/20 40.Bxa6 Rxb3 41.Rxb3 *(41.Bxc8 Rxb1+ 42.Qf1 Rxf1+ 43.Kxf1 Bb4∓)* 41...Qxa6]
40.Bd3! A strong pair of Bishops.
[40.a7 Raxa7 41.Bxa7 Rxa7≌]
40...Bc5 2.47/22
[40...Nb4± 0.99/21]

(Diagram)

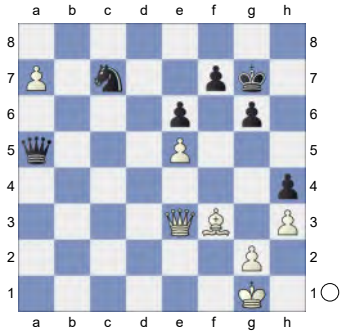


41.Bxc5!+- Rxc5 42.Rb7
[42.Rf1 Rc7±]
42...Rc7 43.Rxc7 Nxc7 44.Rb7 Rb8
45.Be4 Hoping for h3. **45...Qd8**

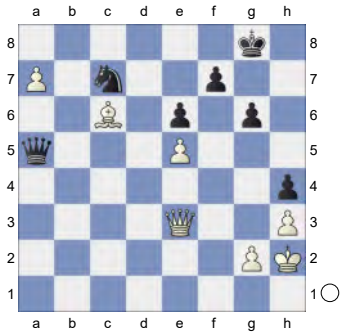


46.Rxb8 1.20/20
[46.g3+- 1.70/20]
46...Qxb8± 47.a7 Qb4 48.Qe3 0.70/23
[48.a8R+± 1.16/24 Nxa8 49.Bxa8]
48...Qa5 1.15/24
[48...h4± 0.70/23]
49.Bf3 0.83/23
[⊼49.h4 1.15/24]
49...h4 50.h3 0.80/25
[⊼50.Bc6 1.22/23]
50...Kg7 1.30/27
[⊼50...Qa1+ 0.80/25 51.Kh2 Kg7]

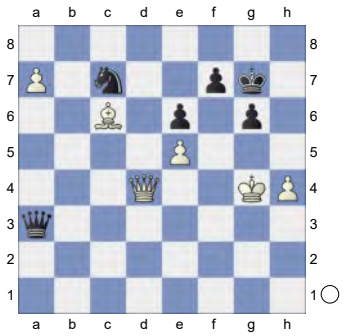
(Diagram)



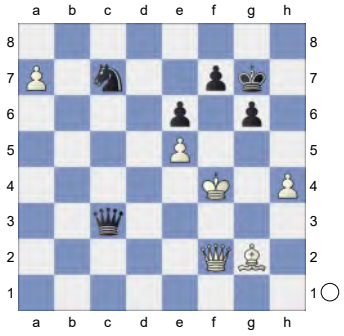
51.Kh2 0.77/26
[⊼51.g3! 1.30/27]
51...Kg8 1.44/26
[Better is 51...Qa1 0.77/26]
52.Bc6 Kg7 53.Qd4 0.81/27
[⊼53.g3 1.34/24]
53...Qa3 54.Qf2 0.81/26 Active counter play!
[54.Qxh4?! Qxa7 55.Qf4 Kg8=]
[White should try 54.a8B 1.21/22 Nxa8 55.Qxh4]
54...Qa5 55.Qe3 0.01/26
[55.Qxh4?! Qxa7 56.Qf6+ Kg8=]
[55.Qf6+± 0.97/25 Kg8 56.Qd8+ *(56.Qxh4 Qxa7 57.Bf3 Qc5=)* 56...Kg7 57.Qd4 *(57.Qxh4 Qxa7 58.Bf3 Nd5=; 57.Qf6+ Kg8±)*]
55...Kg8 1.33/24
[55...Nd5= 0.01/26 56.Bxd5 *(56.a8R Qxa8 57.Bxd5 Qxd5∓; 56.Qf2 Nb6=)* 56...Qxd5]



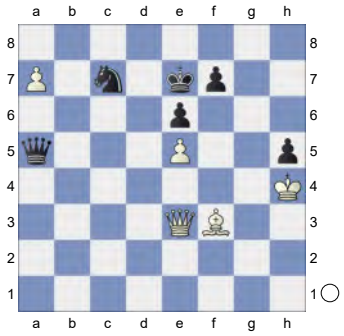
56.g3! hxg3+ 57.Kxg3 Kg7 2.06/24
[57...Nd5± 1.36/25]
58.h4 Kf8 59.Qd4 Kg7 60.Kg4 Qa3



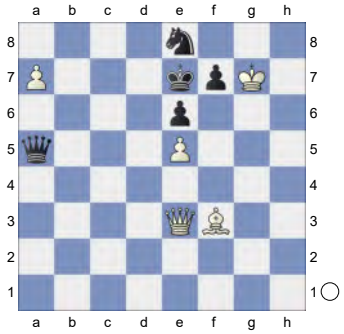
61.Qf2 Kg8 1.73/26
[61...Qa6± 1.12/25 keeps fighting.]
62.Qb6 Really sharp! **62...Kg7 63.Qf2** 0.01/22
[63.Qxc7?! Qb4+ 64.Kg3 Qc3+ 65.Kh2 Qc2+ 66.Kg3 Qc3+ 67.Kh2 Qc2+ 68.Kh1 Qc1+ 69.Kh2 Qf4+ 70.Kh3 Qe3+ 71.Kg4 Qd4+ 72.Kf3 Qd3+ 73.Kg4 Qd4+ 74.Kh3 Qe3+ 75.Kg4 Qd4+=]
[White should play 63.Qd4± 1.08/24]
63...Kg8!= 64.Bg2 Qc3 65.Kf4 0.76/21
[65.Qf4+- 1.77/23 and the rest is easy.]
65...Kg7? 2.58/23
[65...Qc4+± 0.76/21 was necessary. 66.Kg5 Qc3]



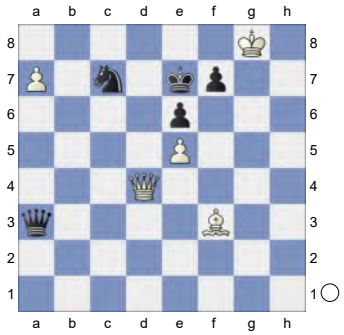
66.Qe3 Qb4+ 67.Kg3 Qa5 68.Bf3 Kf8 69.h5 gxh5 70.Kh4
[Much less strong is 70.Bxh5 Ke8 71.Qd4 Qe1+ 72.Kg4 Qa5]
70...Ke7 4.59/19
[⌓70...Qa2 3.17/21 71.Kh3 *(71.Bxh5 Qh2+ 72.Kg5 Qg2+ 73.Bg4 Ke7+-)* 71...Qc2 72.Bxh5 Qf5+ 73.Bg4 *(73.Kh4 Ke8+-)* 73...Qc2]



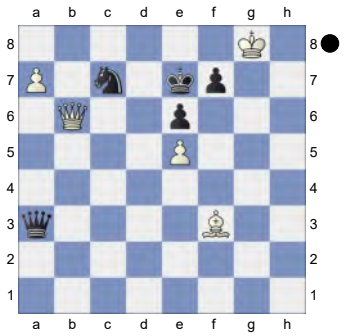
71.Qd4+- Threatening mate with Qd6+.
71...Kf8 72.Kxh5 And now Kh6 would win. **72...Kg7 73.Qe3** Inhibits Qa3.
73...Kf8 74.Kh6 Ke7 75.Kg7 7.94/20
[⌓75.Bc6 #10/21 Kd8 76.Qg5+ Kc8 77.Qe7 Qd2+ 78.Kg7 Qg5+ 79.Qxg5 Ne8+ 80.Bxe8 Kb7 81.Qe7+ Kb6 82.a8Q f5 83.Qd6#]
75...Ne8+



76.Kg8 White mates. **76...Nc7 77.Qd4 Qa3**



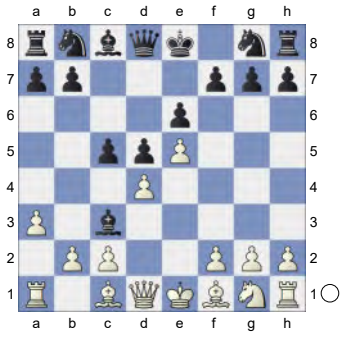
78.Qb6!



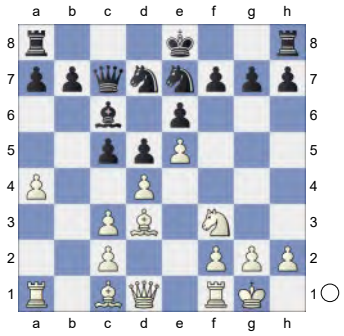
Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.23 (precise)
1-0

321 **C19**
□ **Larsen,Bent**
■ **Koblents**
Leningrad Interzonal 1970
[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4
1.e4 Notes by Bobby Fischer. **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Nf3 I could have played Qg4 but was influenced against it because Petrosian as Black had recently beaten Diez Del Corral at Palma de Mallorca in this line. **7...Ne7 8.a4N**
[8.h4 Nbc6 *(8...b6 9.h5 h6 10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.Bd3 Ba4 12.0-0 Nd7 13.Re1 0-0-0 14.Nh4 Kb7 15.Ra2 Qc6 16.Qg4 Rdg8* Chess Informant Eco-N,N Survey 2006 *)* 9.h5 h6 10.Be2 Bd7 11.0-0 *(11.Rb1 Rc8 12.0-0 Na5 13.Bd3 0-0 14.Bf4 b6 15.Qc1 c4 16.Bxh6 cxd3 17.Qg5 Nf5 18.Bxg7 Kh7 19.h6 Rg8 20.Qf6 Rxg7 21.hxg7 Kg8 22.g4 Nxg7 23.Ng5 Be8 24.cxd3 Qxc3 25.Rbc1 Qxc1* Costa,I (1876)-Nemeth Junior,H (2189) Recife 2022 0-1 *26.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 27.Kg2 Rc7 28.Qh6* 1-0 (28) Dowling,J-4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 Wijk aan Zee 2000 Telechess CBM 89 [Sh Bull 1957/3 #12]*)* 11...Na5 12.a4 Rc8 13.Re1 cxd4 14.Qxd4 Nf5 15.Qg4 Nc4 16.Bd3 Kf8 17.Rb1 b6 18.Qf4 Ne7 19.Nd4 Kg8 20.Nb5 Bxb5 21.axb5 Qd7 22.Ra1 Rc7 Fedorov,A (2575)-Morozevich,A (2745) Wijk aan Zee 2001 CI1-130 [Morozevich,Alexander] 0-1 (37)]
8...Bd7 An interesting idea, Black plays his Bishop to c6 the knight's square and his Knight to d7, the Bishop's square.
9.Bd3 Bc6 10.0-0 &Bianco is more active.
[10.dxc5 Nd7=]
[10.Ng5 is interesting. h6 11.Qh5 g6 12.Qh3]
10...Nd7



11.Ba3 0.25/17 To prevent 11...Nb6. But clearly 11 Ng5! offered excellent prospects on the King's flank for White,

ie: 11…h6 12 Qh5 g6 (or 12…0-0? 13 Nh7 Re8 14 Nf6+ gxf 15 Qh6 f5 16 Bg5! and wins) 13 Qh3 or Qh4.

[11.Ng5± 0.65/18 should be considered.]

11...h6 12.Re1 0.16/20

[12.Bxc5 Nxc5 13.dxc5 Bd7=]

[12.Nh4± 0.55/18 feels stronger.]

12...b6 0.70/19

[Better is 12...c4!= 0.16/20]

13.Nd2 !? A standard way of indirectly protecting the a-Pawn. **13...Bxa4** ? Risky. **14.dxc5** -0.04/20 Possible also was 14 Qg4 and if 14…c4 15 Bxc4! dxc4 16 Bxe7 with advantage to White. But a better chance for Black is 14…0-0 15 dxc5 b5 16 c6 Nxc6! 17 Bxf8 Rxf8 with compensation for the exchange.

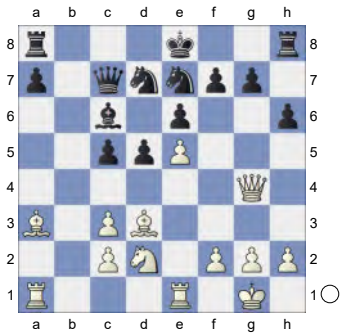
[14.Qg4± 0.63/18]

14...bxc5? 1.53/21 ? I was afraid of 14... Nxe5 15 cxb6 axb6 16 Bf1 (White is not without some compensation for the Pawn, ie: 16…Qxc3? 17 Re3 Qc7 18 Bb2 or 16…Ne5g6 17 c4 but best for Black is 16...Bc6!

[14...Nxe5= -0.04/20 15.cxb6 axb6]

15.Qg4!± ! **15...Bc6** 1.81/20

[15...c4± 1.43/20 might work better.]



16.Qxg7+- Rg8 17.Qxh6 Nxe5 2.30/20

[17...Ng6 1.68/19 was called for.]

18.Bxc5 1.35/19 ? Qf4 was crushing as after 18…c4! (only move) 19 Bf1 Ne7g6 18 Qg5 Black is practically in zuzwang and white threatens 19 h4 and h5.

[18.Qf4+- 2.30/20]

18...d4± 19.Be4 -0.01/21 This bishop pair is nice.

[19.cxd4? Rxg2+ 20.Kf1 Rxf2+!! 21.Kxf2 *(21.Kg1? Ng4-+)* 21...Ng4+ 22.Ke2 Nxh6-+]

[19.g3!± 1.40/19 dxc3 20.Nc4 Nf3+ 21.Kf1]

19...dxc3=

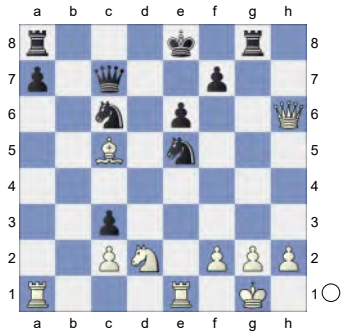
[19...Bxe4? 20.Nxe4 Nf3+ 21.Kh1+-]

20.Bxc6+!

[20.Nb3 Bxe4 21.Rxe4 Nf3+ 22.Kh1 Nd2∓]

20...N7xc6? 2.11/21

[20...Qxc6= -0.27/20 and Black stays safe. 21.Ne4 Nf3+ 22.Kh1 Nxe1 23.Rxe1 0-0-0!]



?? Of course 20…Qxc6! 21 Ne4 Nf3+ 22 Kh1 (22 Kf1 Nd2+ 23 Nxd2 cxd2 wins a piece) Nxe1 23 Rxe1 0-0-0! and Black should win because 24 Bxe7 is met by 24…Qxe4!! and mate in four moves - For 23 Nf6+ Kd8 24 Bxe7+ Kxe7 25 Nxg8+ Rxg8 26 f3! Nxf3 27 Rxa7+ Kd6 28 Qf4+ Ne5 and Black should win after some more checks. If 26 Ra7+ at once Ke8 27 f3 Qc4 mates quickly **21.Ne4!**↑ White has strong initiative.

[21.Qh7? 0-0-0 22.Ne4 Nf3+ 23.Kh1 Nxe1 24.Nd6+ Kb8 25.Rb1+ Ka8-+]

21...0-0-0 21...Nf3+ 22 Kh1 Nxe1 23 Nf6+ and Nxg8 wins.

[21...Nf3+? 22.Kh1 0-0-0 23.gxf3+-]

22.Red1? -0.17/19 Many other moves were more tenacious.

[22.Qh3± 1.54/20]

22...Ng4? 3.42/22 ? A pleasant surprise; 22...Nf3+ 23 Kh1 (23 Kf1 Nxh2+ Ke2 Qe5 etc.) 23...Rh8! 24 Bd6 Rh6 25 Bc7 Kc7 26 gxf Rdh8 with good chances for Black.

[22...Nf3+= -0.17/19 and Black is okay. 23.Kh1 Rh8! 24.Nd6+ Kb8 25.Rdb1+ Ka8 26.Qxh8 Rxh8 27.gxf3 Rb8 28.Rxb8+ Kxb8]

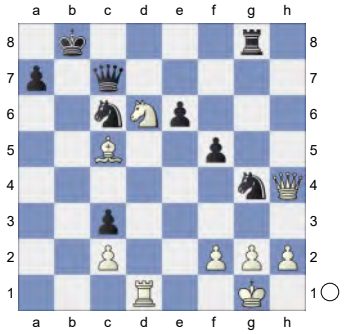
23.Qh4 White plays on Black's weak d6 square and a safe King position. White takes over the initiative. Hoping for Nd6+. **23...Rxd1+** 1.19/5

[Black should play 23...Nge5+- 2.52/21 24.Qh3 *(24.Nd6+ Rxd6 25.Bxd6 Nf3+ 26.Kf1 Nxh4=)* 24...Nc4 25.Qxc3 N6a5]

24.Rxd1± Chess con chili. **24...f5 25.Nd6+**

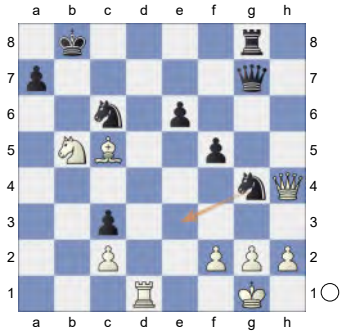
[25.Nxc3 Rd8 26.Qg3 Rxd1+ 27.Nxd1 Qxg3 28.hxg3 *(28.fxg3 Kd7±)* 28...Nf6±]

25...Kb8



26.Nb5 Qg7

(Diagram)



or 26...Qa5 27 Qh7! **27.Bd6+** 1.42/22

[White should try 27.Nxa7!+- 2.58/21 Nxa7 28.Qg3+ Ne5 29.Bd6+ Kc8 30.Bxe5 Qxg3 31.fxg3 *(31.hxg3 Rg4±)*]

27...Kb7 Threatens to win with ...Ne3!

28.Rb1 1.14/19

[⌓28.Qg3 1.53/20 Nf6 29.Qxg7+ *(29.Nxc3 Qxg3 30.Bxg3 Nh5±)* 29...Rxg7 30.Nxc3]

28...Kc8? 4.55/22

[28...Nge5± 1.14/19 29.Qh3 Qg4 30.Qxg4 *(30.Nxc3+ Kc8±)* 30...Rxg4]

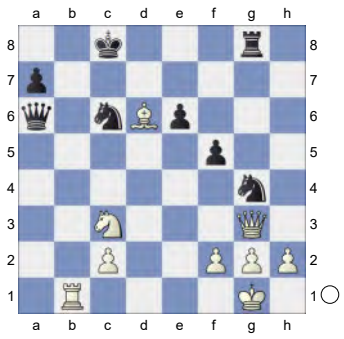
29.Qg3? 1.14/20 Bg3! was crushing.

[29.Bc5+- 4.55/22 Intending Nd6+ and mate. Rd8 30.Nd6+ Rxd6 31.Bxd6]

29...Qb7? 6.05/20 ? ...Nf6 gave more chances for saving the game.

[29...Nf6± 1.14/20]

30.Nxc3 Maybe Black was playing for traps, ie: 30 Bf4 Rd8! and 31 Nd6+? Rxd6 (or 31 h3? Qxb5! or 31 Nxc3? Qxb1+ etc. **30...Qa6**

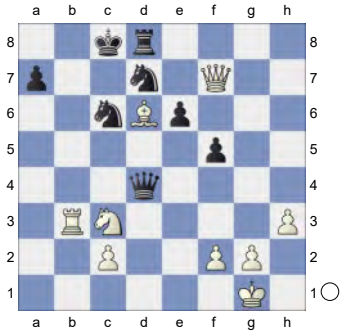


31.h3 31 Qf3! **31...Nf6** **32.Qh4** Qf3 was better. **32...Nd7** **33.Qh7** **Rd8** **34.Qf7** 2.81/22

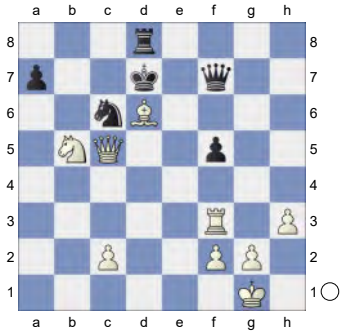
[⌓34.Bg3 5.70/23]

34...Qc4+- **35.Rb3** Nb5 is the strong threat. **35...Qd4?** 11.70/23

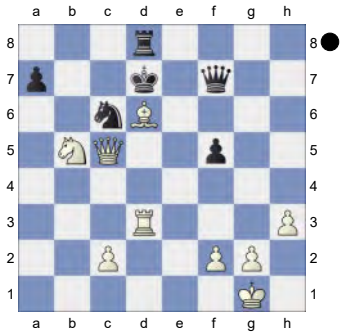
[35...Nd4± 1.46/21]



?? ...Nd4! **36.Qxe6** The rest is simple enough. White wants to mate with Nd5. **36...Qf6** **37.Qd5** **Nde5** **38.Nb5** Nxa7+! would kill now. **38...Qf7** **39.Qc5** **Nf3+** **40.Rxf3** **Kd7**



41.Rd3



Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/Black=1.15

1-0

322 **C19**

□ **Quednau,Hans Joachim**

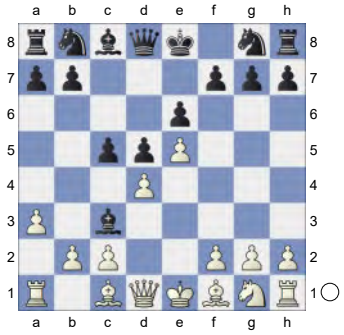
■ **Richter**

DDR-corr F.M.Endrunde 1968

[Kitty Kat]

C19: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 Nf3 and 7 a4

Berzinsh,Roland: 'Berzinsh,R: 'Inf 73/(334)" **1.e4** **e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** **Bb4** **4.e5** **c5** **5.a3** **Bxc3+**



6.bxc3 **Ne7** **7.Nf3** **Nbc6**

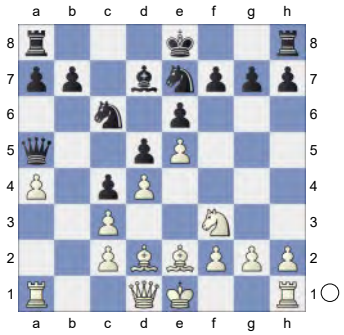
[7...Bd7 8.h4 Ba4 9.h5 h6 10.Bd3 Nd7 11.Rh3 Qc7 12.Kf1 0-0-0 13.Bf4 Kb8 14.Qd2 Rc8 15.Rg3 c4 16.Be2 Nf5 17.Rh3 Qd8 18.g4 Ne7 19.Nh4 Ka8 20.Be3 Qg8 21.f4 g6 22.hxg6 Rusakov,Y-Hubert,C Budapest 2012 The Week in Chess 401 [Nyman in Kirjeshakki]]

8.a4N

[8.Rb1 Qc7 9.h4 h6 10.h5 Bd7 11.Be2 0-0-0 12.0-0 f6 13.Bf4 C 19/01 f5 14.dxc5 g5 15.hxg6 Nxg6 16.Bh2 Qa5 17.Nd4 Qxc5 18.Nb5 Ngxe5 19.Re1 a6 20.Nd4 Nf7 21.Qd3 Qa7 22.Qg3 e5 23.Qg6 Rhf8 24.Nxc6 Bxc6 25.Qe6+ Rd7 26.Bh5 Ng5 27.Qxe5 Ne4 28.Rxe4

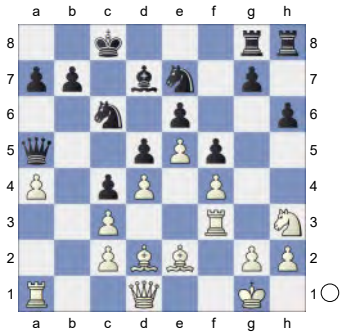
Bologan,V (2641)-Ye Jiangchuan (2670) Beijing 2000 CBM 78 [Gofshtein,L] 1-0 (38)]
[8.h4 Qa5 9.Bd2 cxd4 10.cxd4 Qa4 11.h5 *(11.c4 Qxd1+ 12.Rxd1 b6 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.Rc1 Bb7 15.h5 h6 16.Bd3 0-0 17.Rh3 Rfd8 18.g4 Nde7 19.g5 Nxd4 20.Nxd4 Rxd4 21.Rc7 Bg2 22.Rg3 Rad8 23.Rxe7 Rxd3 24.Rxd3 Rxd3 25.g6 fxg6* Strautins,V (2520)-Albrecht,R (2484) ICCF Email 2004 ½-½ *)* 11...Nxd4 12.Bd3 h6 13.Bb4 Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Nc6 15.Qe2 a6 16.Bd6 Nd4 17.Qd2 Bd7 18.Rb1 Rc8 19.0-0 Nb5 20.Rb4 Qa5 21.Bxb5 Bxb5 22.Rfb1 Berzinsh,R (2425)-Petrik,T (2235) Slovensko 73/(334) 1998 CI1-130 [Berzinsh,Roland]]

8...Qa5 9.Bd2 Bd7 10.Be2 c4



11.Ng5 h6 12.Nh3 0-0-0 13.0-0 f6 14.f4 f5 15.Rf3 White is slightly better.

15...Rdg8

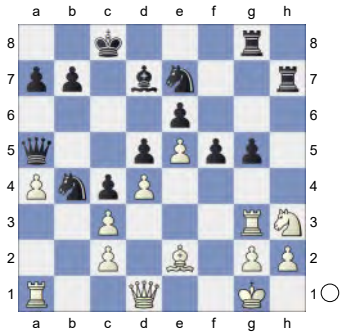


16.Rg3 g6 17.Bc1 0.20/18
[17.Qe1⩲ 0.53/17]

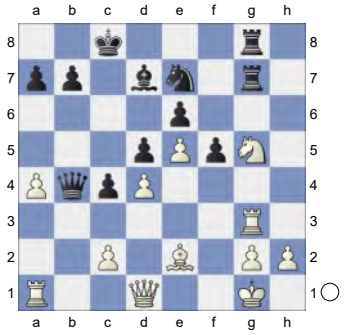
17...Rh7 18.Ba3 g5! 0.54/21
[18...Rhg7= 0.23/19]

19.fxg5⩲ hxg5 20.Bb4 -0.27/22
[20.Rxg5 Qxc3 21.Rxg8+ Nxg8∓]
[20.Nxg5⩲ 0.49/20 Rhg7 21.Bc1]

20...Nxb4=

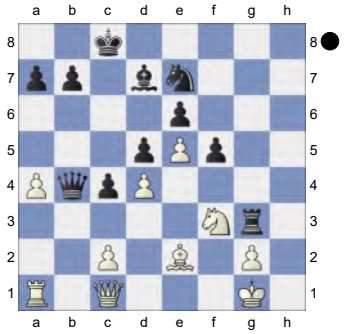


21.cxb4 Qxb4 22.Nxg5 Rhg7!

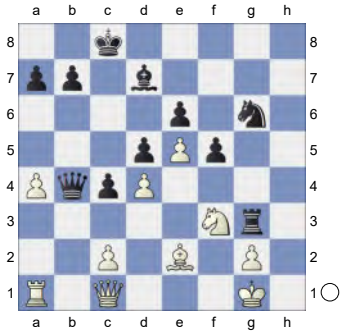


Hoping for ...f4. **23.Nf3** -1.95/21
[23.c3∓ -0.58/20 Qb6 24.a5]

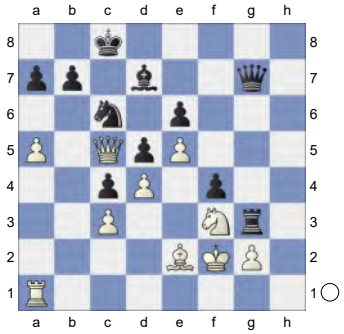
23...Rxg3-+ 24.hxg3 Rxg3 25.Qc1



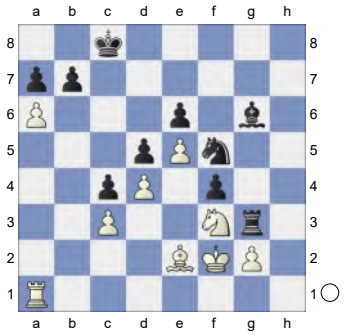
Ng6 -1.05/19
[And not 25...Bxa4 26.c3 Qb3 27.Kf2=]
[25...Rxf3!-+ -1.65/20 26.Bxf3 *(26.gxf3? Qc3-+)* 26...Qc3]
is the wrong capture.



26.c3∓ Qf8 &Nero is more active. **27.Kf2 f4 28.a5 Ne7 29.Qa3 Qg7 30.Qc5+ Nc6**

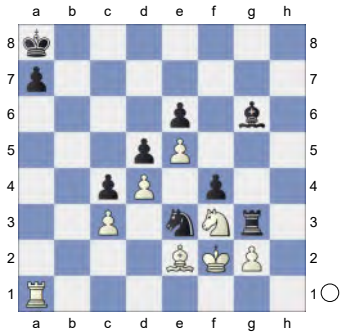


31.Bf1 -2.10/22
[31.Rg1∓ -1.18/23 only move.]
31...Be8 32.Qd6 Qe7↑ Black is in control. The board is on fire. **33.Qxe7 Nxe7 34.Be2 Bg6** -0.59/23
[34...Nf5-+ -1.78/22 Threatens to win with ...Bg6. 35.Rh1 Kc7 36.Rh7+ Kc6]
35.a6? -2.62/23
[35.Rh1!∓ -0.59/23]
35...Nf5-+

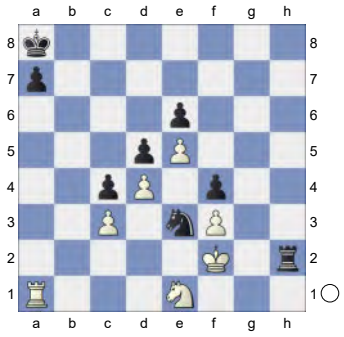


36.axb7+ Kxb7 aiming for ...Ne3.

37.Rb1+ Kc7 38.Ra1 Kb7 -0.01/18
[Better is 38...Kb8-+ -2.15/23 Strongly threatening ...Ne3. 39.Ra6 Bf7]
39.Rb1+!= Ka8 40.Ra1? -4.41/23
[40.Rg1 -2.33/22]
40...Ne3-+

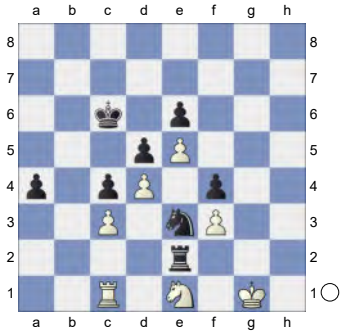


41.Ne1 Be4 -2.29/21
[⌓41...Kb7 -3.87/23 42.Bf3 Be4]
42.Bf3? -4.76/24
[42.Ra6 -2.29/21 might work better. Rg6 43.Rd6]
42...Bxf3 43.gxf3 Endgame KRN-KRN **43...Rg6! 44.Ke2?** -8.28/26
[44.Ra5 -2.87/24]
44...Rh6 (-> ...Rh2+). Black is clearly winning. **45.Kf2 Rh2+**



46.Kg1 Re2 47.Rb1 a5 48.Ra1 Kb7 49.Rb1+ Kc6 50.Rc1 a4

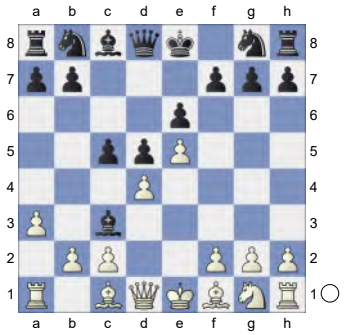
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.54/ Black=0.33
0-1

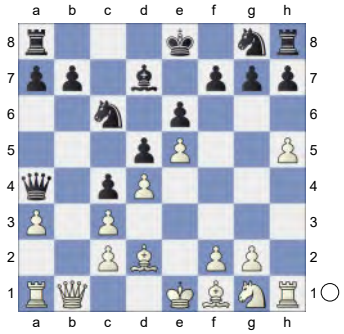
323 **C18**
□ **Bronstein**
■ **Keres**
Goteborg m_250177 (7) 1955
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+

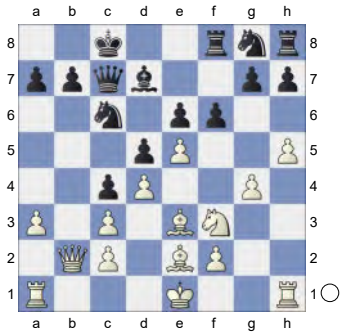


6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4 8.Qb1 c4 9.h4 Nc6 10.h5 Bd7

(Diagram)

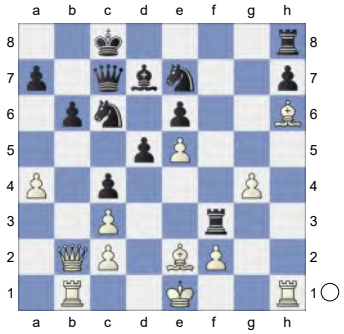


11.g4N
[11.Qxb7 Rb8 12.Qc7 Qxc2-+]
[11.h6 Nxh6 12.Bxh6 gxh6 13.Ne2 0-0-0 14.Rxh6 Rdg8 15.g3 Qa5 16.Kd1 Rg6 17.Qc1 Ne7 18.Bh3 Qd8 19.Qe3 Ba4 20.Kd2 Qf8 21.Rh5 h6 22.Rh1 Nc6 23.Nf4 Rgg8 24.Nxd5 Qxa3 25.Nf6 Qb2 Gillespie,D (2198)-10.0-0 ♗d7 11. ♖c1 ♖c8_1 (2411) USSR 24/455 2017 CR97-75 [Dragan Solak] 0-1 (46)]
[11.Ne2 0-0-0 12.g3 f6 13.f4 Nh6 14.Qb2 f5 15.Bg2 g6 16.Bf3 Rdg8 17.0-0-0 Ng4 18.Bxg4 fxg4 19.hxg6 hxg6 20.f5 gxf5 21.Nf4 Qa5 22.Nh5 Qd8 23.Kb1 b6 24.Qc1 Qf8 25.Bg5 Rxg5 Zherebukh,Y (2594)-Akopian,V (2685) Moscow RUS 2012 [John Watson] ½-½ (37)]
11...0-0-0 White is slightly better. **12.Nf3 Rf8 13.Qb2 f6 14.Be3 Qa5 15.Be2 Qc7**

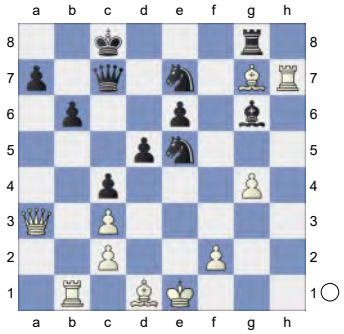


16.h6 gxh6 17.a4 fxe5 18.dxe5 Nge7
[18...Nxe5 19.Nxe5 Qxe5 20.Bd4±]
19.Rb1 b6 0.57/21 Against Bc5

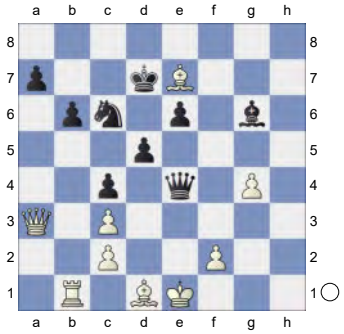
[19...Rfg8= 0.13/20 was preferrable.]
20.Bxh6 Rxf3



21.Bxf3 Nxe5 22.Bd1 This bishop pair is nice. **22...Bxa4 23.Qa3! Be8 24.Bg7 Rg8 25.Rxh7 Bg6**

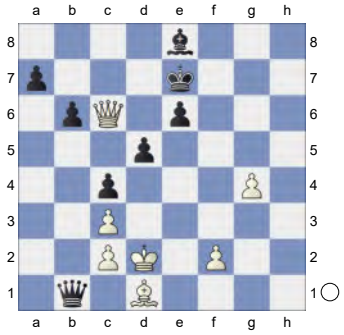


26.Rh8↑ White is more active. **26...Rxh8 27.Bxh8 N5c6 28.Bd4 Kd7 29.Bf6 Qf4** 0.86/24
[29...Qb8!= 0.20/19]
30.Bxe7± Qe4+

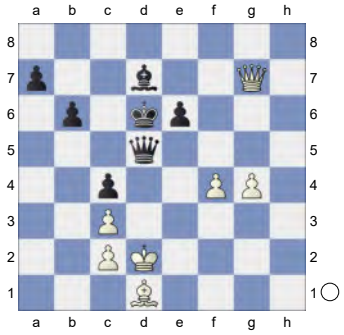


31.Be2 Qh1+ 32.Kd2
[32.Bf1 Qe4+ 33.Be2 Qh1+ 34.Kd2 *(34.Bf1 Qe4+ 35.Be2±)* 34...Qxb1 35.Qd6+ Ke8 36.Qxc6+ Kxe7±]
32...Qxb1 33.Qd6+ Ke8 34.Qxc6+ Kxe7 35.Bd1 The board is on fire.

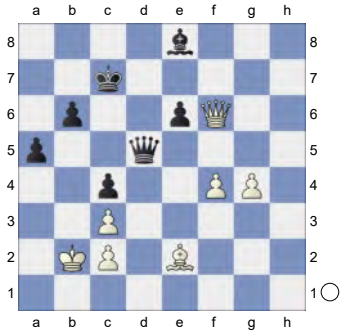
35...Be8
[35...Kf6? 36.g5+ Kxg5 37.Qxe6+-]



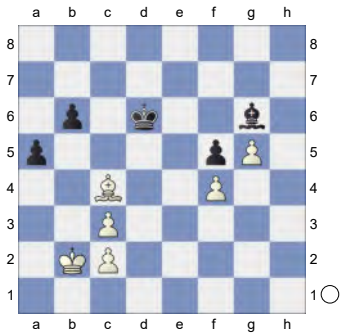
36.Qc7+ Bd7 37.Qf4! d4 38.Qxd4 Hoping for g5. **38...Qb5 39.Qg7+ Kd6 40.f4** Against Qe5 **40...Qd5+** 1.09/24
[Black should try 40...a5 0.71/22]



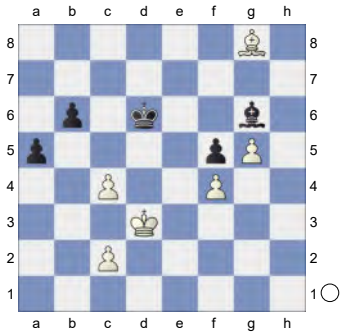
41.Kc1 Qe4 42.Qf8+ Kc7 43.Qf6! Be8 44.Kb2 Qd5 45.Be2 a5



46.g5 Qb5+ 47.Kc1 Qf5 Prevents g6. **48.Qxf5**
[48.Bxc4?! Qxf6 49.gxf6 Kd6±]
48...exf5 49.Bxc4+- Endgame KB-KB
49...Kd6 50.Kb2 Bg6
(Diagram)

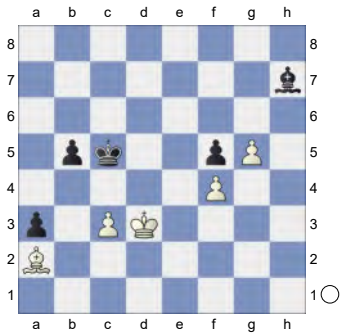


51.Bg8 &Bianco is more active. **51...Kc5**
52.Kb3 Kb5 53.c4+ 0.81/33
[⌓53.Ka2! 1.58/32]
53...Kc6? 2.48/33
[53...Kc5± 0.81/33]
54.Kc3! Kc5 55.Kd3 Kd6? 2.76/32
[55...a4? 56.c3+-]
[55...Kc6± 0.86/24 is a better defense.]

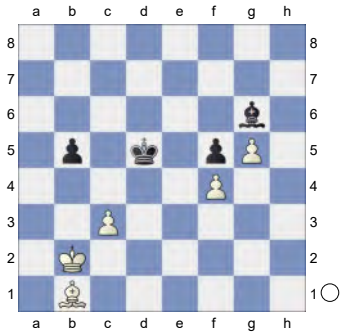


56.Kd4 a4 57.Kd3 Kd2 is the strong threat. **57...a3 58.c3!** Strongly threatening Kc2.
[58.c5+ Kxc5 59.Be6 b5=]
58...Bh7
[58...Kc5? 59.Kc2+-]
59.c5+!
[59.Bxh7? a2 60.Bxf5 a1Q-+]
59...Kxc5 60.Ba2
[60.Bxh7? a2 61.Bxf5 a1Q-+]
60...b5

(Diagram)

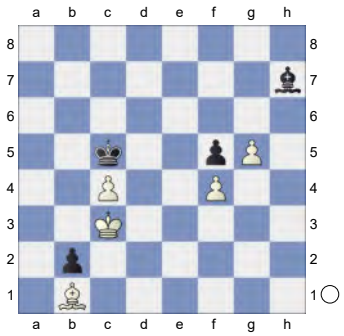


61.Kc2
[Don't play 61.Bf7?! Bg6 62.Be6 *(62.Bxg6? a2-+)* 62...Kd6=]
61...Bg6 Against Bf7 **62.Kb3** Prevents b4. **62...Kd5 63.Bb1** And now Bd3 would win.
[Not 63.Kxa3+ Ke4=]
63...a2 2.99/34
[⌓63...Kc5 1.76/40 64.Kxa3 Kc4]
64.Kxa2
[Weaker is 64.Bxa2 Ke4=]
64...Kc4 Prevents Bd3+. **65.Kb2 Kd5**

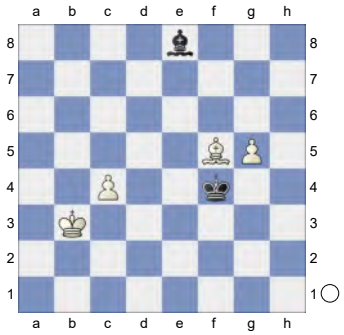


66.Kb3? 1.52/28
[66.Bd3+- 6.71/36 Kc6 67.Kb3]
66...Kc5± 67.Kc2 b4 68.Kd3 1.75/28
[68.Kb3± 1.32/36 Bf7+ 69.Kc2]
68...b3? 4.17/24
[68...bxc3 1.75/28 was necessary. 69.Kxc3 Bh7]
69.c4 2.26/29
[⌓69.Kd2 4.17/24]
69...b2+- 70.Kc3 Bh7

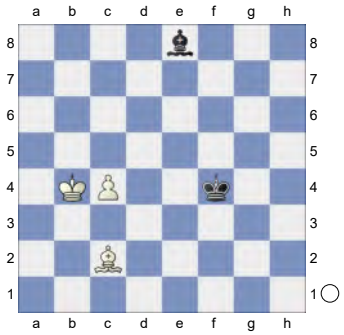
(Diagram)



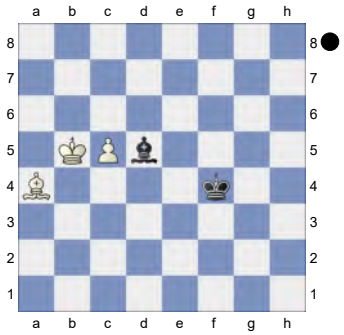
71.Ba2 Bg6 72.Kxb2 Kd4 73.Kb3 Threatens to win with Kb4. **73...Be8 74.Bb1 Ke3 75.Bxf5 Kxf4**



76.Bc2! Black must now prevent g6. White is clearly winning. **76...Kxg5 77.Kb4 Kf4**



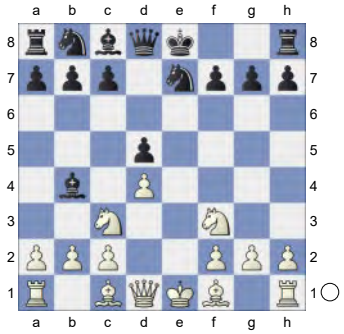
78.Ba4! Bf7 79.c5 Bd5 80.Kb5



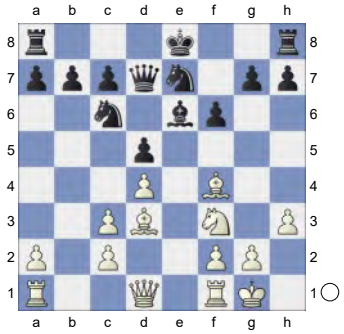
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.13 (very precise)
1-0

324 **C01**
□ **Maroczy,Geza**
■ **Sunye Neto,Jaime**
04.DSB-Kongress (1) 1927
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Ne7

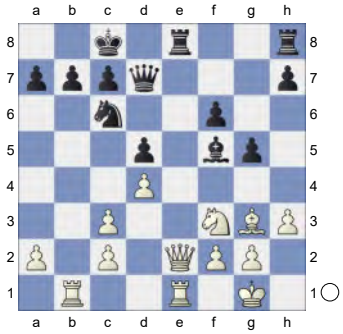


6.Bd3 Nbc6 7.h3 Be6 8.0-0 Qd7 9.Bf4 Bxc3 The position is equal. **10.bxc3 f6**

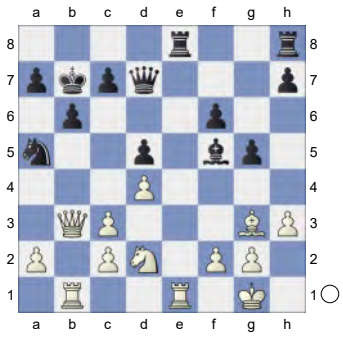


11.Rb1 g5 12.Bg3 0-0-0 13.Qe2 0.47/19
[13.Nd2± 0.78/20 Rde8 14.Rxb7 Kxb7 15.Nb3]
13...Rde8± 14.Rfe1 Nf5 15.Bxf5 -0.22/22
[15.Bh2± 0.33/19]

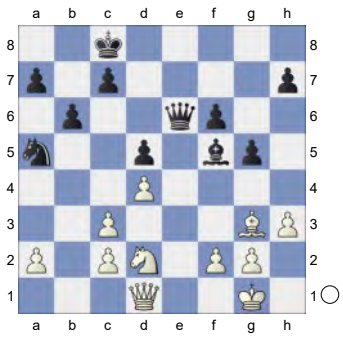
15...Bxf5=



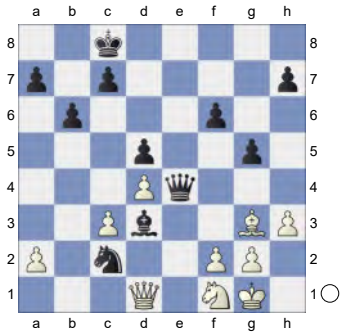
16.Qb5 Nd8 17.Qc5 -0.85/22
[17.Qa5= -0.29/20]
17...b6∓ 18.Qa3 Kb7 19.Qb3 -1.16/21
[⊼19.c4 -0.76/18]
19...Nc6 20.Nd2 -1.36/22
[⊼20.a4 -1.03/19]
20...Na5



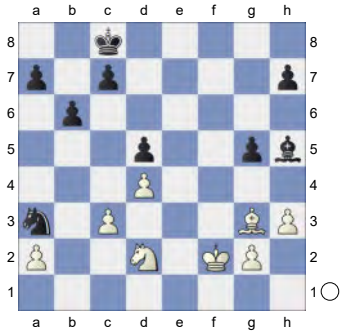
21.Qb2 Rxe1+ 22.Rxe1 Re8 23.Rxe8 Qxe8 24.Qb1 Prevents Qe1+. **24...Kc8** -0.90/20
[⊼24...Qe2 -1.37/21 25.Qc1 a6]
25.Qd1 Qe6 -0.45/20
[25...Qc6∓ -0.98/21 26.c4 Nxc4 27.Nxc4 dxc4]



26.Nb3 -0.91/22
[26.c4∓ -0.45/20 feels stronger.]
26...Nc4 Black converts the advantage convincingly. **27.Nd2** -1.12/23
[Better is 27.h4 -0.79/20]
27...Na3 28.Nf1 Nxc2 &Nero is more active.
[Don't play 28...Bxc2 29.Qc1±]
29.Qh5 -2.10/22
[29.h4∓ -1.04/19]
29...Bd3-+ 30.Qd1 Qe4

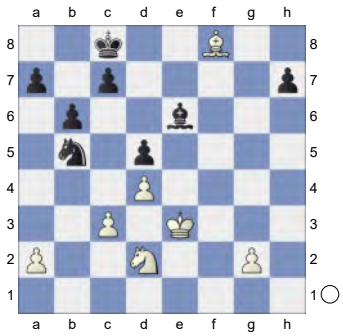


31.Nd2 Qe2 32.Qxe2 Bxe2 Endgame KBN-KBN **33.f4 Na3 34.fxg5 fxg5 35.Kf2 Bh5**

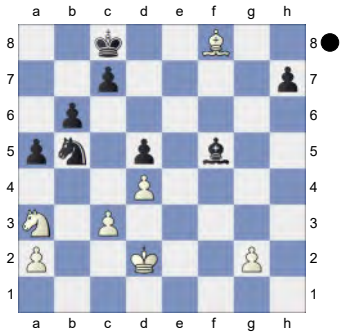


36.Be5 -2.23/23
[36.Nf3 -1.73/22 was worth a try.]
36...g4 37.hxg4 Bxg4 38.Ke3 Bf5 39.Bg7 Be6 40.Bf8 Nb5

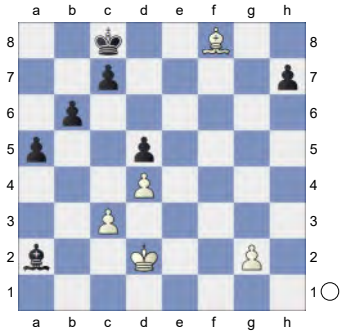
(Diagram)



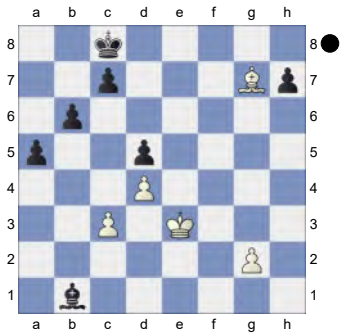
41.Nb1 a5 42.Kd2 -2.60/24
[42.Kf4∓ -1.51/24]
42...Bf5 43.Na3



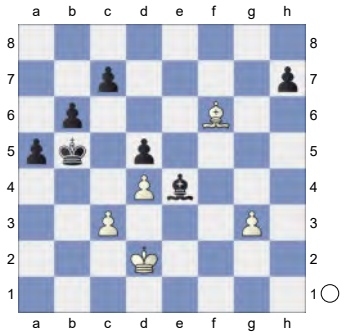
Nxa3 44.Bxa3 KB-KB **44...Bb1 45.Bf8 Bxa2**



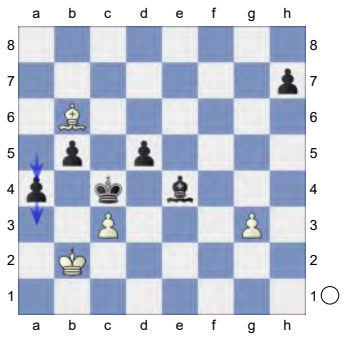
46.Bg7 Bb1N
[46...Bc4 47.Ke3 Kb7 48.Bh6 Ka6 49.Kd2 Bf1 50.g3 Kb5 51.Kc1 Kc4 52.Kb2 c5 53.Be3 cxd4 54.Bxd4 b5 55.Bb6 a4 56.Ba5 d4 57.cxd4 b4 58.Bb6 a3+ 59.Ka2 Kb5 60.Bc5 Ka4 Chapter 2-4-Game 9 Game 9 (60)]
47.Ke3? -4.03/31
[47.Kc1 -1.98/25 Be4 48.g3]



47...Kb7 48.Bf6 Ka6 49.Kd2 Be4 50.g3 Kb5

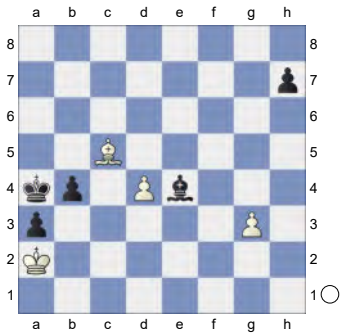


51.Kc1 Kc4 52.Kb2 c5 53.Be5? -5.87/30
[53.Bd8 -3.40/25 is the only way for White. Kb5 54.dxc5]
53...cxd4 54.Bxd4 b5 55.Bb6 a4



56.Ba5 -16.19/24
[⌓56.g4 -5.04/26 Bf3 57.g5]
56...d4 57.cxd4 b4 58.Bb6 Black mates. **58...a3+ 59.Ka2 Kb5 60.Bc5 Ka4**

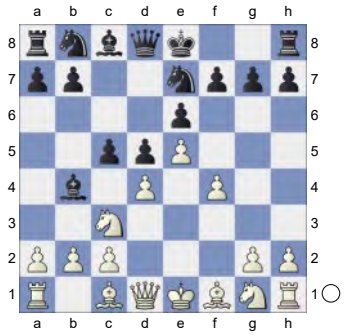
(Diagram)



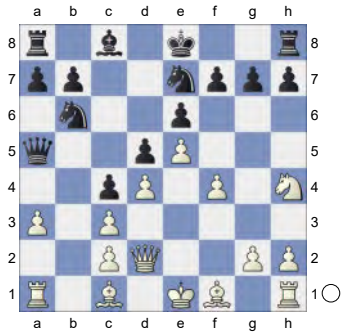
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
0-1

325 **C18**
□ **Gottschall**
■ **Tarrasch**
Nuremberg (2) 1888
[Kitty Kat]

C18: French: 3 Nc3 Bb4: Main line: 7 h4 and 7 Qg4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.f4N
[5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Qg4 *(7.h4 Ba6 8.Bd3 c5 9.h5 h6 10.a4 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nbc6* 0-1 (11) Frentz, R-Znosko Borovsky,E Paris 1933 EXT 2011 [ChessBase II]*)* 7...Ng6 8.h4 h5 9.Qg3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 *(10.Ne2 Qd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 Kf8 13.Bxa6 Nxa6 14.a4 Nb8 15.Qf3 Nc6 16.g4 hxg4 17.Qxg4 Ne7 18.a5 Nf5 19.Kd2 Qc6 20.h5 Ke7 21.Qg5+ Kd7 22.h6 Rh7 23.hxg7 Rxg7 24.Qf6 Rag8* Chudinovskikh,A (2315)-Karpman,V (2445) USSR 53/(235) 1991 CI1-130 [Chudinovskikh,A] (44)*)* 10...Nxa6 11.Qd3 *(11.Ne2 Qd7 12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Rg8 14.Qg5 Qa4 15.Qxh5 Qxc2 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Be3 Qc6 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Bg5 Qa4 20.Rfd1 c5 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rf3 Rf8 23.Qh7 Qxd4 24.Qxg7 Nc7 25.h5 Kd7* Loehr,H (2550)-Hafner,R (2641) Hrvatska 101/369 2003 CBM 118 [Chelushkina,I; Prudnikova,S] 1-0 (40) *)* 11...Nb8 12.Nf3 Nc6 13.Bg5 Qd7 14.0-0 Na5 15.Nd2 Ne7 16.a4 Nf5 17.Rfd1 0-0 18.g3 f6 19.Bf4 Rad8 Alboredo,J (2175)-Hambleton,A (2487) Sao Paulo BRA 2019 [John Watson] 0-1 (55)]
5...c5

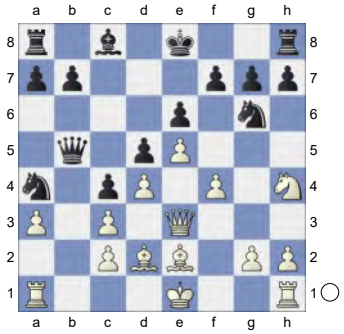


6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 c4 8.Nf3 Qa5 9.Qd2 Nd7 White is slightly better.
10.Nh4 0.01/21
[10.a4± 0.45/19 feels stronger.]
10...Nb6=



11.Qe3! Na4 12.Bd2 Qb5 13.Be2 Ng6 14.Nf3 Ne7 15.Nh4 -0.01/22
[15.0-0± 0.38/22]
15...Ng6!

(Diagram)

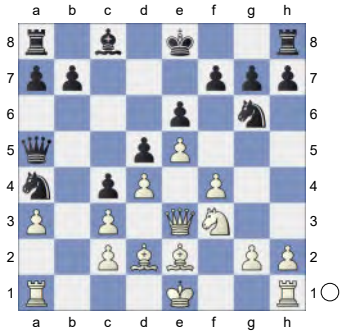


Pair of Knights! **16.Nf3 Ne7! 17.Nh4** 0.01/20

[17.0-0± 0.41/21]

17...Ng6 18.Nf3 Qa5 0.82/19

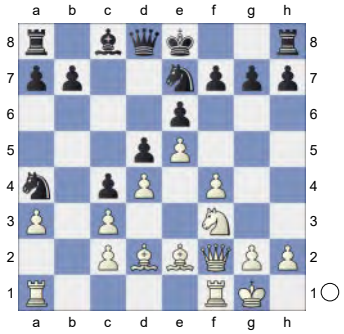
[18...Ne7!= -0.01/17 remains equal.]



19.0-0 0.46/19

[19.h4!± 0.82/19]

19...Qd8 20.Qf2 Ne7



21.Nh4 0.12/21

[White should try 21.g4± 0.82/17]

21...Ng6 22.Nf3 0.01/18

[22.g3!± 0.39/20]

22...Ne7! 23.Nh4 0.01/18

[23.g4± 0.73/17]

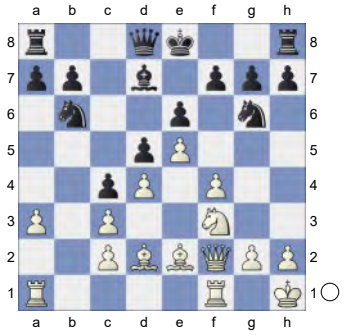
23...Ng6! 24.Nf3 0.01/19

[24.g3± 0.36/20]

24...Bd7 0.61/17

[24...Ne7!= 0.01/19]

25.Kh1 Nb6



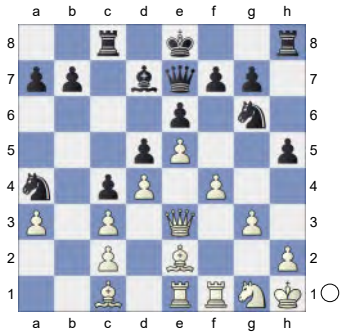
26.Rae1 Qe7 27.Bc1 0.17/19

[27.h4± 0.64/16]

27...Na4 28.Qe3 h6 29.g3 Rc8 0.61/20

[29...Qf8= 0.03/19]

30.Ng1 h5



31.Nh3 0.20/22

[31.Bf3± 0.51/22]

31...Qf8 32.Bf3

[32.Ng5!? Rc6 33.f5 exf5 34.Bf3±]

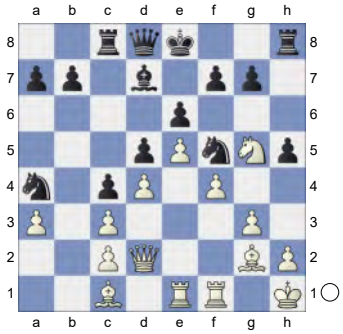
32...Ne7! 33.Bg2 Nf5 34.Qd2 -0.63/22

[34.Qf3= -0.14/24]

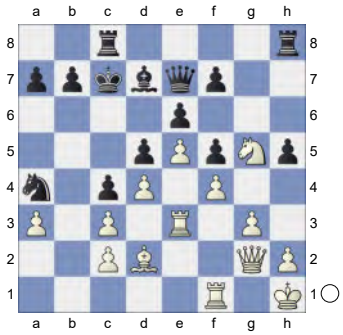
34...Qe7 35.Ng5 Qd8 -0.18/21

[35...Rc6∓ -0.64/23]

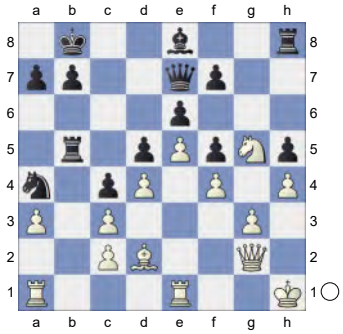
(Diagram)



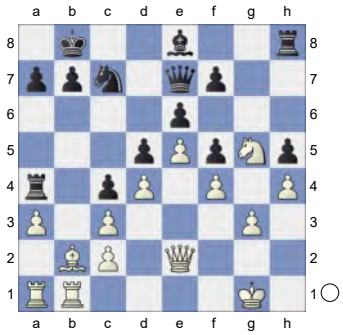
36.Bh3 g6 37.Bxf5 gxf5 38.Re3 Qe7 39.Qg2 Kd8 40.Bd2 Kc7



41.Ra1 Kb8 42.h4 Rc6 43.Ree1 Rb6 44.Kg1 Be8 45.Kh1 Rb5



46.Kg1 Nb6 47.Qe2 Ra5 48.Bc1 Ra4 49.Bb2 Na8 50.Reb1 Nc7



51.Ra2 Nb5

[51...a5 with more complications. 52.Bc1 Ka7 53.Rab2 Bc6]

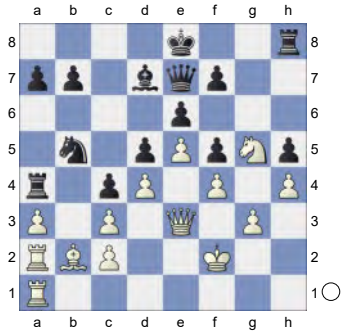
52.Rba1 Bd7 53.Kg2 Kc8 54.Qe3 Kd8 -0.30/21

[54...Bc6∓ -0.81/23]

55.Kf2 -0.83/24

[55.Rd1= -0.30/21]

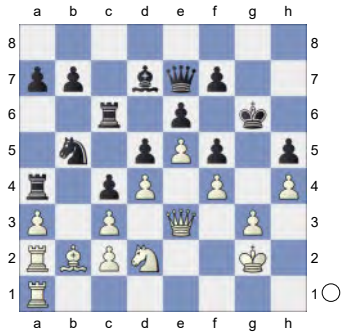
55...Ke8



56.Kg2 Kf8 -0.51/23

[56...Bc6∓ -0.88/21]

57.Kf2 Kg7 58.Kg2 Kg6 59.Nf3 Rc8 60.Nd2 Rc6



61.Nb1 -0.70/24

[61.Nf3 -0.38/24 might be stronger.]

61...Rc8 -0.01/23 &Nero is more active.

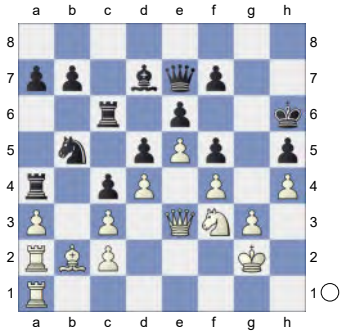
[Better is 61...Rca6∓ -0.70/24]

62.Nd2 Kh6 63.Nf3 Nc7 64.Kf2 Nb5 -0.01/20

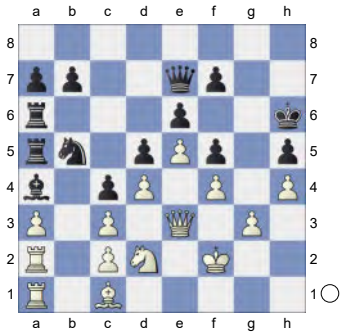
[64...Rh8∓ -0.44/22]

65.Kg2 Rc6

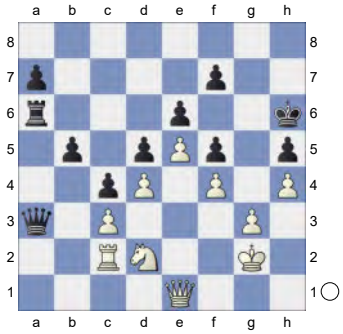
(Diagram)



66.Nd2 Rca6 67.Nb1 R4a5 68.Kf2 Nc7 69.Nd2 Ba4 70.Bc1 Nb5



71.Kg2 Bxc2 0.63/19 **72.Rxc2± Nxa3 73.Bxa3 Rxa3 74.Rxa3 Qxa3 75.Qe1 b5**

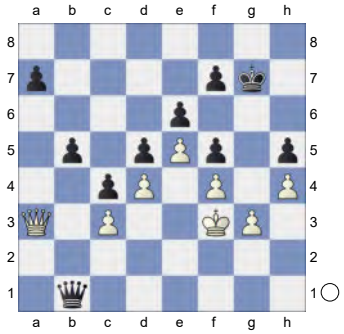


76.Nb1? -1.27/29

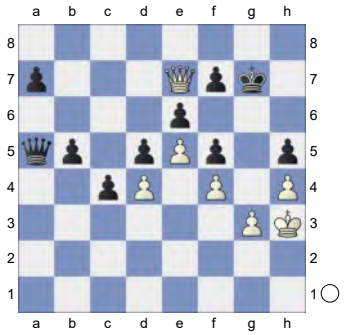
[White should play 76.Qb1= 0.26/22]

76...Qb3∓ 77.Qc1 Ra2 78.Rxa2 Qxa2+ 79.Kf3 Kg7 80.Qa3? -4.83/32 This move loses the game for White. **80...Qxb1-+**

(Diagram)



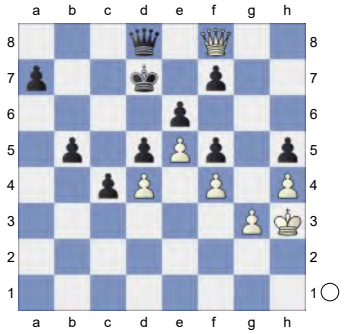
Endgame KQ-KQ **81.Qe7 Qf1+ 82.Ke3 Qe1+ 83.Kf3 Qxc3+ 84.Kg2 Qd2+ 85.Kh3 Qa5**



And now ...c3 would win. **86.Qf6+ Kf8** aiming for ...c3. **87.Qh8+ Ke7 88.Qf6+ Ke8 89.Qh8+ Kd7 90.Qf8** -8.14/22 Prevents Qa3.

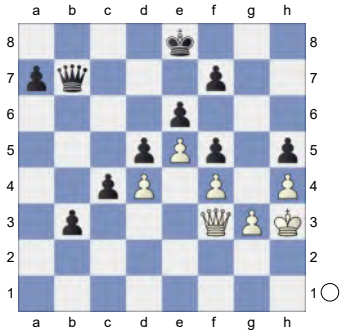
[⌓90.Qxh5 -4.33/21 Qa3 91.Qxf7+ Qe7 92.Qg8]

90...Qd8

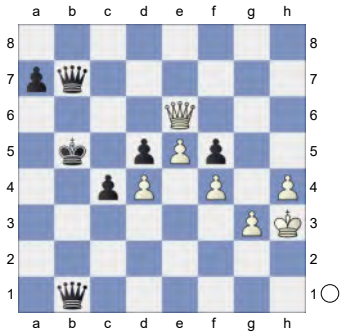


91.Qc5 Qb8 Hoping for ...b4. **92.Qb4 Ke8** White must now prevent ...Qb6. **93.Qc5 Qb7 94.Qa3 b4 95.Qf3 b3**

(Diagram)



96.Qxh5 b2 97.Qh8+ Kd7 98.Qf8 b1Q 99.Qxf7+ Kc6 100.Qxe6+ Kb5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)

0-1